

Community

Conference Notes

DOI 10.1515/aot-2016-0005

Preview: SPIE Photonics Europe

Brussels, Belgium, April 3–7, 2016

Europe has a strong research infrastructure, particularly in the field of photonics. Nevertheless, it still lacks an annual conference at the size of the Photonics West in America. Its smaller cousin in Brussels does a brave job in uniting 18 different conferences in fields ranging from nanophotonics and microoptics to biophotonics or high-power lasers. More than 1200 presentations are expected, the attendance is usually larger than 2000 people from Europe, the Middle East and other parts of the world. The scientific program comes along with a multifaceted industry exhibition and a number of special workshops.

The conference

Similar to the larger SPIE events in America, Photonics Europe offers “Hot topics in photonics” sessions. This is a place where recent findings and trends are presented. Besides that, the conference has a nice list of plenary speakers:

- John Dudley, Université Franche-Comte, France
- Cesar Jauregui Misas, Friedrich Schiller-Univ. Jena, Germany
- David D. Sampson, University of Western Australia
- Miles Padgett, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom
- Ferenc Krausz, Max-Planck-Institute for Quantum Physics, Germany
- Sarah Bohndiek, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Most interesting among them might be Ferenc Krausz, director of the Max-Planck-Institute of Quantum Optics in Garching/Munich and leader or at least spiritus rector of a number of projects related to ultrashort and/or ultrastrong laser pulses. He will speak about “Attosecond Metrology 2.0: Tracking and controlling motions at the picometer-attosecond scale.”

The scientific program comprises 18 different conferences of the following topics:

– Nanophotonics	– Biophotonics and neurophotonics	– High-power lasers, semiconductor lasers, and laser dynamics
– Metamaterials	– Silicon photonics	– Multimedia applications, image, and video processing
– Graphene and 2D materials	– Photonics for solar energy systems	– Optical sensing and detection, modeling, and design
– Photonic crystal materials, devices, and fibers	– Optical micro- and nanometrology	– Nonlinear optics and applications
– Quantum technologies		
– Micro-optics		
– Organic photonics		

Industry and workshop program

Brussels is a good place to talk about European research projects, and so, there will not only be presentations from the European Commission but also several workshops related to ongoing projects.

Here is a full list of the Technology and Affiliate workshop program:

- Graphene-based Photonics Technology: Transitioning from Research to Commercialisation
Date: April 5, 2016, Time: 8:30 AM–5:00 PM
- ePIXfab Training Course on Silicon Photonics
Date: April 3, 2016, Time: 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
- Caeleste Workshop
Date: April 6, 2016, Time: 1:30 PM–6:00 PM
- H2020 Workshop
Date: April 5, 2016, Time: 9:00 AM–1:00 PM
- Homogenization and Shaping of Laser and LED Light by Diffractive and Micro Optical Elements
Date: April 6, 2016, Time: 9:00 AM–5:30 PM
- Schott Workshop on the Properties of Optical Glass and Special Optical Materials
Date: April 4, 2016, Time: 2:00 PM–5:30 PM
- Homogenization and Shaping of Laser and LED Light by Diffractive and Micro Optical Elements
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2016, Time: 9:00 AM–5:30 PM

Within the Exhibition area, there will be the Photonics Innovation Village, where innovative teams may present their products at a complimentary “mini-booth” in a

special section of the exhibition. This project is dedicated to support technology startups and innovative teams from universities, non-profit institutions, and research centers. It will showcase Europe's (and the world's) finest research programs and shall encourage the transfer of optics/photonics research and technology into new and useful products. A special effort will be made to invite Venture Capital companies to the Photonics Innovation village.

<http://spie.org/photonics-europe.xml>

Preview: AKL'16 International Laser Technology Congress

Aachen, Germany, April 27–29, 2016

For the 11th time, laser manufacturers and laser users from various branches will meet at the biannual International Laser Technology Congress AKL. Featuring over 600 participants, over 70 speakers, and 50 sponsors, the AKL has established itself as the leading forum for applied laser technology in Europe. It is the “place to be” if you want to meet German experts for industrial laser applications. Supporting organizations include European Commission, European Photonics Consortium EPIC, the Arbeitskreis Lasertechnik e.V., European Laser Institute, OptecNet as well as industrial associations such as SPECTARIS, VDA, VDMA, and VDI.

The congress program

The program combines a number of special 1-day events with a traditional 2-day conference plus a regular 3-day industry exhibition with about 50 companies. The program is truly multifaceted, offering information for almost every interest. Whether you are a newbie (Seminar Laser Technology ABC's) or a CEO looking for the real value of your machines (Technology Business Day TBT), you will find an appropriate event.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

- Forum Laser Additive Manufacturing (new)
- Forum Process Control (new)
- Seminar Laser Technology ABC's
- Technology Business Day TBT

- Accompanying Sponsors' Exhibition
- Award Ceremony of the “Innovation Award Laser Technology 2016”

Thursday, April 28, 2016

- AKL'16 – Laser Technology Conference
- Accompanying Sponsors' Exhibition
- “Laser Technology Live” at Fraunhofer ILT
- Opening Reception of the “Innovation Center Digital Photonic Production” of Photonics Cluster

Friday, April 29, 2016

- AKL'16 – Laser Technology Conference
- Accompanying Sponsors Exhibition

The topics of the conference are grouped into three tracks: Macro, Micro, and Laser Beam Sources.

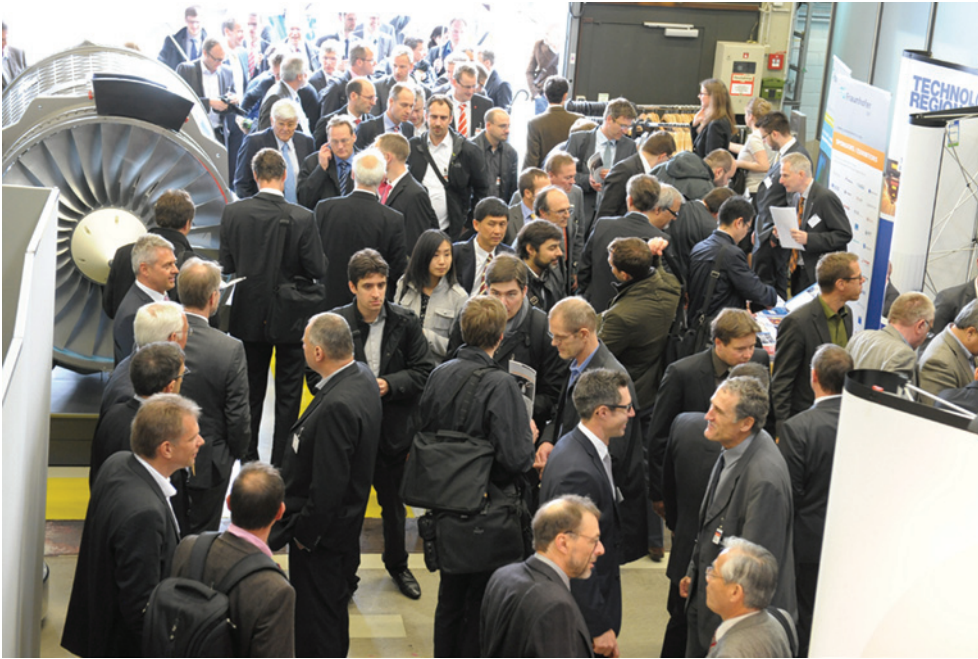
Special events for networking

The forums, seminars, and the actual congress give you lots of information, but that is just half the story: AKL offers a number of dedicated opportunities for personal exchange with their experts. First of all, there is the “Laser Technology Live” at Fraunhofer ILT. That is an “open house” event at the laboratories of the institute. More than 70 live presentations and exhibits are promised. You see how laser technology works, and you have the experts right at hand to talk about your particular questions.

Then, there is the Award Ceremony of the “Innovation Award Laser Technology 2016” at the Coronation Hall of Aachen's Town Hall. The history of this place traces back to the emperor Charlemagne more than 1000 years ago. It is an impressive and truly historic location, and so, you may expect a great dinner and an impressive show.

Then, there is even more: On Thursday evening after the “Laser Technology Live” event, there will be the opening reception of the “Innovation Center Digital Photonic Production CDPP” of Photonics Cluster. The CDPP is a future project of a high-profile consortium at the local university RWTH, together with partners from research institutions, industry, and SMEs. It will receive a multi-million funding by the Federal government for at least 15 years.

<http://www.lasercongress.org>



On 28. April 2016 at Lasertechnik Live the participants of AKL'16 can attend about 70 Live-presentations in the halls of Fraunhofer ILT, Europe's largest Laser Application Center (Copyright: Fraunhofer ILT).