



Presentation of the 2022 Nicolaus August Otto Award:

Welcome address

Dr.-Ing. Markus Müller, CTO DEUTZ AG

Aachen, 28.6.2022

Dear Ms. Rutherford,
dear Professor Schuh,
ladies and gentlemen,

I am delighted to welcome you in person to this year's Nicolaus August Otto Award. Now in its fourth year, DEUTZ AG's award is presented in recognition of genuine pioneering spirit, and thus also for the pushing of boundaries.

Today, we are honoring a high-flyer in every sense of the word: **Zara Rutherford**. But before I continue I want to share a short video with you, that highlights her recent extraordinary achievement.

[VIDEO Einspielung]

Ladies and gentlemen, as you have just seen at only 19 years old, Zara is the youngest woman to have flown solo around the world. That is her first entry in the Guinness World Records. She is also the youngest person to have made this journey in an ultralight aircraft. That is her second entry. And she holds a third record: she is the youngest recipient of the Nicolaus August Otto Award so far. (Toward the awardee) A warm welcome to you, Ms. Rutherford!



Zara Rutherford's achievements are reaching new heights. Her records are impressive and fully deserving of our admiration. But what is most important is how she has achieved them – with a pioneering spirit and a passion for technology. What we particularly appreciate here at DEUTZ is her ability to motivate us. Her flight has done something invaluable by showing us all what we are capable of. And what we can achieve if we are able to find the courage. Technological progress can only realize its full potential through action. It relies on people who recognize its possibilities and are able to bring them to life through their vision. As an inspiration for others. This requires courage, passion, and drive. In that regard, **this young pilot is following in the footsteps of Nicolaus August Otto**, the founder of what is now DEUTZ AG.

Nicolaus August Otto invented the four-stroke engine. A well-known fact here in Aachen, and no more so than at RWTH Aachen University. **By inventing the four-stroke engine, Nicolaus August Otto achieved much more: he pushed boundaries.** He got the world moving and hugely expanded the reach of transportation. And that is the essence of what pioneering spirit has achieved to date: movement. Because movement means progress.

The desire to push the boundaries is key to progress. This requires not only an inquisitive nature but also inventiveness and the courage to try something new. We have learned this over the more than 150-year history of our company. Ever since it was founded in 1864, we



have always looked ahead and to the future. We embrace change in order to improve every day. **Becoming climate-neutral, decarbonizing, and future-proof transport solutions** – these are the topics that we are discussing at the neuland conference. And it is these key topics and challenges that research, development, and testing at DEUTZ are concentrated on.

As an engine manufacturer operating at a global level, we are focused in equal measure on the Paris climate goals and on our customers' expectations as regards functionality. We provide our customers with drive solutions appropriate to their individual requirements – conventional solutions and increasingly also alternative solutions.

This month, **the European Parliament backed a ban on the sale of new cars and vans with combustion engines from 2035 onward.** Let me be clear: **We welcome all efforts to promote sustainable transport solutions. But I must stress equally clearly that we question this approach.** We believe that this decision needlessly throws away the opportunity for a credit mechanism for sustainable, renewable fuels.

Combustion engines with a power range of more than 100 kilowatts will remain in high demand going forward. And that is not necessarily a bad thing. **After all, it is not the combustion engine technology that is the problem. Fossil fuels are.** To put it another way, combustion engines can enable sustainable mobility if they are powered by hydrogen or e-fuels. At DEUTZ, we are convinced that a sustainable



future for off-highway applications is only achievable with a realistic mix of different drive technologies.

One option we are pursuing among others is hydrogen. **Just like Chinese Professor Wan Gang.** By founding the research institute for the development of hydrogen technology and electrical vehicles at Tongji University in Shanghai, he laid the foundations for his career as the Minister of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

Allow me this small spoiler: For his groundbreaking research into zero-emission mobility, DEUTZ will be presenting professor Wan Gang with the Nicolaus August Otto Award in the coming year.

Ladies and gentlemen,

From China back to Aachen – or should I say, to Belgium. That is where this year's recipient of the Nicolaus August Otto Award, **Zara Rutherford, lives.** Ideas give courage, and courage drives us to attempt new records. To increase our performance. And to push at the boundaries. Our innovation award recognizes exactly this pioneering spirit.

I would now like to welcome you, Professor Schuh (toward Professor Schuh), onto the stage for the commendation speech for this year's winner of the Nicolaus August Otto Award.

Many thanks!