



Enn Mellikov, co-founder of our company, scientific father of our powder production technology and scientific partner in all Estonian developments, has sadly passed away much too early on July 23, 2018 at the age of 73.

Academician Prof. Dr. Enn Mellikov spent all his professional life as a researcher and professor at Tallinn University of Technology and he was a member of the Estonian Academy of Sciences and long-time member of its board. He became internationally known in the scientific community mainly for his materials science developments, and acted as Estonian representative in various international organizations, especially in the field of photovoltaics.

Enn started his academic career working on crystalsol's semiconductor growth technology already in his PhD thesis, supervised by his lifelong colleague and friend Dr. Jaan Hiie. Together with their colleague Dr. Mare Altsaar they developed the

molten salt growth of single crystalline (so called monograin) powder materials for electronic and opto-electronic applications.

During the Soviet times until 1991, working under strictly confidential conditions and therefore unnoticed in the west, he and his colleagues have also developed different devices partly conjointly with the Soviet military, from 5 m in diameter radar screens to micro-radiation sensors, all produced in the materials research lab in Tallinn. A first presentation of these developments to the scientific community became possible in 1991, after Estonia had become independent. In the 1991 EU conference, organized to bring Eastern and Western European scientists together, the group met with Dieter Meissner, later Univ.-Prof., founder and Chief Scientist of crystalsol, who had also already been working with monograin membranes in his PhD thesis. Together they decided to use their technologies to develop a revolutionary photovoltaic module technology, which finally was commercialized in our company.

As the Head of the Materials Science Department and Chair of Semiconductor Materials Technology, Enn later managed a very large group of scientists financed nearly exclusively through project money, recognized as both, EU and Estonian Centers of Excellence. Here, Enn extended his Materials Research activities also in different new directions including Nano- and Thin-Film-Technology, Hydrogen and Solar Energy Research.

Already in 1973, Enn was elected as Member of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, for which he then worked for a long time as also member of its Board. Additionally, he became a member of the Supervisory Board of the Estonian Science Foundation, the ETAg Evaluation Board and the State Committee on Science Awards.

Enn received the Estonian Science Price in 2007 and in 2013 and the lifetime award for long-term productive research and development. In 2006, he was awarded the Order of the White Star IV Class.

Besides being a great scientist and science manager, Enn was also a wonderful colleague and friend, always positively encouraging, motivating and supporting people. He will be greatly missed!