Evaluation criteria
As well as the originality and novelty of the idea, questions of technical maturity and practicability, the significance of industrial gases for the new idea and the potential for introducing the idea to the market (possibly in collaboration with Messer) will be taken into account when evaluating the entries.

What are the awards offered?
1st prize: €15,000
2nd prize: €10,000
3rd prize: €5,000

Exploitation of new discoveries
As an industrial gas concern, we are highly interested in the purposeful exploitation of your proposals, ideas and developments. So in submitting your work please you also to take care to present the economic advantages and efficiency offered by the technical realization of your ideas or methods. If both sides are interested, Messer will support the marketing of feasible new ideas.

You may submit a diploma thesis, a Ph.D. thesis, a research study or findings of any project from the years 2002 and 2003. Studies that have already been published, or that have already been submitted for a patent, may be entered, provided the idea can still be exploited commercially.

Areas of application
- Environmental and recycling technology
- Industrial process technology, e.g. chemical industry, energy technology, food technology
- Biotechnology and medical technology
- Communications technology and electronics
- Cutting and welding technology
- Applications and production processes (both cryogenic and non-cryogenic)

The themes to which the award is dedicated:
- Use of industrial gases or specialty gases for
  - New products/materials
  - New methods, or optimization of existing processes
  - Techniques/technological advance
  - Services

To enter for Messer's International Innovation Award, please let us have the following documents
- An abstract of your work, no longer than one A4 page, in either German or English
- One résumé

Entries will be assessed by an international jury composed of managers of private companies and scientists.

Closing date for applications:
Please apply before 31.10.2003. On the basis of the summaries that are submitted the jury will decide on a shortlist. Entrants who are selected for the shortlist will be informed by 31.12.2003. They will be invited to send in full-length contributions. Any recourse to legal courts of appeal is hereby excluded.

Please send your entry, with the accompanying documentation, to the address given below by 31.10.2003 (date as per postmark):

Messer Griesheim GmbH
Corporate Communications
Keyword: 3rd International Messer Innovation Award
Fühlingerweg 34 · D-47805 Krefeld
e-mail: innovation2003@messer.de

www.messergroup.com
Messer –
a strong brand

For more than a hundred years the name of Messer has been associated with expert knowledge in the field of industrial gases. Messer Griesheim produces and supplies oxygen, nitrogen, argon, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, helium, inert gases for welding, specialty gases, medical gases and many other different gas mixtures.

The range of gases is varied, and just as varied are the industrial sectors which benefit from these, and from the expertise of Messer’s employees: the steel and metal processing industries, the chemical industry, foodstuffs and pharmaceuticals industries, the automobile and electronics industries, the medical, research and environmental technology. With technical expertise, innovation and services we contribute substantially to our customers success.

Today Messer belongs to the leading group of industrial gas corporations in Europe, with a strong position in the USA, and subsidiary corporations in selected growth regions.

Vision of the Messer Group

“Speed, flexibility and innovation are Messer traditions. We have the courage to strike out on new paths.”

To be “top of the class” – this is a constant and ongoing challenge for Messer. The corporation measures itself by the highest standards and is continually developing its processes and services further.

Our research and development is centered on the needs of our customers, and in many cases is carried out in cooperation with the users. This is the only way to ensure the market success of new products, applications and technologies. We see ourselves as leading experts and promoters in key technological areas and markets of the future.

A fundamental component of our success is the high degree of motivation and commitment of our employees, at all locations within the Messer Group. In 2002 the innovative ideas of our employees resulted in over seventy new patents.

We are convinced that research and development play a decisive role in meeting the challenges of the future. This is the reason why, as well as investing in the research carried out by our employees, we are promoting the future oriented and bold ideas of young people throughout Europe with the Messer Innovation Award.

Applications are invited from all over Europe. Young researchers can submit an individual entry or they can enter as a team. A special prize is offered to Messer employees. Any study in the fields of environmental technology, chemistry, metallurgy, food technology, biotechnology, medicine, communications technology, electronics, welding and cutting technology can qualify as an entry for the innovation Award, as long as industrial gases play a significant part in the methods described. The three best studies coming from external applicants will be awarded in spring 2004 along with the selected contribution from within the Messer Group.

Who is eligible to take part:

All those engaged in research in the areas listed in this invitation – students working towards a diploma or doctorate, postgraduates, persons in a position of employment (in any sphere) – an who will not have passed the age of 40 on 31.12.2003. Both individuals and teams may submit entries.

So now it’s up to you!

Convince us and our international jury with your ideas on where and how industrial gases – oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, noble and specialty gases – can be used to open up new paths in process technology, provide better solutions or even to create completely new products.

Applications are invited from all over Europe. Young researchers can submit an individual entry or they can enter as a team. A special prize is offered to Messer employees. Any study in the fields of environmental technology, chemistry, metallurgy, food technology, biotechnology, medicine, communications technology, electronics, welding and cutting technology can qualify as an entry for the Innovation Award, as long as industrial gases play a significant part in the methods described. The three best studies coming from external applicants will be awarded in spring 2004 along with the selected contribution from within the Messer Group.

3rd International Messer Innovation Award