

FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR LASER TECHNOLOGY ILT

PRESS RELEASE

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Dr. Jochen Stollenwerk takes over as acting director of the Fraunhofer ILT

The Fraunhofer Institute for Laser Technology ILT has a new managing director: On February 17, 2025, Dr. Jochen Stollenwerk took over as acting director of the institute. He succeeds Prof. Constantin Häfner, who headed Fraunhofer ILT from 2019 to 2025 and has now moved to the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft in Munich as Director of Research and Transfer.

Dr. Jochen Stollenwerk studied physics at RWTH Aachen University and obtained his doctorate in 2001 in the field of laser material processing at the university's Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. After completing his doctorate and working as a research assistant at Fraunhofer ILT, he worked for the industry in 2001, moving to TRUMPF Laser Marking Systems AG, Switzerland, where he headed the applications department. He returned to Aachen in 2004 and played a key role in establishing the Chair of Technology of Optical Systems TOS at RWTH Aachen University. He worked there as a senior engineer until mid-2024. At the same time, Dr. Stollenwerk held various positions at Fraunhofer ILT before being appointed Deputy Director of the institute in March 2024.

Dr. Stollenwerk's research focuses in particular on digital photonic production, surface technology, optical systems for production, EUV technology and additive manufacturing. As an enthusiastic scientist and energetic mentor, he has supervised numerous theses and dissertations and supported young talents. His special commitment is reflected not only in his technical expertise, but also in his passionate dedication to the further development of photonics.

"It is my goal, together with the employees of Fraunhofer ILT, to further strengthen the position of our institute as a leading center for applied laser technology, to expand our innovative strength in various fields of application and to consistently exploit the potential of digitalization in photonics," says Dr. Stollenwerk, looking forward to his future tasks. In his new role, he will uphold the mission of a leading, future-focused research institute while remaining a trusted partner to our customers and the photonics industry.

Fraunhofer ILT in Aachen is a dynamic and innovative research center that promotes an interdisciplinary exchange between scientists and industrial partners, leading to creative solutions and groundbreaking developments. Thanks to its modern equipment and

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FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR LASER TECHNOLOGY ILT

highly qualified staff, Fraunhofer ILT works at the cutting edge of applied laser technology.

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Since Dr. Jochen Stollenwerk is stepping in as acting director of Fraunhofer ILT, the institute can maintain management continuity while staying focused on its strategic priorities. This creates a strong foundation for developments and innovations for the future.



Picture 1:
Dr. Jochen Stollenwerk has
been Acting Director of
Fraunhofer ILT since
February 17, 2025.
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Germany.

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Based in Germany, **the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft** is the world's leading organization for application-oriented research. It plays a central role in the innovation process – by focusing its research on key technologies relevant to the future and the transfer of its results to industry so as to strengthen our business location and to benefit our society.

Founded in 1949, the organization currently operates 76 institutes and research facilities in Germany. Its current workforce of just under 32,000 employees, most of whom are trained in the natural sciences or engineering, generate an annual financial volume of around €3.4 billion. Of this, € 3.0 billion is spent on contract research.