



PHOTONICS PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP



Dr. Lutz Aschke has been elected as new President of Photonics21

The Managing Director of the Mahr Group will represent the European Technology Platform for photonics for the next years..

Aschke earned his doctorate in physics at the Ruhr University in Bochum, acquiring additional qualifications in business administration and labour sciences. Before joining the Mahr Group as Managing Director, he was Managing Director of the “Photonic Components” division within the Trumpf Group.

Throughout his career Aschke has been actively involved in Photonics21 as a valued member of both the Board of Stakeholders and the Executive Board.

Eric Belhaire and Chris van Hoof elected as Photonics21 Executive Board members

In their most recent session, the Board of Stakeholders also elected two further members to the Executive Board. Dr. Eric Belhaire will serve as the Chair of Working Group 5 – on Safety, Security, Space & Defence – and Dr. Chris van Hoof as Chair of Working Group 6 – Agriculture and Food.

Belhaire belongs to the technical Directorate of Thales Optronics Business Line. Its main specialties are the electro-optical technologies, infrared and visible image sensors. He is currently leading an international transverse group dedicated to the management of those key technologies.

Van Hoof is the general manager of OnePlanet Research Center and is part of the management team of OnePlanet. He is responsible for the R&D direction and business strategy of R&D teams across 4 imec locations (Wageningen (The Netherlands), Eindhoven (the Netherlands), Leuven (Belgium) and Gent (Belgium)).

About Photonics21

Photonics21 is the European Technology Platform (ETP) for photonics, a technology encompassing all products and processes around the emission, manipulation and detection of light. Photonics is integral to many industries, including 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 organizations and universities who actively develop a joint photonics strategy for future research and innovation in Europe.



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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 numerous global leadership positions and employs over 300,000 people directly.

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