



To Photonics21 Secretariat
via eMail: secretariat@photonics21.org

Dear Photonics21 Secretariat,

We herewith submit the nomination of the following Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders candidate
FISBA AG / Martin Forrer.

**- Letter of Nomination -
Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders
Election 2025**

Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders - Letter of Nomination

1. Full legal name of the affiliation nominated as BoS Member (candidate's organisation):

FISBA AG

2. Full contact details of the affiliation (street, postal code, country) nominated as BoS Member and invoice address *(In accordance with the Terms of Reference §5, which the Affiliation acknowledges having received, an Annual Service fee will be invoiced every year during the first quarter to the BoS Member. By signing the present letter, the BoS candidate agrees to pay this Membership Fee. The Fee will be considered an asset of the Photonics 21 AISBL in accordance with its statutes (article 12b).)*

Rorschacher Strasse 268
CH-9016 St. Gallen
Switzerland

3. Name of the suggested BoS Representative (the personal candidate)

Dr. Martin Forrer, CTO FISBA AG

4. Information about the BoS candidate and the BoS representative

- a) Description of the activities and information about the expected contribution and value added the nominated BoS member (candidate's organisation) will bring to the BoS¹

Activities and Expected Contributions of FISBA AG

FISBA is a globally recognized provider of customized optical components, systems, and microsystems with strong expertise in photonics for life sciences, industrial applications, and aerospace & defense. With decades of experience in precision optics, laser technologies, and photonic integration, FISBA brings both technological leadership and market-driven insight to the Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders.

Key Activities

- Industry Leadership in Photonics: FISBA develops and manufactures advanced optical solutions ranging from micro-optics and laser beam shaping to complete photonic modules, supporting innovation across key European industries.
- R&D and Innovation: The company actively invests in R&D projects, bridging fundamental research with high-volume industrial manufacturing, ensuring that European photonics technologies remain globally competitive.
- Collaboration in the Photonics Ecosystem: FISBA has a strong track record of collaboration with SMEs, large enterprises, and research institutes across Europe, fostering cross-sector innovation and value chain integration.

¹ The candidate is aware and accepts that according to the Photonics21 Terms of Reference (§ 5 (10) a membership fee - as determined by the General Assembly of the Association - needs to be paid to the Photonics21 association.

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- **Market Application Expertise:** Through its presence in life sciences, industrial laser processing, aerospace, and medical technology, FISBA offers valuable insights into market needs and application-driven innovation pathways.

Expected Contribution and Value Added to Photonics21

- **Strategic Input on Industrial Needs:** FISBA will contribute to aligning Photonics21's strategic research and innovation agenda with real-world market demands, especially in life science, advanced manufacturing and aerospace.
- **Strengthening SME and Mid-Cap Representation:** As a leading mid-sized company, FISBA represents the vital role of European SMEs in photonics innovation, supporting a balanced stakeholder perspective within the Board.
- **Driving Technology Transfer:** The company's expertise in scaling prototypes into manufacturable, market-ready products will support Photonics21's mission to strengthen Europe's industrial base and global competitiveness.
- **Promoting Sustainability and Digitalization:** FISBA will contribute to discussions on sustainable photonics manufacturing and the integration of photonics into digital technologies, helping Europe achieve its green and digital transition goals.
- **Enhancing European Competitiveness:** With a strong export orientation and global footprint, FISBA brings an international perspective that will help ensure Europe remains a leader in photonics innovation and industrial deployment.

- b) Description of the activities and information about expected contribution and value added the BoS Representative (candidate / person) will bring to the BoS.

Activities and Expected Contributions of Martin Forrer (CTO, FISBA AG)

Professional Background and Activities

Martin Forrer serves as Chief Technology Officer of FISBA, a leading Swiss company in customized optical components and photonic solutions. With over two decades of experience in photonics, precision optics, and system integration, he has successfully guided FISBA's R&D strategy, ensuring that cutting-edge research translates into industrially scalable and globally competitive products.

His activities span:

- **Strategic Technology Leadership:** Steering innovation in micro-optics, laser beam shaping, and integrated photonic systems for applications in life sciences, medical technology, industrial laser processing, and aerospace.
- **R&D and Innovation Management:** Building strong partnerships between industry, SMEs, and research institutions across Europe, fostering knowledge transfer and collaborative development.
- **Industrial Deployment of Photonics:** Translating photonics research into market-ready solutions, thereby strengthening Europe's position in global photonics value chains.
- **Advocacy for Photonics SMEs and Mid-Caps:** Representing the perspective of mid-sized companies, which are crucial for innovation, agility, and industrial resilience in Europe.

Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders - Letter of Nomination

Expected Contribution and Value Added to the Board of Stakeholders:

- **Market-Driven Perspective:** He will provide insights into customer and industry needs, ensuring Photonics21 strategies remain relevant to real-world applications in healthcare, manufacturing, and aerospace.
- **Expertise in Technology Transfer:** His experience in scaling photonics solutions from R&D to industrial production will support the Board's mission of accelerating innovation uptake across European industries.
- **Commitment to Collaboration:** With a strong network in the European photonics ecosystem, Martin Forrer will act as a connector between academia, SMEs, and industry, fostering innovation across the value chain.
- **Support for Europe's Strategic Goals:** He will contribute to discussions on sustainability, digitalization, and resilience, ensuring that photonics plays a central role in achieving Europe's green and digital transition.
- **Representation of the SME/Mid-Cap Sector:** By voicing the perspective of mid-sized companies like FISBA, he will ensure that the Board of Stakeholders addresses the needs of diverse players within the European photonics landscape.