

## **Wednesday October 1, seminar with Dr. L. Knippschild**

His lecture was devoted to the very actual and interesting problem — how to go the way from a nice idea to an innovation and a market success, how to organize interdisciplinary alliances between different academic institutions and industry.

Dr. L. Knippschild has more of 30 years experience on leading positions at the research and development department of ThyssenKrupp. At present, he is coordinator for numerous projects, for instance for the HYDROS project - one of the large German compound projects which include industry partners from Finland and Germany and academic partners from Germany (Dresden and Rostock universities) and Sweden (Halmstad university).

The title of the talk was:

### **Interdisciplinary Research and Development Alliances as a Tool for Technical Innovation Processes**

#### **Abstract:**

The problems of how to control technical innovation process are extremely important for a broad range of managers on the top of industrial enterprises. There exist as well a large amount of papers devoted to these problems with no clear cut results, but at the same time, no area is less understood than the one known as research and development of innovation.

In the talk the question about the quantitative correlations of innovation and competitiveness, of R&D expenses and the probability of market success or breakthrough will be discussed.

The research and development are crucial for an industrial branch with high resources in knowledge and technology to be able to compete, and that we should not leave this field to mere chance or administrative forces and above all, not to the utopians.

The typical obstacles and the structures of R&D projects will be discussed on examples of already completed as well as still running R&D projects.