



Michael H. Bruno TAGA AWARD

2015



**Presented at the 67th
Annual Technical Conference of the
Technical Association of the Graphic Arts
Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
March 24, 2015**



Michael H. Bruno

T A G A A W A R D

Michael H. Bruno Taga Award For Outstanding Contributions to the Graphic Arts Industry

The Technical Association of the Graphic Arts is an international organization of technologists, scientists, technical and production personnel in the printing and allied industries, and students in accredited graphic arts programs. It was established in 1948 as a forum for reporting on new research and technology in the graphic arts. It has a long history of distinguished annual conferences at which technical papers on graphic arts subjects are presented. The annual volumes of *TAGA Proceedings* are the published records of these papers by leading technical and scientific men and women who have contributed measurably to the progress of printing technology and graphic science throughout the world.

The Board of Directors of TAGA hereby recognizes a professional with a distinguished career to receive the 2015 TAGA Michael H. Bruno Award in appreciation of his dedicated services and contributions to the advancement of graphic arts internationally.

As evidence of this honor, the awardee will receive the Michael H. Bruno Award. This award is named for the late Michael H. Bruno. Printing was his vocation for his entire working life. He was a kind and gentle man who was passionate about printing and the people who produced it. In his own words, "I had the good fortune to be where the action was during the most active period since printing was invented." We, in turn, were very fortunate to know Mike. Everyone who knew him or knew of him respected him and his incredible knowledge of the industry. What a wonderful legacy to leave for the world.

Presented here is a summary of the accomplishments of this year's distinguished recipient of the Michael H. Bruno Award.





Michael H. Bruno

T A G A A W A R D

Michael H. Bruno Award 2015 to Erwin Widmer

Erwin Widmer is the Deputy Managing Director at Ugra (Swiss Center of Competence for Media- and Printing Technology) since 2013. Before this he was the Managing Director from 2003 on. Erwin Widmer's task was to organize the spin-off of Ugra from the EMPA organization. EMPA is the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Material Science and Technology in which Ugra was a part since 1952. Differences in the strategies of the two organizations led to the spin-off.



As the Managing Director of Ugra Erwin Widmer was responsible for the organization, the employees, the marketing, the orders, the sales and the financial results. Ugra developed under his leadership the Ugra PSO certification. Ugra audited about 150 printing companies worldwide since 2006. Furthermore the PSO training for experts was developed. Today about 200 experts are certified. These experts are coming from all over the world. In the Ugra laboratories the testing of bank notes was developed. With this service Ugra helps many National Banks worldwide to understand the quality of their bank notes. Furthermore many new control tools were developed. Ugra has today a set of control tools, with which the whole printing workflow can be controlled.

Erwin Widmer's main research subjects are process controls and measuring technology. He organizes courses, seminars and conferences for the Swiss Printing Industry. He holds papers at technical and science conferences and is a member of ISO Technical Committee 130.



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Since Erwin Widmer will be retired in 2015 Ugra hired a successor for him in 2012. In 2013 the new Managing Director took over and Erwin Widmer served as the Deputy Managing Director for the last two years of his career.

Prior to work at Ugra he worked for 15 years in different responsibilities for different printing companies and for suppliers. He worked in the following segments of the printing industry: Gravure packaging printing, Label printing, Commercial offset printing. The jobs he held are: Project Manager, Technical Customer Relation Manager, Production Manager, Managing Director. Between 1990 and 1999 Erwin Widmer worked at Ugra as a project manager for research projects.

He studied from 1976 to 1979 at the Swiss University of Applied Science in Lausanne in the Department of Printing Science and Management from where he holds the Bachelor of Sciences degree. In 1991 he did a sabbatical at RIT School of Printing Management and Sciences in Rochester NY, USA. At this instance he got in contact with TAGA. He attended 23 TAGA conferences and presented 10 papers since then. Furthermore he served two terms in the Board of Directors of TAGA.

He is the holder of the 1995 silver medal of the London School of Printing. He is the President of the Swiss Association of the University Alumni in the Printing and Packaging Industry since 1990.

Erwin Widmer is married since 1981 with Katharina Widmer and father of two sons, who are 30 and 31 years old and a daughter, who is 28 years old. In his spare time he likes to listen to rock and blues music, playing guitar, doing photography and traveling.



Michael H. Bruno

T A G A A W A R D

Previous Honorees

2014

Sam Ingram
Yoshiharu Komori
George Ryan

2013

Anthony Stanton

2012

James C. King
John E. Warnock

2011

Richard Goodman

2010

Bernard Pineaux

2009

Patrice J. Mangin

2008

Tim C. Claypole

2007

Bruce Blom

2006

Robert Chung

2005

Helene Juhola

2004

Harvey Levenson

2003

Nils Enlund

2002

Takashi Numakura

2001

Ing Helmut Kipphan
Irving Pobboravsky
William Ray

2000

Mitsuo Kaji

1999

Joel Rubin
Walter Zawacki

1998

Jacqueline Fetsko
Franz Sigg

1997

Edward Granger
Raymond Prince

1996

Gary Field
David McDowell

1995 – Orlando

Eiichi Inoue
Patrice Dunn

1995 – Paris

Anthony Johnson

1994

Kurt Schlapfer

1993

Paul Borth
Ing Uwe Gast

1992

Richard Fisch
Milton Pearson

1991

Sven Ahrenkilde
Brian Chapman
Charles Rinehart

1990

Robert Downie
Thomas Fadner
Tapio Lehtonen

1989

H. Brent Archer
S. Thomas Dunn

1988

James Cox
Philip Evanoff
Lawrence Wilson

1987

Werner Gerlach
Warren Rhodes
Kenneth West

1986

John MacPhee
J. Tom Morgan, Jr.
Miles Southworth

1985

Jean Chevalier
Emilio Gerboni
Simo Karttunen
Bryan Sunderland

1984

Robert Bassemir
Kurt Pfahl

1983

William Schreiber
William Somerville

1982

Gordon Johnson
Herbert Phillips

1981

John Crosfield
George Jorgensen

1980

William Schaeffer
Philip Tobias

1979

Harvey George
Richard Maurer
John McMaster

1978

Bernard Halpern
Francis Wurzburg, Jr.

1977

Albert Materazzi
Robert Rossell
Earl Sundeen
William Walker

1976

Michael Bruno
Paul Hartsuch
Frank Preucil
John Yule



Michael H. Bruno

T A G A A W A R D

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