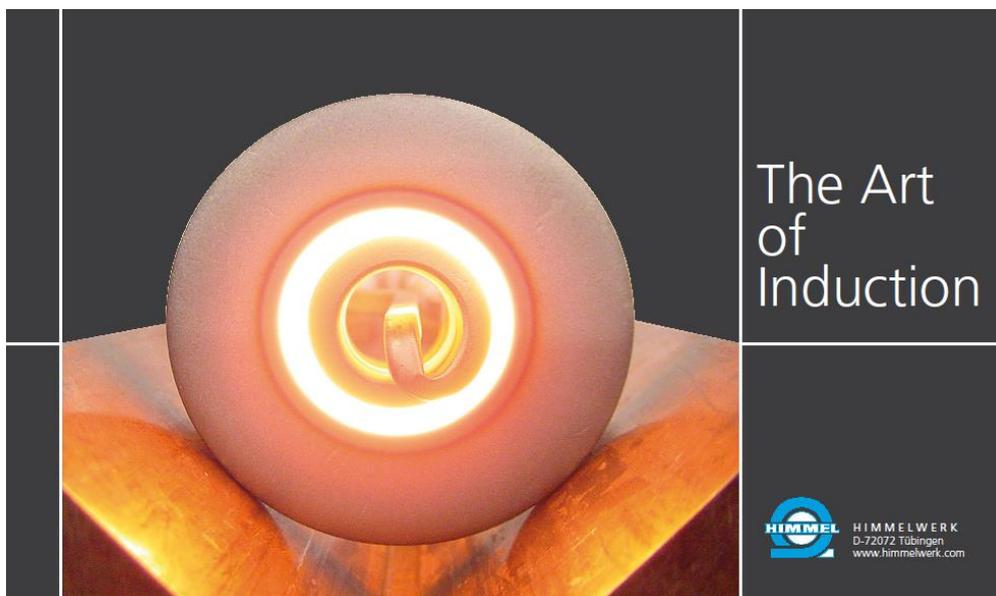


Himmelwerk @ ITPS 2017

Our world has become more complex. On one hand we have today a variety of technologies available which were unknown 50, 20 or even 10 years ago. This could be a promising way for improving some of the problems our world still has to solve. On the other hand the speed of evolution in technology, global trade and internationalization seems to be more like a challenge than a progress for many people who are - actively or passively - involved. And because of those concerns, which may be unclear or even unrealistic, there seems to be an increasing uncertainty of how to deal with the future. Some apparently think that turning back the hands of time would be a good approach, concentrating only on their own national points of view and perspectives. And even religiously motivated conflicts, which have shown so many times over the centuries of human history that they never did any good to no side at the end, seem to be back on some people's agenda as a "problem solving tool" for the future.



What has this all to do with ITPS, which takes place in Düsseldorf in 2017? It started in Düsseldorf, followed by Mumbai and Chicago and has formed an international community of women and men all being involved in the wide field of the thermoprocess industry. A key industry enabling the world to use products, which would be impossible to have without thermoprocess technology. But despite this fact, the thermoprocess industry is a more background-working industry not at all known to the many people who are using thermoprocessed products.

I am glad that I was able to attend every ITPS so far and I am looking very much forward to continue the technological, cultural and political exchange with my dear colleagues from all over the world. This is in my opinion a much better way to work on solving the world's problems. And it is always good to meet and greet old friends. And Düsseldorf is certainly not a bad place for doing that!

See you there!

Dr. Andreas Seitzer, Managing Director Himmelwerk