

# *Newsletter*

**No. 8**

**May 2008**

---

- **Photonics21 at the European Parliament**
  - **Invitation to attend Work Group 7 workshop - “Industry Input to Photonics education”, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2008, Brussels**
  - **Photonics Executive Board members attended ICT ETP Leaders meeting with Viviane Reding in Brussels**
  - **Work group representatives discussed research priorities for FP7 ICT work programme 2009/2010 with the European Commission**
  - **Russian-European match-making event sets basis for joint FP7 projects in Photonics**
  - **Mirror Group discusses set up of an ERA-Net PLUS in Photonics**
  - **National Technology Platform in Photonics established in Italy**
  - **New staff at the Photonics21 secretariat**
  - **New Photonics21 members**
-

## Photonics21 at the European Parliament

April 2008, Strasbourg. Photonics21 president Martin Goetzeler, CEO OSRAM, headed a delegation to meet with the European Parliament Science Technology Options Assessment Panel (STOA-Panel). The aim of the meeting was to demonstrate how Photonics will contribute to major European societal challenges such as the ageing society, the next generation information society and energy efficiency.



Philippe Busquin, Chairman STOA, Malcolm Harbour, Vice Chairman STOA and Martin Goetzeler - CEO OSRAM, President Photonics21 (from right to left)

Following the presentation of Martin Goetzeler on the overall impact of Photonics for Europe and the aims of European Technology Platform Photonics21, Hubert van den Bergh, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne, pointed out the importance of Photonics for diagnosis and treatment of major diseases. Stuart Barnes, Executive Vice President of Xtera Communications, demonstrated the increasing demand of new network technologies based on photonic components.

Presentations were well received by the STOA panel and led to a lively discussion between STOA members and the Photonics21 delegation. STOA Chairmen, Philippe Busquin and Malcolm Harbour were especially interested in the impact of energy efficient lighting products and how they could be deployed in Europe at larger scale. Catherine Trautmann, Member of the Parliament and former French minister for culture and communications, discussed with the delegation members how investment in communication networks could be increased in Europe.

It was agreed with the STOA Panel that the Photonics21 Strategic Research Agenda will be widely circulated to the Members of the Parliament to further increase the visibility of the Photonics. Furthermore Photonics21 will provide Catherine Trautmann with more information on future developments in next generation networks.

The STOA Panel hearing was kindly initiated by Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders and delegation member Patrick Meyrueis, Louis Pasteur Universite Strasbourg, France. The Photonics21 delegation was supported by the EOS and SPIE Europe. Hans-Peter Herzig and Brian Culshaw were representing these organisations respectively.

### **Invitation to attend Work Group 7 workshop in Photonics - “Industry Input to Photonics education”, 4th June 2008, Brussels**

European Photonics industry has been growing in the double digits in the past years. This is resulting in an unbroken demand for highly trained employees in Europe. Thus, a concerted action is needed to better align curricula with industry needs and raise awareness of more young people to start a career in Photonics. To this end, WG7 is preparing a workshop on “Industry input to Photonics education”. The workshop will start with plenum presentations which give information on the current situation in Europe, best practice educational programmes, role of cluster in Photonics education as well as Photonics education and training in FP7. Subsequently the break out sessions will focus on:

- Outreach
- 3rd and 4th level education
- Lifelong learning

Especially industry representatives are kindly invited to actively contribute to the workshop.

[Download WG7 draft agenda](#)

For registration, please send an email with full contact details to WG7 Chair Chris Dainty ([c.dainty@nuigalway.ie](mailto:c.dainty@nuigalway.ie)) and the Photonics21 Secretariat Markus Wilkens ([wilkens@vdi.de](mailto:wilkens@vdi.de))

---

### **Photonics Executive Board members attended ICT ETP Leaders meeting with Viviane Reding in Brussels**

February 2008, Brussels. Photonics21 Executive Board members Alfredo Viglienzoni and Malgorzata Kujawska and Berit Wessler of OSRAM were attending the ICT Leaders meeting with Viviane Reding in Brussels. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the role of European Technology Platform (ETPs) in developing and implementing ICT research and innovation policies. Viviane Reding stated that “During the past four years, the European Technology Platforms have been the cornerstone of our efforts to make research funding key to Europe's industrial and technological leadership.... the FP7 ICT theme was decided, allocating more than 1.7 billion € to research”.

Reding quoted that the ETPs can play a major role in the elaboration of future ICT research and innovation policy across Europe, not only through their research agendas but also through active involvement in policy definitions and implementation. Alfredo Viglienzoni pointed out that the establishment of ETPs like Photonics21 which consists of more than 900 members from industry and science give a unique opportunity to align efforts for a comprehensive ICT innovation policy at European level which is backed by all relevant parties. Photonics21 delegation members contributed to the three thematic sessions on “Internet of the Future”, “Alternative paths to the next generation components and systems”, “ICT for Sustainability”.

---

**Work group representative discussed Photonics21 research priorities for FP7 ICT work programme 2009/2010 with the European Commission**

February 2008, Brussels. Work group chairs and representatives discussed the Photonics21 research priorities for the FP7 ICT work programme 2009/2010 with the European Commission. Thierry Van der Pyl, head of the European Commission Photonics unit, expressed his gratitude for the efforts made by platform members to develop and agree on the highly relevant strategic topics for the Photonics sector in Europe. Following the consultation with the Photonics21 representatives the proposed priorities will be discussed internally by the European Photonics unit. Mr. Van der Pyl gave information that the text of the ICT work programme will be fixed by June 2008. The first call of the FP7 ICT work programme 2009-2010 could be expected in November 2008.

---

**Russian-European match-making event sets basis for joint FP7 projects in Photonics**

March 2008, Moscow. Alongside the PHOTONIKA 2008 exhibition in Moscow on 12<sup>th</sup> March, Photonics21, the EOS and their Russian Branch, the Laser Association, organized a match-making event with 60 European and Russian photonics experts with the aim to identify partners for FP7 photonics projects. Outcome: 10 possible joint projects.

Russia has outstanding and world-leading researchers in the area of Photonics and modern optics - three Nobel Prize Winners in this field are solid evidence and a good enough reason for the Photonics Unit of the European Commission to foster the integration of Russian Photonics experts in FP7 research projects. As a first step, in order to evaluate common research interests of European partners, Photonics21, and the EC Photonics Unit proposed this match-making event and the Laser Association actively supported this idea.

Based on the interests of the participants 45-minute face-to-face meetings for 34 Russian and 26 European photonics experts were arranged to discuss ideas for joint projects within the 7th Framework Programme. 90 percent of the attendees considered these meetings as fruitful and will follow-up on the results of their first discussions. Some have already agreed upon the next steps for a common project proposal for the next calls-for-proposals of the EC Photonics unit that will be published at the end of 2008, and more than 10 possible joint projects were already formulated.

### **Mirror Group discusses set up of an ERA-Net PLUS in Photonics**

The Photonics21 Mirror Group involving representatives from 15 Member States is presently discussing the possible launch of an ERA-Net-PLUS in Photonics. This instrument is used to address selected areas of common interest between certain Member States and the European Community representing a particular European added value. An ERA-Net-PLUS is based on a single joint call combining national funds with complementary money ("topping up") from the European Commission. Possible call topics suggested and discussed so far are "molecular and functional imaging" (biophotonics/life science and health), "photonics for energy efficiency" (lighting/photovoltaics) and - presently on the top of the list - "next generation broadband" (internet access technologies). Provided that an agreement can be reached the publication of the joint call will not be expected before 2010 anyway.

---

### **National Technology Platform in Photonics established in Italy**

**PHORIT - PHO**tonic fo**R** ITaly - the national technology platform in Photonics was established in Italy at the end of last year. The aim of PHORIT is to build up the Italian technological equivalent to the European Photonics21 platform. As a start PHORIT distributed a survey to find out, which are the main interests and priorities of the Italian photonics industry and probable members. Although PHORIT is still young it has been well supported from within Italy. Already 80 participants attended the meeting in February 08.

---

### **New staff at the Photonics21 secretariat**

Andrea Keune started her position as Public Relation Officer for the Photonics21 secretariat 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008. Andrea has more than 10 years of work experience in the field of public relation in companies and universities. She will coordinate all Public Relations activities of Photonics21.

Contact details:

Andrea Keune

Secretariat Photonics21

Phone: +49 (0) 211 62 14-6 68

Fax: +49 (0) 211 62 14-4 84

[mailto: keune@vdi.de](mailto:keune@vdi.de)

### **New Photonics21 members**

Experts from following affiliations recently became Photonics21 members:

ELAS NV, Multiwave Photonics S.A., Newport Corporation, Rowiak GmbH, UK Astronomy Technology Centre, Thales Group, Bucharest Polytechnical University, Tampere University of Technology, Bucharest Polytechnical University, Photonics Center, ASTRON, DTU-Photonics, Vistec Electron Beam GmbH, SEDO, University of Parma, Luminostix b.v., Erasmus Medical Center, Alcatel-Lucent, Universidade da Coruña, Storex Technologies, Norwegian University of science and technology, University College London, TRIOPTICS GmbH, Diehl BGT Defence, Agilent Technologies, Marconi SpA, Alitec snc, INOV (INESC Inovação), University of Salerno, CoreCom, National Hellenic Research Foundation, laser, CNR - National Research Council of Italy, SELEX Sistemi Integrati SpA, KitNA Ltd, nanoLambda, Prime Laser Technology, Avantes BV, University of Crete, UPS2, Institute of Photonics, Thales Research & Technology, EXALOS AG, Volex Europe Ltd, Waterford Institute of Technology, XenICs, ...

---

### ***Photonics21 Secretariat***

*c/o VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH*

*Markus Wilkens ++49 211 6214 478*

*Andrea Keune ++49 211 6214 668*

© 2007, Photonics 21 Secretariat, c/o VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH,

E-Mail: [secretariat@photonics21.org](mailto:secretariat@photonics21.org)