



Harry Earl Memorial Award - Guidance Notes

Background to the award

In 2015 Kronospan, CRC Chemical Release Company Ltd. and The BioComposites Centre launched an award fund to commemorate the life of Dr Harry Earl who passed away in October 2013 aged 62.

Harry's career spanned both academia and industry. After gaining his PhD in chemistry and wood science from Bangor University, he set up, along with Professor Bart Banks, one of the first businesses based at the university to carry out industrial research. Wood Tech started in 1986 and in 1989 became The BioComposites Centre, here Harry worked with companies to develop novel technologies for timber treatments including ground breaking early studies into the acetylation of wood fibre.

When Harry eventually left Bangor he had a successful career in the wood panel product sector, holding senior technical positions at companies in the UK including Norbord, Sonae and finally Kronospan. At Kronospan's mill in Chirk he held the position of technical manager until his death in 2013.

Harry was always generous with his time and knowledge; was willing to pass on his ideas and skills to help people. To celebrate Harry's life two annual awards of £500 are offered to help pay for travel, attend events/conferences or training that will help support future career development. The award is open to applications from early career academics and industrialists working in the wood panel product sector.

Application Process

Applicants should complete the application form, which when completed should be no more than a maximum of three pages (A4), giving details as to why they would like to be considered for the award. The application must explain in the form how the funding will be used, give an overview of past and current research interests and should include information on how the funding will help achieve future career aspirations.

Completed application forms should be sent to:

Dr Rob Elias at the BioComposites Centre to r.m.elias@bangor.ac.uk

Deadline for applications of this annual award is **1st of July**. Award winners will be announced during September or October (all applicants will be notified via email and winners names will be posted on the BC website).

The Award Funders

The BioComposites Centre, (www.bc.bangor.ac.uk), at Bangor University was established in 1989 and since then has been at the forefront of research, development and the commercial application of bio-based alternatives to synthetic materials. Today, in a world where sustainability and the environment are moving to the top of the agenda, BC offers businesses of all kinds the knowledge and the technical means to put those alternatives into practice, helping them lower costs, increase productivity and make their activities more environmentally and socially responsible.

Kronospan, (www.kronospan-worldwide.com) is an international company that manufactures and distributes wood-based panels including particleboard, medium density fibreboard oriented strand board, laminated flooring, decorative paper and resins for wood panels. Kronospan have over 40 manufacturing and distribution sites across the world and employ more than 14,000 people.

CRC Chemical Release Company Ltd (<http://releaseagents.co.uk>)

CRC and E und P Wurtz have over 50 years of combined experience in supplying mould release agents for almost every type of moulding process. Within the wood based panels industry they supply internal and external release agents for chipboard, MDF and HDF. Their release agents provide a number of benefits including; effective release of fire retardant board, improved surface finishes, faster press times and clean running of press plattens, improved surface consolidation and reactive surface sealing grades which mean thin MDF can be produced ready for painting without sanding. CRC Chemicals are also approved for continuous production of OSB using pMDI resins.