

# Alexandre-Edmond Becquerel Prize for Outstanding Contributions to the Development of Photovoltaic Solar Energy

To mark the 150th anniversary of Becquerel's classical experiment which laid the foundation of both photovoltaics and photography, the Commission of the European Communities established in 1989 an Edmond Becquerel Prize. It is awarded for the third time in 1992 on the occasion of the Commission's 11<sup>th</sup> European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference in Montreux, Switzerland. Prominent members of the Scientific Committee of this Conference and of other photovoltaic conferences in the USA and Japan have elected the prize winner.

Alexandre-Edmond Becquerel, a Frenchman who lived 1820-1891, was the son of Antoine-César and the father of Henri, three generations of famous physical scientists. Alexandre-Edmond's interest ranged widely over physics and chemistry; he was an outstanding experimentalist and contributed to the conceptual developments of the day. He detected the photovoltaic effect in 1839.

The 1992 Prize winner is:

**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Antonio Luque Lopez**

of the University Politécnica de Madrid and Director of the Instituto de Energía Solar. Antonio Luque is a leading expert on photovoltaics in Europe with a long standing record of major achievements. He and his research team in Madrid hold the European efficiency record on crystalline silicon solar cells and obtained a world record on non-imaging concentration devices for photovoltaic systems. Antonio Luque has gained merits as an active promoter of the photovoltaic idea in Europe and many countries worldwide.

For the Commission of the European Communities

*Signature*

Herbert J. Allgeier  
Director