

Hendrik Van Brussel

Prof. Hendrik Van Brussel (°1944), is full professor in mechatronics and automation at the Faculty of Engineering, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (K.U.Leuven), Belgium, chairman of the Division of Production engineering, Machine design and Automation (PMA), Department of Mechanical Engineering. He received his B.Sc ME (Technisch Ingenieur) degree from Hoger Technisch Instituut, Oostende, Belgium, in 1965, and his M. Sc. EE (Burgerlijk Ingenieur) and PhD degrees from K.U.Leuven, Belgium, in 1968 and 1971 respectively. From 1971 until 1973 he was active in Bandung, Indonesia, establishing a Metal Industries Development Centre and as an associate professor at Institut Teknologi Bandung.

He was a pioneer in robotics research in Europe and an active promoter of the mechatronics idea as a new paradigm in machine design. He has published extensively on different aspects of robotics, mechatronics and flexible automation. His present research interest include holonic manufacturing systems, medical and behaviour based robotics, micro and precision engineering.

He is Fellow of SME and IEEE. He received an honorary doctor degree from Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH), Aachen, Germany, from 'Politehnica' University in Bucarest, Romania, and from 'Transilvania' University Brasov, Romania. In 2001-2002 he served as President of CIRP (International Institution for Production Engineering Research). He is a Member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Sciences and Arts, Foreign Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA) and Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), USA. In 2007-2009 he was President of euspen (European Society for Precision Engineering and Nanotechnology).