

Munich, 25 June 2015

Press release

LASER World of PHOTONICS – Final Report

Light is the future

- **More than 30,000 visitors for the first time**
- **More exhibitors, new names and an additional fifth hall**
- **Young entrepreneurs forge ahead**
- **Gathering place for Nobel Prize winners**

LASER World of PHOTONICS, being held from 22-25 June, shed light on the industry. The enormous energy inherent in the topic was tangible at the leading trade fair in Munich: there were around nine per cent more exhibitors (1,227) and more than ten per cent more visitors (more than 30,000) in attendance and a new hall was opened. Concrete applications attracted keen interest.

“LASER World of PHOTONICS is the most important platform for the international photonics industry” said Dr. Reinhard Pfeiffer, Messe München’s Deputy CEO. “The popularity among exhibitors is reflected in the rising demand. Many companies are presenting their products and innovations at the trade fair for the first time.” Far more than half the exhibitors and visitors came from abroad. Pfeiffer: “The enormous growth in visitors from outside Europe is also down to countries such as the USA, China and Japan.”

Dr. Wilhelm Kaenders, President of TOPTICA Photonics AG, is in no doubt: “More than ever LASER World of PHOTONICS is the world-leading Photonics marketplace. For us the joint approach, congress and exhibition, is the secret to the success and justifies our own engagement in all levels of the event.”

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STARTUP World: Young entrepreneurs forge ahead

The new initiative STARTUP World was a great success. The finalists of the first PHOTONICS Award demonstrated the unlimited potential applications of Photonics in production and medicine: Nanolive, Norlase, 8strees, FEMTO-print, SwissLitho AG, Sand Made. Thorsten Rudolph, CEO, Anwendungszentrum Oberpfaffenhofen, said: “LASER World of PHOTONICS is the ideal platform for the first STARTUP WORLD. This is where young companies can showcase their product innovations to a wide public and establish good contacts.”

With photonics to the car of the future

Photonics is revolutionizing automotive production: lasers cut car bodies, image processing ensures safe navigation within the traffic, laser headlights turn night into day. This was demonstrated by the new special show “Photonics Applications in the Automotive Industry”. Katja Stolle, Exhibition Director, explains: “LASER World of PHOTONICS is the perfect meeting place for users and suppliers. Innovations here underpin technological leadership.”

Additive manufacturing for miracles of production and more ...

Additive manufacturing is used in lightweight construction, dental technology and medicine: that was demonstrated by various exhibitors as well as by the special show “3DPrinting – Additive Manufacturing”. The two meter high and six meter wide letters “LIGHT” created by Fraunhofer ILT using generative manufacturing symbolized the importance of generative manufacturing processes for lightweight construction. The company Materialise created a stir with a prototype heart from a 3D printer.

Photonics affects all fields of endeavor

Internet, Smartphone, car, road traffic, aviation, food and beverages, medical operation, disease diagnosis: Photonics is intelligent, is part of our everyday lives and is transforming our world: “Photonics is fascinating and has truly be-

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come a game-changer in industry and society” says Wolfgang Boch of the European Commission. Yanne Chembo of the African Physical Society is in no doubt: “We are the storytellers of light.”

Gathering of the elite at the World of Photonics Congress

The International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies declared by UNESCO was a golden thread running not just through the trade fair but also through the World of Photonics Congress in the International Congress Center Munich (ICM).

The Munich event is also very important for Nobel Prize winners: “Trade fairs such as this are very important because they provide the pieces of the puzzle for the next point and steps in my career”, says Dr. Eric Betzig, Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014. A further three Nobel Prize winners delivered lectures: Prof. Stefan Hell, Prof. Serge Haroche and Prof. Theodor Hänsch.

That again made the World of Photonics Congress, with eight scientific conferences, more than 2,700 lectures and approximately 3,500 participants, an important meeting place for the international scientific elite.

Top marks from visitors and exhibitors

The results of the poll by market research institute TNS Infratest testify to the excellent atmosphere: 97 per cent of visitors find the trade fair “excellent to good” and will very probably return. 94 per cent of exhibitors find the trade fair “excellent to good” and 97 per cent will very probably take part again.

Photonics industry has momentum

The outlook is good for the next **LASER World of PHOTONICS, from 26-29 June 2017**. According to a recent study by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and trade associations SPECTARIS, VDMA and ZVEI the global turnover of the Photonics industry in 2014 was around 350 billion euros. It is due to hit 615 billion euros by 2020.

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The final report and related pictures: [here](#)

Statements about the trade fair: [here](#)

Photos LASER World of PHOTONICS: [here](#)

Photos World of Photonics Congress: [here](#)

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About LASER World of PHOTONICS

The [LASER World of PHOTONICS](#) is the world's leading get-together of the laser and photonics industry. Europe's largest [World of Photonics Congress](#) will be taking place in parallel with the trade fair. The program comprises five scientific conferences of leading global organizations. Supplementing this [Messe München GmbH](#) will be offering practical lectures on the applications of photonics ("Application Panels"). The combination of trade fair and congress brings together research and application, thereby promoting the use and continued development of optical technologies. In 2015 the trade fair set an exhibitor record with 1,227 exhibitors. More than 30,000 trade visitors entered the Messe München site.

In 2015 the World of Photonics Congress registered more than 3,500 participants with an offering of more than 2,700 lectures and presentations including poster presentations.

The LASER World of PHOTONICS has been organized every two years by Messe München International since 1973; the next event will take place in Munich from 26-29 June 2017, the next World of Photonics Congress will take place in parallel from 25-29 June 2017 in the ICM - International Congress Center Munich.

About the LASER World of PHOTONICS global network

The LASER World of PHOTONICS has developed an international network. The [LASER World of PHOTONICS CHINA](#) and the [LASER World of PHOTONICS INDIA](#) are leading regional trade fairs for optical technologies and are staged annually in China (Shanghai) or in India (alternating between Mumbai, Bangalore, New Delhi).

Messe München International

Messe München International is one of the world's leading trade show companies. In Munich alone it organizes around 40 trade shows for capital and consumer goods, and key high tech industries. Each year more than 30,000 exhibitors and around two million visitors take part in the events held at the Messe München exhibition center, the ICM – International Congress Center München, and in the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München.

The leading international trade fairs of Messe München International are all independently audited.

In addition, Messe München International organizes trade shows in China, India, Turkey and South Africa. With a combination of affiliates abroad – in Europe, Asia and in Africa – and over 60 foreign representatives actively serving over 100 countries, Messe München International has a worldwide business network. The Group also takes a pioneering role as regards sustainability: It is the first trade-fair company to be awarded energy-efficiency certification from the technical inspection authorities TÜV SÜD.

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