PRESS RELEASE

IST METZ receives the Allianz Industry 4.0 Award for SMARTcure

AI-powered control system for LED UV curing processes honoured in the 'Winner' category

Nürtingen, 17 November 2026: With SMARTcure, IST METZ combines artificial intelligence with industrial UV curing technology. The system analyses job-specific and process-related data to determine the required LED UV output. Intelligent power adjustment and format-dependent LED zone control help optimise energy consumption according to actual production requirements. The Allianz Industrie 4.0 Award Baden-Württemberg 2026 recognises SMARTcure as an innovative digitalisation solution for industrial production processes.

IST METZ GmbH & Co. KG has been recognised with the Allianz Industrie 4.0 Award Baden-Württemberg 2026 in the "Winner" category. With SMARTcure, the UV curing specialist has developed an AI-assisted control system designed to optimise industrial LED UV curing processes according to actual production requirements, opening up new opportunities for more energy-efficient production.

The award was presented during the "i4.0 Inspire" event on 12 November 2026 at ARENA2036 in Stuttgart. The Allianz Industrie 4.0 Award recognises innovative digitalisation solutions developed by industrial companies in Baden-Württemberg. A total of 28 companies were recognised in the "Winner" category, which honours outstanding individual Industry 4.0 solutions.

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Intelligent UV Curing Powered by Artificial Intelligence

With SMARTcure, IST METZ combines its extensive expertise in UV curing technology with the capabilities of artificial intelligence. The system analyses job-specific and process-related data to determine the appropriate power settings for the LED UV system based on individual production requirements.

SMARTcure takes into account parameters such as substrate, printing ink, coating and print format. Based on this information, the LED UV output can be adjusted to match the actual requirements of the production process. The aim is to avoid unnecessary energy consumption while ensuring the required curing performance.

Another key feature is format-dependent LED zone control. Only the LED segments required for the respective print job are activated, while areas outside the print format can be switched off. This enables additional reductions in power consumption.

Connected Technology for Optimised Production Processes

SMARTcure combines AI-based power recommendations with cloud-based data processing. Relevant job and process data is transmitted to the IST cloud via an encrypted connection, where it is analysed and evaluated. Operators can assess the curing results and provide feedback to the system. This information contributes to the continuous development of the AI model and helps improve future power recommendations.

The control system is available for LEDcure NX, the water-cooled LED UV system from IST METZ. Together, these technologies enable job-specific

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adjustments to curing output and support manufacturers in making their production processes more efficient.

Award Highlights Innovative Strength

The recognition in the "Winner" category acknowledges SMARTcure as an innovative Industry 4.0 solution. The technology demonstrates how artificial intelligence can be integrated into industrial production processes to support the efficient use of resources and further advance process control.

For IST METZ, the award reinforces its commitment to complementing established UV curing technologies with intelligent digital solutions. SMARTcure places particular emphasis on combining process expertise, data analysis and automated control to meet the evolving requirements of industrial production.

3.865 Zeichen



Caption: The recipients of the Allianz Industrie 4.0 Award Baden-Württemberg 2026 in the "Winner" category pictured with Baden-Württemberg's Minister of Economic Affairs, Dr Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut, in Stuttgart. **Source**: Allianz Industrie 4.0/Ludmilla Parsyak

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Caption: IST METZ was recognised for its AI-assisted control system SMARTcure and was represented at the event by Stefan Feil, Head of Department Predevelopment – New Markets. **Source**: Allianz Industrie 4.0/Ludmilla Parsyak

About IST METZ GmbH & Co. KG

IST METZ GmbH & Co. KG, headquartered in Nürtingen, is a leading global specialist in UV, LED-UV, IR, and excimer technology. Since 1977, the family-owned company has been developing and manufacturing high-performance systems for curing and drying printing inks, coatings, silicones, adhesives, and functional coatings. With its own sales and service subsidiaries, as well as an international network of partners, IST METZ supports customers worldwide in implementing efficient, sustainable, and forward-looking production processes. Under the guiding principle **"more than UV,"** the company stands for technological innovation, the highest quality, and collaborative partnerships.

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