

Press bulletin

Enschede - on the 25th of June 2010, MECAL was honored with a runner-up position for the national entrepreneur award.

The very exiting ceremony, attended by the top entrepreneurial companies of the Netherlands, took place in the Royal Theater in The Hague. The awards were presented by His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange, together with mr. Nout Wellink, president of the Dutch National Bank. MECAL was one of the three nominated in the category medium size company (<250 employees) of the Koning Willem 1 award. Adams Musical Instruments won the KW1 award, our fellow competitor Bencom was runner-up as well. The award for big companies (>250 employees) was presented to Stage Entertainment, with VDL groep and Koninklijke ten Cate as runner-ups

The internationally orientated engineering company MECAL has defined itself through a combination of Courage, Decisiveness, Perseverance, Sustainability and Innovation. The Koning Willem 1 Award is only rewarded once every two years, to those who have contributed publicity, interest and positive development of Dutch economy. This is why we are extremely proud of our runner-up position, quote: R. Jungman, Managing Director of MECAL. We certainly see this as a major impulse to MECAL!

The Koning Willem I foundation

With active support of the Ministry of economic affairs, the Koning Willem I award is granted every two years by the Koning Willem I foundation, founded in 1958, by a number of business related organisations and the Nederlandsche bank.

The goal of the foundation is to stimulate the national economics and, with that, to increase the standing of Dutch businesses. The following organisations are amongst the members of the governing board: The Nederlandsche bank N.V, Ministry of economic affairs, VNO-NCW, MKB-Nederland, NIVE, Dutch society for industry and trade, Dutch quality institute, TNO, Association chambers of commerce and royal institute of engineers.

Since its founding in 1958, Koning Willem I foundation has granted the Koning Willem 1 award to a number of leading Dutch companies. For further information see:

www.kw1prijs.nl

About MECAL

MECAL is an independent high-tech engineering office, globally active and with multiple services in three disciplines:

- Semiconductor & Mechatronics
- Wind industry
- Vision & Optronics

Set up in 1989, as a spin-off of the Technical University Twente, MECAL has its head office in Enschede, there are also offices in Groningen, Veldhoven, Barendrecht – Tokyo, Japan and Richmond in the US. MECAL employs 100 experienced professionals, with 15 different nationalities, worldwide.

To create a high as possible value for its customers MECAL analyses, consults, designs, engineers, develops and incorporates sophisticated solutions. The internationally talented employees in multidisciplinary teams are able to translate ideas into real, commercial solutions. MECAL works closely with its customers and has gained the reputation to offer the best possible solutions.

Together with a select group of partners MECAL works towards global marketing and development, independent of geographical boundaries.

In the field of independent wind turbine engineering and inspections

MECAL is market leader in the Netherlands and more than 20 years active in the international wind industry. With its prominent role MECAL has made a successful contribution to a large number of projects both in the field and in R&D. With innovative solutions as for example the Hybrid Wind tower of ATS MECAL (a subsidiary company of MECAL) and a complete turbine development MECAL has a unique expert position.

MECAL plays a leading role in the use of model-based high-tech mechatronica development. In the Veldhoven office a group of specialists uses this method for the development of the newest front-end lithographic systems.

In the past decade MECAL used the model-based development methods for the development and realisation of mechatronic systems for system builders in The Netherlands and abroad.

MECAL developed a broad range of activities and products among which:

- passive and active ultrasound heat insulation systems
- dynamically balanced robots and manipulators for placing SMT components

New to MECAL is their Vision & Optronics expertise. The use of the combination of light and image recognition provides a complementary value:

- high value camera based inspections and observation systems
- development and prototyping of medical instrumentation

A good example of the combination of MECAL competences is the development of 3Nethra, a pre-diagnostic eye scanner with which an enormous number of people in developing countries can be provided with excellent basic eye examination. This has aroused large interest worldwide.

In these development projects MECAL is responsible for the whole route from concept development up to the realisation. For further information see: www.mecal.eu

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Additional information

Other nominees

In the presence of His royal highness the prince of Oranje, honorary president of the Koning Willem I foundation, the governing board, thereby supported by four regional selection commissions, has nominated the following six companies for the Koning Willem I prize (in alphabetical order):

Three nominee's big company (more than 250 employees)

- Royal Ten Cate NV (Almelo)
- Stage Entertainment (Amsterdam)
- VDL group BV (Eindhoven)

Three nominees SME (<250 employees)

- Adams Musical instruments BV (Ittervoort)
- Bencom BV (Usquert)
- Mecal BV (Enschede)

Since its founding in 1958, Koning Willem I foundation handed the prize to:

2008 Fugro en Solland Solar

2006 ASML

2003 Oad Groep B.V.

2002 Mammoet Holding B.V.

2000 Heineken N.V.

1998 Akzo Nobel N.V.

1996 Randstad Holding N.V.

1994 Koninklijke Ahold N.V.

1992 Koninklijke Nijverdal – Ten Cate N.V.

1990 N.V. Koninklijke Nederlandse Vliegtuigenfabriek Fokker

1988 DAF B.V.

1986 Coöperatieve Vereniging “ Ver. Bloemenveilingen Aalsmeer”

1984 Gist Brocades N.V.

1982 Koninklijke Boskalis Westminster N.V.

1980 Koninklijk Kweekbedrijf en Zaadhandel D.J. van der Have B.V.

1978 N.V. Indivers

1976 Vitatron N.V.

1972 N.V. Nederlandse Metaalindustrie Polynorm

1970 Machinefabriek Van Aarsen

1968 Prins N.V.

1966 N.V. Koni

1964 N.V. Maatschappij voor Wasverwerking Erdal

1962 N.V. Lips

1960 Fabriek van Landwerktuigen VICON

1958 Chemische Industrie GEM

[Note for the editors \(not for publication\)](#)

[For further information:](#)

King Willem I foundation

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