

## Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Symposium „Magnetoresistive Sensors and Magnetic Systems“

It is now 20 years since the first MR Symposium. In 1991 microsystems- and nanotechnology were largely unknown terms and magnetic sensor systems were something only for pioneers or enthusiasts. A lot has changed in the meantime. Magnetoresistive sensors are now acknowledged as a key enabling technology in a wide range of industries.

The title of a recent market research report from iSuppli, entitled “Magnetic sensors head for the big time” is very appropriate in this respect. In the two years since the last MR Symposium alone, the number of applications for magnetoresistive sensors has increased significantly. Cars, smartphones, robots, medical equipment, aircraft, spacecraft – the number of machines and devices, in which magnetic sensors provide the means for improved performance or enable new functions, is seemingly endless.



This is ample evidence of the foresight of Karl-Heinz Lust, the promoter of the MR Symposium and founder of the organizing company, Sensitec GmbH. The 11<sup>th</sup> Symposium is the first event where he is no longer among us, but this get-together of engineers and scientists from suppliers, users and research institutions is ample reason to think back in appreciation of one of the key individuals in this field of endeavour. I am sure that he would be delighted to see how the MR Symposium is becoming established as one of the leading international forums for the magnetic sensor community. The feedback to past events has been very positive. This sets a high standard for this year’s event. Yet when we look at the high profile of the presenters and the subjects covered in a fascinating programme we can be sure that the 11<sup>th</sup> Symposium will keep up the tradition as one of the highlights in the field of magnetic sensors and microsystems.

I wish us all an interesting event, I hope that you have a good opportunity to meet old and new friends and that you enjoy a pleasant stay in Wetzlar.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rolf Slatter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rolf" being more prominent than the last name "Slatter".

Dr. Rolf Slatter

Lahnau, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011