

Ing. Rudolf Rado, DrSc. Sixty Years Old



Dr. *Rudolf Rado*, a distinguished Czechoslovak scientist in the field of macromolecular chemistry, currently the leading scientific worker of the Research Institute of Cables and Insulants in Bratislava celebrated his sixtieth birthday on February 14, 1988.

Born in Topoľčany, he attended the Grammar School in Bratislava and in 1947 he began his studies at the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava. He graduated in 1951 and after a short employment as assistant lecturer at this Faculty he went to Gumon, n.e., and, in 1954, to the Research

Institute of Cables and Insulants, where he was engaged as research and later as scientific worker. In 1962 he received his CSc. (equivalent of PhD.) degree for his Thesis "Polyethylene crosslinked with peroxides". In the years 1969—1974 he worked as Head of the Laboratory of Polymer Modifications at the Polymer Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. In 1969 he defended his Doctor of Technical Sciences Thesis "Mechanism of transformation reactions of saturated polymers initiated by peroxides". In 1974 he started to work at the Research Institute for Processing and Applications of Plastic Materials in Nitra, where, as leader of the research group he applied his experience and knowledge acquired during his earlier appointments to build up the conception of the Institute. In 1978 he returned to the Research Institute of Cables and Insulants to lead the Department of Plastic Materials and to continue in his successful and active work.

Exceptionality of the character of Dr. R. Rado is his great ability of a scientist combined with his ability to apply his scientific achievements in the solution of the practical needs, mainly of cable industry.

During 35 years of his research activities, Dr. Rado has been true to the problems of radical modifications of polymers, where he obtained a number of novel results, especially in the field of the elucidation of the kinetic laws of radical processes during peroxide decomposition in viscous medium of polymers. His important contribution to the solution of the demands of cable industry lies in the realization of the production of crosslinkable polyethylene in Slovnaft. Some of his other inventions have been applied to new solutions of insulating materials and materials for cable sheathing, communication and heavy-current cables.

His scientific activities and efforts to find application for his scientific achievements are evident from the number of his publications: he is author of 120 papers published at home and abroad and author and coauthor of 30 patents. Dr. Rado presented his results

at about 20 national and international conferences as well as in two monographs translated and published also abroad.

Dr. Rado has also been active as organizer of conferences both national and international. In the years 1971—1974 he chaired the Division of Macromolecular Chemistry of the Chemical Society of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. As the leading scientific worker he serves also as a supervisor of graduates in the field “technology of macromolecular compounds”.

We know Dr. Rado as a man of high professional qualities and a good-natured man, highly esteemed by all his coworkers. He has always been able to give good advice and with his enthusiasm for scientific work to encourage his colleagues in their work. We would therefore like to express our thanks for everything he has done for the development of science and of national economy.

On the occasion of the jubilee of Dr. Rado, we wish him, on behalf of all his coworkers and friends, good health, creative enthusiasm, and success in his future activities.

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