

Press Release  
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## Plair CEO wins the international 2016 HMEI Award for best engineer

**Dr. Denis Kiselev, co-founder and CEO of Geneva-based Plair SA, has received the Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry's (HMEI) top recognition for engineers under the age of 35 who demonstrate outstanding work in the field. Plair SA is also the first Swiss company to win the award.**

Geneva, Switzerland – A distinguished panel of judges drawn from industry and the World Meteorological Organization has selected Dr. Denis Kiselev as winner of the 2016 Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry (HMEI) Award for Young Engineers, for his work in the field of hydro-meteorological and other environmental systems and services development in HMEI member companies. Dr. Kiselev is the co-founder of Plair SA, which develops and manufactures professional systems for preventive monitoring of the environment and is headquartered in Geneva.



**HMEI Award presentation (left to right):** Ms. Robyn Thomas (Administrator of HMEI), Mr. Brian Day (HMEI Chairman & CEO of Campbell Scientific), Dr. Denis Kiselev (CEO of Plair SA), Dr. Alexander Karpov (Executive Secretary of HMEI).

Dr. Kiselev was recognized at an award ceremony during the HMEI General Assembly at the World Meteorological Organization Technical Conference on Meteorological and Environmental Instruments and Methods of Observation (CI-MO TECO) 2016 in conjunction with the Meteorological Technology World Expo on September 28, 2016 in Madrid, Spain.

The HMEI award recognizes Dr. Kiselev's work in developing revolutionary technology for Plair's particle analyzers, which improve air quality measurements in various fields. Currently being tested in Switzerland's first national network that automatically monitors pollen, Plair's detectors have the potential to

become an international standard. Dr. Kiselev has made significant contributions to the field of environmental monitoring, has authored numerous scientific articles, and holds several patents.

"It is a great honor and privilege to receive this prize," said Dr. Kiselev. "It means that our work and dedication to this company is highly appreciated by our customers and peers from the industry around

the globe. This award proves the impact of our disruptive technology and innovative products for the field of hydro-meteorological and other environmental systems. I'm sure this award will help attract the best talent to our growing team."

Before founding Plair, Dr. Kiselev earned a PhD in physics, concentrating on the development of aerosol detection devices, and a Master's degree in physics from the University of Geneva, Switzerland. He had previously obtained a degree in metrological engineering from Moscow State Technological University (STANKIN). Beginning his career in the nuclear power industry, Dr. Kiselev gained extensive experience in developing measurement equipment for power plants, and later applied the acquired skills in his PhD program. Dr. Kiselev is the primary developer of Plair's particle analyzers, the result of eight years of research and development at the University of Geneva. He developed the hardware and main software components currently integrated in the Rapid-E real-time airborne particle identifier.

Plair's detectors are the world's first that instantly and automatically count pollen per taxa. They deliver real-time data, enabling meteorological and environmental services to improve forecasting models and better alert populations affected by respiratory diseases, hay fever, and asthma. The instruments are also capable of counting other particles, such as air pollutants and fungal spores. Precise information provided by Plair can help cities more quickly determine and manage the sources of pollution through the monitoring of air quality, and even address environmental problems related to agriculture.

Plair SA was created in 2014 while demonstrating reliability, robustness, and performance in measurement campaigns with the Swiss Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology (MeteoSwiss).

For more information on the HMEI, visit [www.hmei.org](http://www.hmei.org).

### **About Plair SA**

Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, Plair SA provides solutions for instantaneous and autonomous airborne particle detection and identification to address environmental monitoring needs in different industries. Plair holds several patents. Plair SA is an award-winning Swiss company founded in 2014 by Dr. Denis Kiselev and Dr. Svetlana Afonina. Its first prototype was developed at the University of Geneva with backing from NCCR MUST (Molecular Ultrafast Science and Technology) and the INNOGAP proof-of-principle fund (UniTec). Plair is supported by the State of Geneva through FONGIT, the Federal Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI), Venture Kick, and platinn.

For more information, visit the Plair SA website at [www.plair.ch](http://www.plair.ch).

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