

Press release

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<http://www.efce.org>

Ashwin Kumar Rajagopalan named as the winner of the 2020-21 Excellence Award in Crystallization for the characterisation of processes where both crystal size and shape count

Dr. Ashwin Kumar Rajagopalan is the winner of the 2020-21 Excellence Award in Crystallization of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE). His excellent thesis on "*A Dual Projection System to Characterize Crystallization Processes: Design and Applications*" completed at the ETH Zurich, Switzerland, under the supervision of Professor Marco Mazzotti, was unanimously selected by the jury as the best submission.



Ashwin Kumar Rajagopalan research focused on the monitoring and characterization of crystal size and shape distribution as produced in industrially relevant crystallization processes. This included process modeling, monitoring and control, as well as experimental implementation and scale-up. His contribution is considered to become a valuable step in applying crystallization process modeling more consistently during the development and scale-up of the production of for instance new pharmaceutical drugs.

The award jury of the Working Party on Crystallization stated: "It is rare to find a PhD thesis which covers the whole span of fundamental research to practical application. The work is and will be a very important contribution to the control of morphology in crystallization processes."

Dr. Ashwin Kumar Rajagopalan obtained his Bachelor of Technology in Chemical Engineering degree from the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappali, India and his M.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Alberta, Canada. Following the successful completion of his PhD thesis at ETH Zurich, in May 2020 he was appointed SNSF Early Postdoc. Mobility Fellow at the Multifunctional Nanomaterials Group, Imperial College London, UK. Starting in the Autumn Semester 2021, Dr. Rajagopalan is Lecturer in Chemical Engineering, in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science of the University of Manchester, UK.

Nominating him for the Award, Professor Mazzotti wrote: "Ashwin Kumar Rajagopalan has been an outstanding PhD student. He has done novel, outstanding work, reported in an outstanding dissertation, and published in scientific papers that are having an impact in the crystallization community. He has an incredible drive for research, and a very strong motivation to work very hard and to tackle difficult projects ..."

The award will be presented to Dr. Rajagopalan on Thursday, 2 September 2021 at the 21st International Symposium on Industrial Crystallization (ISIC-21) which will be held as a virtual conference on 30 August to 2 September 2021.

Ends

Related links

EFCE media centre (<http://www.efce.info/News>)

EFCE Working Party on Crystallization (<https://efce.info/WPC.html>)

21st International Symposium on Industrial Crystallization (ISIC-21) (https://dechema.de/en/ISIC_2021)

Notes to media

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About EFCE

Founded in 1953, The European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) is a non-profit-making association, whose object is to promote co-operation in Europe between non-profit-making professional scientific and technical societies in 30 countries for the general advancement of chemical engineering and as a means of furthering the development of chemical engineering. See www.efce.org