

## Plastic plain bearing competition "manus" starts for the 6th time

For the sixth time now, plastic designer and plain bearing specialist igus GmbH, Cologne, starts the "manus" competition for plastic plain bearing applications. Since 2003 the competition has taken place every two years. Creative designers from all over the world are asked to submit their contributions to the competition. "manus" is a common initiative with academic partners like amongst others the Institut für Verbundwerkstoffe (Institute for composite materials), (Kaiserslautern) and the Fachhochschule Köln (academy Cologne). For the last competition which was two years ago more than 300 spectacular entries were received.

This time, innovative and bold applications with lubrication and maintenance-free polymer bearings are sought that distinguish themselves through technical and/or economical efficiency, creativity respectively surprising results. Participating is very simple: The jury needs a short description of the application, respectively of the previous problem including photos or sketches with the description of the solution and mentioning of the type of bearing. Eligible are users with full plastic bearings and plastic compounds, but not applications with bearings that are only coated.

### Closing date 28th of February

The winner receives a prize money of 5,000 € (2. and 3. place: 2,500 and 1,000 €). Participation documents online at [www.manus-award.com](http://www.manus-award.com). Closing date is the 28th of February 2013. Award ceremony takes place on the Hannover Fair 2013 (8.-12. of April).

### Lubrication-free, cheap, durable

Today, metallic bushes that require oil and fats are a million times replaced by lubrication and maintenance-free "iglidur" plastic bearings, says Gerhard Baus, authorized signatory of the section plastic bearings at igus. "They have a long and calculable lifetime. With more than 10,000 articles available from stock, designers can immediately use these innovations." Apart from that the safety of a machine can be increased using dry running polymer bearings. According to a study from the MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Cambridge, the costs for stoppage due to insufficient lubrication would sum up to 240 billion dollars each year in the USA only. Regarding an annual lubricant consumption of about 1.1 million t in Germany (Department for environment, climate and energy sector, Baden-Württemberg), cheap polymer solutions could lead to a clear reduction of purchasing and operation costs.



**Picture PM3512-01: igus GmbH, Cologne**

Already for the sixth time, igus has rung in the "manus" competition for plastic bearing applications. Closing date is the 28th of February with prize moneys up to 5,000 €. igus authorized signatory Gerhard Baus: "Today, lubrication-free "iglidur" plastic bearings are replacing millions of bushes that need to be lubricated. They have a long and also calculable lifetime. Designers can immediately use the innovations due to 10,000 articles available from stock."



According to the statements of "manus" organizer igus, the company offers the worldwide largest program of environmentally compatible and calculable dry-tech plastic bearings due to praxis oriented research, special manufacturing processes and a database, that is unique in its extent. Since 2001 - also internationally without example - designers are now able to make their decision about the appropriate choice of the bearing online due to empirically verified and calculable statements for the lifetime - says the company.

**[www.igus.eu](http://www.igus.eu)**

**[www.manus-award.com](http://www.manus-award.com)**

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