





Diary Notice

Photonics PPP Annual Meeting Wednesday 27th – Thursday 28th March 2019

Summit to show top Megatrends depend on Photonics

One of Europe's most prominent gatherings of photonics leaders will highlight the importance of light technologies in digitisation megatrends like IoT, big data, artificial intelligence and autonomous vehicles next month.

The annual gathering entitled Europe's age of light – How photonics will power growth and innovation will discuss the opportunities that lie ahead in photonics research and innovation for its applied fields such as lasers, optical components, sensors, network components, LED's, artificial intelligence and quantum technologies.

The two-day Photonics PPP Annual Meeting will discuss unlocking the potential that light technologies can offer, and focus on the strategic development for the missions of the PPP in Horizon Europe, the Research and Innovation Framework Program beyond Horizon 2020.

Dr Bernd Schulte and Photonics 21 Vice-President, Giorgio Anania will open the summit with a formal address at the Museum of Fine Arts, Brussels on Wednesday 27th March, discussing opportunities and challenges for photonics technologies across the next decade.

Home to works by the great masters such as van Dyck, Rubens and Bruegel, the Royal Museums, Brussels will provide a grand setting for the keynote speaker Carl Buhr, the European Commission's deputy head of cabinet.

Notable speakers include Nobel Prize Winner Professor Gérard Mourou, with his Keynote Science Speech. Professor Mourou gained a Physics Nobel Prize for the invention of 'chirped pulse amplification' a technique used to create ultrashort-pulse, very high-intensity petawatt laser pulses.

Chairman of the Executive Board of JENOPTIK AG, Dr Stefan Traeger will provide a photonics industry view and discuss the future developments and challenges for light technologies.

The evening culminates in the official handing over of the new Photonics21 Multiannual Strategic Roadmap, an essential strategy for European photonics in preparation of Horizon Europe. The roadmap is the next development from the 2018 Vision Paper "Europe's Age of Light", in which more than 3000 members from over 1700 companies in our Photonics21 expert community were consulted.

On Day 2, the Square Brussels Convention Centre will host the latest announcements in policy and direction the Photonics PPP works on with its key stakeholders. The discussion for the future strategic direction of the PPP will be the focus of the General Assembly, followed by deliberations over photonics research and innovation priorities for the first calls under Horizon Europe.

Attendees can register for the Photonics Workshops on a variety of themes, including: Information & Communication, Industrial Manufacturing & Quality, Life Sciences & Health, Emerging Lighting, Electronics & Displays, Security, Metrology & Sensors, Design & Manufacturing of Components & Systems, Photonics Research, Education & Training, Automotive & Transport, and Agriculture & Food.

Download the event program, and <u>register here</u>.

About Photonics21

Photonics21 is the European Technology Platform (ETP) for photonics, a technology encompassing all of the products and processes around the emission, manipulation and detection of light. Photonics is integral to a wide range of industries that include the medical, healthcare, transport, manufacturing, and telecommunications sectors.

"Photonics21" was set up in December 2005 to bring the community of photonics researchers and industries together. The European Commission defined photonics as one of five European Key Enabling Technologies (KET's) in September 2009. Shortly after, the European Research & Innovation Program "Horizon 2020" invited Photonics21 to become a "Public-Private Partnership" (PPP). The "Photonics 21 Association", a legal entity under Belgium law, became the private contract partner in November 2013 in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) in conjunction with the EU Commission.

Today Photonics21 represents more than 3000 personal members from across Europe and abroad. Our members are experts in the photonics industry, research organisations and universities who actively engage with us to develop a joint photonics strategy for future research and innovation in Europe.

With the global photonics market growing from €350 Billion in 2011 to €447 Billion in 2015, Photonics remains a strong industry. The European photonics industry, estimated to be worth €70 billion, has considerable global leadership positions and employs over 300,000 people directly.

With positive growth forecast, current industry trends like digitalisation, resource efficiency, individual and zero failure production will drive the photonics industry further.

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