

Press release

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EFCE
c/o DECHEMA e.V.
Theodor-Heuss-Allee 25
D-60486 Frankfurt am Main
<http://www.efce.info>

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Frohberg to Receive Excellence Award in Product Design and Engineering

Contact:
Ines Honndorf
Tel. ++49 (0) 69 / 75 64 - 209
Fax ++49 (0) 69 / 75 64 - 299
email: honndorf@dechema.de

Dr.-Ing. Patrick Frohberg has been awarded the first **EFCE Excellence Award in Product Design and Engineering** for his outstanding PhD thesis entitled *Studies on the production and optimization of protein-based biopolymers*, completed at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle, Germany, under the supervision of Professor Joachim Ulrich.

The Federation commended Patrick Frohberg for achieving the best evaluation by the jury in terms of breadth and depth of the thesis, innovation, dissemination of results, industrial relevance, and scientific impact of the work.

The award will be presented on 28 September 2011 during the 5th European Conference on Product Design and Engineering which will be held in conjunction with ECCE-8, in Berlin, Germany, on 28-29 September 2011.

The EFCE Excellence Award recognises the work of a young researcher or engineer, which represents an outstanding contribution to the field. The award comprises a commemorative certificate, 1500 euros, a travel grant, and an invitation to give a presentation at the conference.

Patrick Frohberg obtained his Masters degree in Industrial Engineering from the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. Currently, he holds the position of Managing Director and CEO of PolyNature GmbH, a spin-off of that university. The company develops innovative, non-toxic, biodegradable and compostable bio-based plastics made from proteins. Frohberg has been substantially involved in the research and development of these environmentally friendly products for application in various industries.