

Long Wait Comes to an End

Fakuma 2021: Trade Meeting in Friedrichshafen from October 12th to 16th

Due to current requirements, the aisles will be wider and the halls “somewhat more airy”, as *Kunststoffe* was told by exhibition manager Bettina Schall. This year’s autumn exhibition will not focus on record numbers – in the foreground will be the physical meeting at a presence event. Apart from the topics of injection molding, thermoforming, extrusion, and 3D printing, circular economy will also play a significant role.

Exhibitors and trade visitors are eagerly awaiting the 27th Fakuma in Friedrichshafen, Germany. In addition to further developments in the digital transformation of the plastics processing industry, the exhibition will focus on the change from linear to circular economy.

“At long last, exhibitors want to show their novelties live again”, says Bettina Schall, manageress of P. E. Schall GmbH & Co. KG. “That’s why users and customers are looking forward to the hands-on presentation of new products and technical solutions.” As an established trade fair for injection molding, extrusion technology, thermoforming, and 3D printing, the Fakuma wants to show that much has been achieved in machine and product development as well as improvements in processing and processes.

For machine manufacturers, users, and end customers, the current range of products and services offers new ap-

proaches and solutions in the fields of sustainability, environmental protection, recycling, and circular economy. Apart from production efficiency, the exhibition also addresses the conservation of resources and the indispensability of plastics in the attempt to reach the climate change targets. “It can be felt clearly

that exhibitors are increasingly taking steps to counter the unfortunately negative image that plastics have”, says Annemarie Schur, Fakuma project leader. “The Fakuma will contribute towards providing more detailed information about circular economy, recyclability, product life cycles, and product design.” ■

Questions to ...

... Bettina Schall, manageress of exhibition organizer P.E. Schall GmbH & Co. KG

A presence exhibition again at last! What is your personal highlight hereby?

For me, the Fakuma is a highlight itself. Because I am very pleased that we have overcome the event-free period, and that exhibitors can personally meet with their customers again.

How many exhibitors have booked? Are all the halls occupied?

All halls are occupied. We will experience a well-visited Fakuma, which will obviously be somewhat more “airy” than usual, due to the applicable protection and hygiene regulations. But the exhibition this autumn is not focused on record numbers, but on presence as such, and on a qualitatively high-grade business exchange.

What will be different in the halls because of Corona regulations?

The Messe Friedrichshafen has a protection and hygiene concept that we fully observe. The concept regulates all individual measures – they have been agreed with the authorities, and are based on the Corona Act passed by the federal state of



Bettina Schall, Fakuma exhibition manager-ess © Schall

Baden-Württemberg, Germany. Within the scope of this concept, personal business contacts and the exchange between experts on equal footing are possible, and that is what counts now!

Has the “one year break” changed the exhibition’s focus?

The Fakuma’s main topics remain the same. But of course, the industrial sector has progressed in many areas. For example, increasing digitalization and automation provide opportunities for better sequences, improved efficiency, and higher productivity. Simultaneously, plastics processors are faced by the change from a linear to a circular economy. We will also frequently come across the subjects of recycling and product design. In this context, we are sure to see and experience many exciting novelties during the exhibition.

Interview: Susanne Schröder

Exhibition Information

Fakuma 2021

International trade fair for plastics processing
Messe Friedrichshafen
12th to 16th October 2021

➤ www.fakuma-messe.de

Service

Digital Version

➤ A PDF file of the article can be found at www.kunststoffe-international.com/archive

German Version

➤ Read the German version of the article in our magazine *Kunststoffe* or at www.kunststoffe.de