

Curriculum vitae

Dr. Winfried Materna

- Born: 25 July, 1944 in Allenstein (East Prussia)
- 1966 - 1969 Study of Measurement and Control Engineering at the Gauß School of Engineering in Berlin; Degree: Engineering Graduate
- 1969 - 1973 Study of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Technical University of Berlin; Degree: Engineering Graduate
- 1973 - 1978 Assistant at the University of Hamburg, Faculty of Computer Sciences, Chair of Prof. E. Jessen
- 1978 PhD. in Computer Science at the University of Hamburg
- 1978 - 1979 Management of a research project at the University of Dortmund, Faculty of Computer Science
- 1980 Foundation of MATERNA GmbH, Dortmund (Germany), together with Helmut an de Meulen, CEO

After studying Measurement and Control Technology at the Gauß School of Engineering in Berlin and studying Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Technical University of Berlin, Winfried Materna attained his doctorate in Computer Science at the University of Hamburg. Following on from that, Winfried Materna became the leader of a research project at the Faculty of Computer Science at the University of Dortmund. In 1980, he founded Materna GmbH together with his partner Helmut an de Meulen. The prospects of a bright future for information technology and telecommunications triggered this decision.

There were several reasons for making this step towards self-employment: industry and business offered the opportunities to put his ideas into practice which were not available in public research and development. Winfried Materna also saw the chance to achieve his personal interests and professional aims. His original plan to follow a university career would not have allowed this.

Since the beginning of his career, Winfried Materna has been involved in shaping the economic and political environment of the region, initially as an active member of the Junior IHK (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) and since 1991 as a full member of the IHK Dortmund general meeting. Materna was the president of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce Dortmund from 1997 to 2004 and today he is an honorary president.

In 2001, the Minister President of the state of North-Rhine Westphalia (NRW) awarded Winfried Materna the “State Prize NRW” for his outstanding contributions towards modernising the economy and structural change in the state.

Winfried Materna is also active in various honorary roles. Many years as a member in socially and culturally active organisations such as the “Dortmund Stiftung“ and “Lions Tremonia” bear witness to his continuous commitment to improving the “soft” location factors in his chosen home state of Westphalia. Winfried Materna was also deputy-facilitator of the Initiavkreis Ruhr Region from 2005 to 2010. In addition, he is involved in the Society for Westphalian Economic History (GWWG).

Winfried Materna also contributes with his entrepreneurial experience on diverse advisory committees and through his seats on supervisory boards in numerous companies.

In April 2008, Winfried Materna was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit (1. class) because he has delivered important impulses for the successful economical changes in the region.