
The 13th KONA Award

Dr. Ko Higashitani, Professor of Kyoto University, was selected as the winner of the 13th KONA Award, which is sponsored by Hosokawa Powder Technology Foundation and given to the scientists or groups who have achieved distinguished research works in the field of particle science and technology.

Professor Ko Higashitani graduated from Department of Chemical Engineering, Kyoto University, Japan in 1968, and received a Ph.D. degree in 1973 under the supervision of Prof. A.S. Lodge in Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. Then he moved to Department of Applied Chemistry, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan, as an assistant professor, and became a full professor in 1983. He joined Department of Chemical Engineering, Kyoto University in 1992.

His major research interests have been in the kinetic

stability of colloidal particles in solutions, such as coagulation, breakup, adhesion, detachment of particles in fluids, slurry kinetics, etc. But his recent interests are concentrated on measuring in-situ the molecular-scale structures of particle surfaces by atomic force microscopy, and investigating their correlation with interaction forces between particles and the macroscopic behavior as dispersions.

The KONA award of this year was given to his pioneer works to clarify the correlation between the molecular-scale structures of particle surfaces and their macroscopic behavior in dispersions.

On January 21, 2004, Mr. Masuo Hosokawa, President of the Foundation, handed the 13th KONA Award to Professor Higashitani at the ceremony of presentation held at the R&D Center of Hosokawa Micron Corporation in Hirakata.

