

2013 Frank Prize for Prof. K. Tsukamoto (Tohoku University, Sendai)

The International Organization for Crystal Growth (IOCG) has awarded the 2013 Frank prize to Prof. Katsuo Tsukamoto of Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan. The Frank prize is awarded for significant fundamental contributions to the field of crystal growth and Prof. Tsukamoto receives this prize for his foundational discoveries in the physics of solution-based crystallization achieved through his pioneering work in developing phase-shift interferometry for in-situ investigations of crystal growth mechanism of both inorganic and organic materials. He has lead the development of phase-shift interferometry to increasing levels of sophistication, allowing real-time imaging of mono-molecular step motion and miniaturizing such set-ups to open up new applications. Prof. Tsukamoto has in particular used this technique for fundamental studies under microgravity conditions, but has also done experiments under conditions deep in the earth.

Prof. Katsuo Tsukamoto (born in 1948) studied mineralogy at the Tohoku University in Sendai and obtained his PhD in 1982 with Prof. Sunagawa as supervisor. He has visited many institutions during his career, including two years as invited researcher in The Netherlands in the group of Prof. Bennema. He is the (co-)author of more than 290 scientific publications.

