Factsheet

2nd Meeting of the European Lightweighting Network

23. September 2021, Vienna

On-site participation is limited to invited participants

Join our live-stream on Sep. 23 and register under
https://pretix.eu/EuropeanLightweightingNetwork/ELN/

What is at stake?

Our society is determined by an increasing demand for resources. This leads to an excessive consumption of the natural resources energy and materials. Lightweighting materials, lean production and lightweight design is a promising strategy to reduce both, the demand for energy and resources.

Lightweighting can contribute essentially to the European Green Deal striving for a climate neutral economy by 2050. As a cross-sectoral technology, lightweight design is a building block of many innovations in the fields of circular economy, transport or buildings and as such indispensible for achieving ambitious climate goals.

Lightweighting technologies and their deployment are a keystone for industrial competitiveness of European enterprises, engineering companies and research institutions in the ongoing fierce global competition. Less energy and material demand reduces not only the dependence on resources, but as well, the production costs.

What is our objective?

Finding the optimum lightweight design solution calls for the holistic and interdisciplinary view at the whole process chain from material science and engineering up to production and recycling technologies. This view includes a wide spectrum of advantages and disadvantages of materials and technologies in context of metals, polymers, ceramics and composites.

The overall objective of the European Lightweighting Network meetings is to develop such a common view on the European lightweight potential and the framework requirements to exploit it for serving best the Green Deal Goals. Thus, we need a broad set of minds from industry, research and government willing to develop ideas for co-operations and activities on project, network and intergovernmental level making the lightweighting potential better tangible for stakeholders, the overall economy, the wider public including each of us.

How do we organize the conference?

The conference is a physical two days meeting in Vienna with invited participants.

Day 1: Join our live-stream on Sep. 23 via the event website:
https://mobilitaetderzukunft.at/en/articles/european-lightweighting-network.php

The first day is dedicated to look at the lightweighting potential from different angles through key notes, with panel- and open discussions. The goal is to analyze the strength and weakness of different technology options and to investigate the opportunities for environmental benefits and the competitiveness of the European economy. The get-together event in the evening will allow to continue und deepen the initiated discussions.

Day 2:

The second day focuses on ideas of activities to promote lightweighting and strengthen co-operation between the different stakeholders. The aim of the day is to define the most promising activities and activity leaders responsible to bring these efforts forward until the next European Lightweighting Network meeting. Conceptually, the second part of the workshop is based on the World Café, in which the participants discuss ideas, views and experiences with regard to predefined questions and moderators take notes of the discussion results. In at least three successive discussion rounds of 25-30 minutes each, these questions are discussed in two parallel sessions. Group A consists of representatives of governments and funding institutions, Group B brings together representatives of research, industry and networks. Recommendations and proposed solutions are noted. After each round, the participants reshuffle, the moderator remains in the session and welcomes the participants to the next World Café round.

ELN Participants have the possibility to promote their national activities in form of posters or roll-ups. Please notify your interest to walter.mauritsch@energyagency.at

What comes after?

After lunch, each group presents and discusses its findings and activity proposals to the other group. As a group, we select the ideas best suited for implementation and collect contact details of interested parties in the implementation participation. Ideally, one or more parties are volunteering to act as a champion to co-ordinate follow-up activities. Progress and first results are being monitored by Austria and the organiser of the follow-up European Lightweighting Network meeting.

The organiser of the follow-up European Lightweighting Network meeting is presenting the motivation for serving as the next host.

How do does our planning reflect the pandemic development?

There is a high likelihood that the European vaccination plan will already take effect in July. However, we will continuously assess the situation in Austria to ensure your save participation. If there is any doubt on 1st September, we will switch from a physical meeting to a virtual meeting only. You will get an update via our event website or can directly contact us.

Contact:

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Agenda Draft for the 2nd Meeting of the European Lightweighting Network

Day 1 Thursday 23 September 2021	Lightweighting and its contributions to the European Green Deal 12:00 – 16:30: Keynotes and Discussion 19:00 Dinner invitation by the Austrian Host Location: Grand Hotel Wien, Kärntner Ring 9, A-1010 Vienna
10:00 – 12:00	Reception
12:00 – 12:15	Opening remarks • Andreas Dorda – Deputy Head of Departement Mobility and Transport Technologies, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) • Michael Wiesmüller - Head of Department Key enabling Technologies for Industrial Innovation: ICT, Manufacturing and Nanotechnologies, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) • Moderation: Andreas Dorda/Alexander Pogany (BMK)
12:15 – 14:00	Session 1: Technological state of the art, technology foresight, SWOT-analysis of technology options and their Green Deal contribution • Keynote 1: 15‘; Keynote 2: 15‘ • Panel Discussion: Keynote Speaker 1; Keynote Speaker 2 and 4 additional panel speaker from research and industry • Open Discussion with panelists
14:00 – 15:00	Coffee Break
15:00 – 16:30	Session 2: Importance of lightweighting technologies for the European economy. Opportunities and challenges of a European Lightweighting Initiative and the instruments needed for their implementation. • Keynote 3: 15‘; Keynote 4: 15‘ • Panel Discussion: Keynote Speaker 1; Keynote Speaker 2 and 4 additional panel speaker from European Commission, Public authorities, research or private sector networks • Open Discussion with panelists
16:30	Closing remarks – Andreas Dorda
19:00	Joint Networking Dinner:Grand Hotel Wien, Kärntner Ring 9, A-1010 Vienna

Day 2 Friday 24 September 2021	08:30 – 14:00: Location: Grand Hotel Wien, Kärntner Ring 9, A-1010 Vienna 2 Parallel Workshops on maximising the lightweighting contribution to the Green Deal Workshop A: representatives of ministries, funding institutions, European Commission Workshop B: representatives of industry, engineering service providers, research institutions and SME
7:30 – 8:30	Reception
08:30 – 09:00	Workshop setting and objectives • Workshop A: Moderation – Andreas Dorda, Alexander Pogany • Workshop B: Moderation – tbd
09:00 – 11:30	2 Parallel Workshops • World Cafe Setting 3-4 rounds à 30‘ • Reflexion and securing results
11:30 – 12:30	Coffee Break/finger food
12:30 – 13:50	Presentation of World Cafe findings Discussion on findings (ALL)
13:50	Wrap up of results and closing remarks – Andreas Dorda

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09:00 – 11:30	2 Parallel Workshops • World Cafe Setting 3-4 rounds à 30‘ • Reflexion and securing results
11:30 – 12:30	Coffee Break/finger food – Poster Session dedicated to national lightweighting acitivities as well as industrial products and research results
12:30 – 13:50	Presentation of World Cafe findings Discussion on findings (ALL)
13:50	Wrap up of results and closing remarks – Andreas Dorda