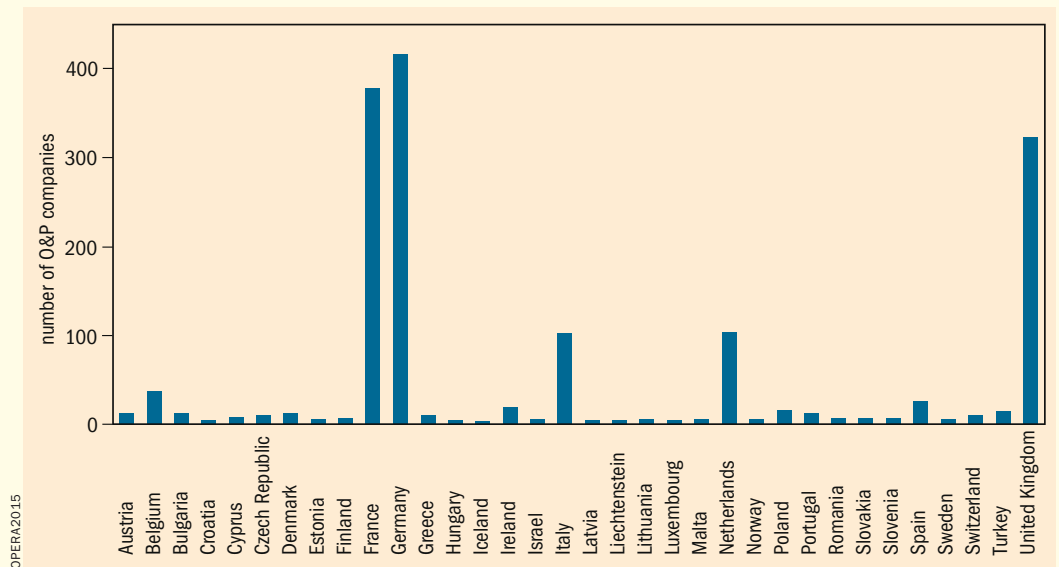


OPERA2015 compiles broad database

OPERA updates its website and calls for additions to its photonics database.



This graph shows the geographical distribution of optics and photonics companies included in the OPERA2015 database.

OPERA2015 is continuing to compile an inventory of European optics and photonics companies. The general selection criterion for inclusion is that a company must be engaged in significant activity in the optics and photonics field. The geographical distribution of the number of companies found so far is given in the graph above. The inventory covers the 27 European Community (EC) member states, including the four applicant countries of Israel, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

Interested parties can access information about the listed companies via the OPERA2015 website. Simply visit www.opera2015.org and select "National activities" from the menu followed by "Industrial activities" in the diagram.

More than 1500 companies have been added in the last year – a result that is well above our expectations. We estimate that the total number of companies active throughout Europe ranges between 1000 and 3000. We have also identified 647 European laboratories working in the field of optics and photonics.

We encourage all optics and photonics companies to present and maintain the most up-to-date information in their inventory listing. We would like you to review the basic information held about your company and e-mail any additions or comments to the database manager (bart.snijders@tno.nl) or to the contacts detailed on

the OPERA2015 website. If your company is not yet in the inventory it can be added by contacting the database manager.

OPERA2015 website

Extra features have now been added to the website (www.opera2015.org), which is one of the cornerstones of the project. Links to databases containing information on all of the industrial and academic activities across Europe in the optics and photonics field are some of the major new features. These databases are a key aspect of the OPERA2015 project and search functions have been added. To our knowledge, it is the most complete and extensive database on optics and photonics in Europe.

The events calendar is constantly updated as are the news and reports sections. We have also added a section specifically aimed at news from European research projects. The website is gradually acquiring the status of being the portal for information on what's happening in optics and photonics throughout Europe. As well as information on the OPERA2015 project, its progress, functioning and results such as deliverables, reports and presentations at workshops, the website contains information about ongoing projects and refers to relevant websites where appropriate.

The project welcomes, and will evaluate, all suggestions, links and input for publication on

its website. To keep up to date with the progress and activities related to optics and photonics in Europe, bookmark www.opera2015.org and check regularly for updates and new information.

EC seeks photonics experts for FP7

The EC is looking for qualified experts to evaluate proposals submitted to the “Photonic Components & Systems” objective of the Information Communication Technologies (ICT) Thematic Programme of FP7, or to assess the progress of existing projects related to photonic components. In particular, individuals with an industry background are encouraged to apply.

Prospective independent experts are expected to have a high level of professional experience in the public or private sector. Applicants should also have experience in research in the relevant scientific and technological fields, administration, management or evaluation of RTD projects. An understanding of the use of the results of RTD projects, technology transfer, innovation and business co-operation (particularly with regard to SMEs), issues at the interface of science and society (such as education, communication, expertise, risk and ethics) and international co-operation in science and technology would be desirable.

If you are interested in becoming an evaluator or a reviewer for FP7 photonics projects, please register your name in the commission’s FP7 database at <https://cordis.europa.eu/emmp7/>. Once you have registered e-mail gustav.kalbe@ec.europa.eu or markus.korn@ec.europa.eu indicating your area of expertise.

It is likely that the commission will introduce remote reading to evaluate proposals submitted to Call-2 of the Photonic Components & Systems objective of the ICT Thematic Programme. This is a change to the evaluation process in FP6. Evaluators will receive the proposals before coming to Brussels giving them the time to individually assess the proposals at their premises. Compared with FP6, this is likely to reduce the time spent in Brussels.

OPERA supports Photonics 2007 in Moscow

Despite the short period of time between the first and second photonics exhibitions in Moscow, the Photonics 2007 International Trade Fair for

Optical, Laser and Optoelectronic Technologies, Completing Units and Components, proved to be a success. See www.photonics-expo.ru/en/ for more information.

The Photonics Trade Fair made its debut in July 2006. Moscow Expocentr together with Laser Association established the fair to assist the growth of the number of laser and optic technology users, demonstrate the high effectiveness and availability of laser equipment and trigger demands.

There are more than 800 research laboratories and companies involved in the development, manufacture and sales of laser equipment in Russia and a further 2000 companies dealing with electronic-component parts.

The laser and optoelectronic markets continue to grow steadily alongside the micro-electronics, automotive and consumable industries. Russia, a country with strong and long traditions in creating, developing and manufacturing laser and optical technologies, cannot afford to be left behind.

Photonics 2007 was held in Moscow’s Expocentr on 13–16 March and attracted about 120 companies and 3500 visitors. The majority of the exhibitors came from the “Lasers and Laser Systems” sector and represented 10 countries.

Companies of all sizes were represented from small enterprises to major corporations. Exhibitors from Russia included companies such as Astrophysica, Polus, IRE – Polus, RMT, ELS – 94 and Laser Complexes. Germany was represented by Jenoptik Laser Diode, LIMO, Laser Zentrum Hannover, Raylase AG and Scansonic. Solar LS, Solar TII and Lotis TII came from Belarus while Hamamatsu Photonics Norden AB came from Sweden amongst many others. There were 20 Chinese exhibitors from the Hubei province. The event included application-oriented industry seminars, which discussed how to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Users from the industrial sector reported on their experiences with the latest laser-based manufacturing techniques. Special attention was paid to the use of laser technologies in the agriculture and railway sectors.

Next year, Photonics will take place in March 2008 at the Expocentr Fair Grounds in Moscow and we look forward to seeing you there. The Photonics Trade Fair is the direct route to the photonics market in Russia and CIS countries.

EOS 2007 annual meeting schedule.

The EOS annual meeting

The 2007 EOS annual meeting (EOSAM 2007) will take place during the World of Photonics Congress, which is being held in Munich in June. The schedule of the meeting is as follows:

Monday 18 June

- 16.00 – 18.00: advisory committee (AC) meeting (for AC members only).

Tuesday 19 June

- 14.00 – 15.00: industrial committee meeting (for corporate members only).

- 16.00 – 17.30: Execom meeting (for Execom members only).
- 17.30 – 20.00: board meeting (for board members only).

Wednesday 20 June

- 16.30 – 17.30: Execom meeting (for Execom members only).
- 17.30 – 19.00: annual general meeting (open to all EOS members).

For more information on any aspect of EOSAM 2007, please contact Petra Bindig (e-mail bindig@myeos.org).

The Netherlands expands its know-how

The Netherlands has launched several initiatives to promote optics and photonics.

Optics and photonics are becoming increasingly important in modern society. The Netherlands has always been, and continues to be, an important manufacturer of optical products that are pushing the boundaries of optical research.

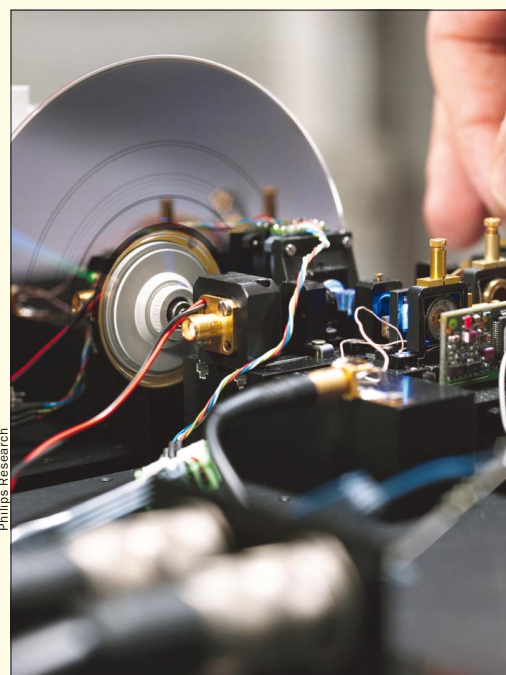
For example, optical products such as laser systems, optical data storage, medical systems (made by Philips and OI Delft) and lithography equipment (developed by ASML) are all produced in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands also has a rich history in optical research. One of our Nobel prize winners, Frits Zernike, was the inventor of phase-contrast microscopy and made fundamental contributions to optical coherence theory and the theory of geometrical aberrations. These traditions have continued to this day and we now have a large research effort in the optical sciences departments of our universities. This research spans applications as diverse as fundamental quantum optical research to the fundamentals and practice of lens design.

Recently, the Dutch government launched a research programme aimed at bringing industry and universities closer together to jointly develop optical products like those mentioned above. The programme, called IOP Photonic Devices, is already proving to be successful and is strengthening Dutch efforts to become a major player in the optics and photonics market.

Two years ago, an effort was launched to promote the education and broadening of the knowledge of optical sciences within the Dutch industry. The Dutch Society for Optics and Photonics (NVvF) founded the Photonic Cluster Netherlands (PCN) with the goal of concentrating all of the Dutch efforts in the optics and photonics area. This aim should be achieved by transferring knowledge from universities and polytechnics to the small and medium-size companies in the Netherlands which comprise 80% of our economy.

PCN also supports the teaching and research of



Philips Research Laboratories is working on Blu-ray Disc (above) and next-generation optical-data storage options at its facility in Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

the optical sciences in its broadest context. This support consists of organizing courses and bringing together university researchers and students within the optical industry. All of these efforts are aimed at establishing an organization similar to the Photonic Cluster in the UK, which is already acting as an intermediary and initiator of activities for all players involved or interested in optics and photonics research, development and the industry in general.

With respect to all of the activities outlined above, the EOS is represented by both the members of the NVvF and the members of the optics section of the Dutch Society for Physics.

EOS launches new website.

www.myeos.org

The EOS has launched a new website and we encourage you to take a look and to update your information. Every member of the EOS will have received their login and password by e-mail. Here is an overview of some of the new features that you will see the next time you log on to the website:

- complete your member profile by uploading a picture, enter your scientific/technical interests, update your address and change your password;
- search for and contact other EOS members in your field of interest;
- submit news items and events for review and publication (if you are authorized to do so by your EOS branch or affiliated society);
- view the list of members registered through your

branch or affiliated society (if so authorized);

- submit an abstract for an EOS event;
- view and rate submissions for an EOS event (if you are a programme committee member);
- redirect abstracts to the author for improvement (if you are a programme chair);
- join one or more focus groups, discuss with other group members or present your research group;
- accept joining applications for your focus group (if you are a focus group chair);
- start member surveys (if so authorized).

Even more features and information for EOS members only will soon be available in the member area at www.myeos.org. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact us at info@myeos.org. We look forward to receiving your feedback.

Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
3-8 June	Optical Interference Coatings (OIC 2007)	Tucson, USA
12-15 June	Adaptive Optics for Industry and Medicine	Galway, Ireland
17-19 June	EOS Conference on Trends in Optoelectronics	Munich, Germany
18-20 June	EOS Conference on Frontiers in Electronic Imaging	Munich, Germany
11-14 September	8th International Conference on Correlation Optics	Chernivtsi, Ukraine
12-14 September	3rd EOS Topical Meeting on Advanced Optical Imaging Techniques	Lille, France
30 September - 3 October	Topical Meeting on Optical Microsystems	Capri, Italy
11-12 October	3rd EOS short course on Optical Fabrication Technology	St Gallen, Switzerland
21-23 November	6th EOS Topical Meeting on Diffractive Optics (DO 2007)	Barcelona, Spain

For more information on any of these events, please visit www.myeos.org.

Are you a member of the EOS?

Look at the benefits

Individual members are eligible for:

- reduced fees for JEOS:RP at www.jeos.org;
- a regular EOS Newsletter e-mail;
- reduced conference fees;
- reduced prices for EOS journals;
- free subscription to *Optics & Laser Europe*;
- and, for those living outside Germany, a 50% discount on a subscription to the German-language journal *Photonik*, published by AT-Fachverlag.

Additional benefits for corporate members:

- a company profile in the EOS directory;
- a presence on the EOS website;
- free advertisements for jobs in the EOS market;
- reduced conference fees for all employees.



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EOS IOP

EOS 2007 membership fees

Individual members (who do not belong to a branch or affiliated society of the EOS):	€40
Students (who do not belong to a branch or affiliated society of the EOS):	€10
Corporate members (regardless of the number of employees of the company or members of the institute):	€200

Individual members of the branches SFO (France), DgaO (Germany), HOS (Hungary), SIOF (Italy), LAS (Russia), SOS (Sweden), SSOM (Switzerland) and the Optical Group IOP (UK) are automatically full individual members of the EOS. Individual members of the affiliated societies Promoptica and CBO-BCO (Belgium), CSSF (Czech and Slovak Republic), DOPS (Denmark), FOS (Finland), the Optics Division of the Norwegian Physical Society (Norway), the Optics Division of the Polish Physical Society (Poland), ROS (Romania) and SEDO (Spain) are automatically associate members of the EOS.

Membership information

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