PRESS RELEASE

Save the date! AKL'26 from April 22 to 24, 2026, in Aachen

From April 22 to 24, 2026, Aachen will once again become the meeting place for the international laser world: The Fraunhofer Institute for Laser Technology ILT will host the 15th AKL – International Laser Technology Congress. Users, manufacturers, and developers will be meeting at AKL'26 to discuss the latest trends and practical solutions in applied laser technology for production. Thanks to over 500 participants, more than 80 specialist presentations, and around 50 exhibitors from industry and the supply sector, the congress is considered by many to be the leading forum for applied laser technology in Europe.

With a significantly expanded program, AKL'26 is even more focused on users of laser technology, offering them a comprehensive overview of the latest developments, tried-and-tested applications, and strategic trends.

In keeping with tradition, the congress will start on Wednesday with the Technology Business Day, an event that provides detailed insights into global photonics and laser markets. This event will present market data, strategic analyses and industry-specific perspectives, as well as field reports from laser users in automotive engineering, aerospace, energy, microelectronics, quantum technology, and medical technology.

On Thursday and Friday, the focus will shift to the Laser Technology Conference. This time, there will be four parallel sessions per day, covering the entire spectrum of laser material processing, laser beam source development, systems engineering, and digitalization. New frontiers in application-oriented research — including high-energy lasers for fusion and secondary sources, along with AI in photonics — are paving the way for the production of tomorrow. CEOs and CTOs from renowned companies will discuss diverse applications of high-energy and high-power lasers in industry in a panel discussion.

Covering everything from market strategies to cutting-edge laser applications, AKL’26 offers a forward-looking platform to inform, connect, and inspire the industry of tomorrow.

Find out more about the upcoming AKL'26 here: www.lasercongress.org

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Image 1:
Keynote speech by the then institute director Prof. Constantin Haefner at the International Laser Technology Congress AKL'24 in Aachen.
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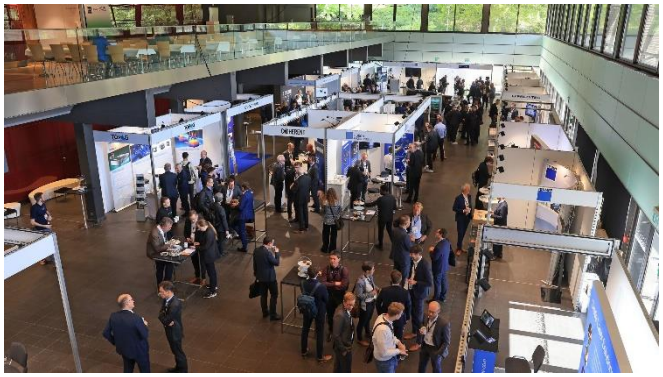

Image 2:
More than 500 participants at AKL'24 took advantage of the exhibition accompanying the conference to exchange ideas and network.
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Image 3:
AKL'26 – An in-depth look into the world of laser technology at the interface between industry and science.
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Since its founding as a nonprofit organization in 1949, Fraunhofer has held a unique position in the German research and innovation ecosystem. With nearly 32,000 employees across 75 institutes and legally independent research units in Germany, Fraunhofer operates with an annual budget of €3.6 billion, €3.1 billion of which is generated by contract research — Fraunhofer's core business model.