



Photo: Carola Gietzen

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SUCCESSSTORY NO.5

WITec GmbH

Our motto, Focus Innovations, describes in two words the history, present and future of WITec.

The roots of the company can be found at the University of Ulm; we met there in the mid-1990s at the Physics Institute and developed the first ideas for our own company, which we founded in 1997 and lead to this day. The Ulm innovation region offers young companies and entrepreneurs very favorable conditions. In the early years the University of Ulm was a great help as they made their infrastructure available to us. We also drew on the resources offered by the IHK for business consultations and training.

We develop novel microscopes and technologies for the non-destructive analysis of materials and organisms. In this we are, as the Swabians say, not too bad. For our



Behind innovative inventions, their implementation and the companies that create them, there are always people with a passion for progress and development, who make these things their life-goals. They have the urge to turn ideas into reality, to improve on existing conditions, in the world in general and in their own lives.

products we've received a variety of innovation awards, for example the R&D100 on two occasions, which could be called the Oscar of innovation.

We develop and produce confocal Raman microscopes. With these specialized instruments not only the structure of an object, but also its molecular composition can be depicted in the form of an image. At our own headquarters building in Science Park II on Eselsberg in Ulm, a team of dedicated experts in physics, computer science, electronics and other technical disciplines works to steadily improve our products and develop new ideas. Our business lives by innovation. We have branches in Spain, The U.S., Singapore, China and Japan. Altogether there are 58 employees on the global WITec team.

Worldwide we're supported by highly-trained distribution partners in sales and service. This is because quality, reliability and customer care are of the utmost importance to us. Therefore we also offer training courses in Raman microscopy and host an annual symposium in Ulm that has found an international following and resonance.

Raman microscopy combines high-resolution, confocal light microscopy with spectroscopic methods. We can also equip our Raman systems with components that add further high-resolution techniques such as atomic force microscopy, near-field microscopy and electron microscopy. These methods provide additional information about the studied objects and their integration in the same instrument enables fast correlation between the respective data and imagery, which helps save our customers considerable time and effort.

With our systems many different kinds of materials can be investigated; the spectrum ranges from fossilized microorganisms in rocks, glass, cells and textiles, polymers (plastics) and many other materials to pharmaceutical substances. They're applied in basic research, industrial development and also monitoring of fabrication processes – all over the world.

www.witec.de

These people put their knowledge, passion, money and time into projects which then, ideally, meet with success. Concrete examples of success such as these are the best motivation!

You can find more regional success stories at:

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