

Munich, June 30, 2023

## Press Release

### Final report

## Photonics industry thrilled by LASER World of PHOTONICS 2023

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- **More than 1,300 exhibitors, around 40,000 visitors**
- **High proportion of international participants**
- **Strong second edition of World of QUANTUM**

**A great atmosphere in full halls, lively discussions and a very international audience: The global photonics industry met at LASER World of PHOTONICS from June 27 to 30, 2023. More than 1,300 exhibitors, of which 66 percent came from outside of Germany, presented their innovations to the roughly 40,000 visitors at the world's leading trade fair of the industry. The share of these visitors from outside of Germany was nearly 55 percent. World of QUANTUM once again met with a very positive response. The international scientific elite, including Nobel Prize winner Prof. Donna Strickland, came together for six days at the World of Photonics Congress, which took place in parallel.**

“LASER World of PHOTONICS 2023 was a tremendous success,” say Dr. Reinhard Pfeiffer and Stefan Rummel, both CEOs of Messe München. “As befits the anniversary – LASER turns 50 this year – the event once again has impressively demonstrated its status as the world's leading trade fair for photonics with a new record number of visitors. What's more, according to the trade fair survey, our exhibitors and visitors have been more satisfied this year than ever before. Thanks to the successful combination with the parallel events World of Photonics Congress, World of QUANTUM and automatica, Munich once again strengthens its position as a leading technology location.”

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“LASER is finally back to the size and format where it was left before the pandemic”, says Dr. Wilhelm Kaenders, Chairman of the Exhibitor Advisory Board and CEO of TOPTICA Photonics AG. “New technical approaches and start-ups are competing with more established industries for the attention in a very lively marketplace. We all love and missed this atmosphere for too long.” Exhibition Director Anke Odouli confirms the positive feedback of the participating companies: “The mood in the halls was incredible – the exhibitors were thrilled by the quality of the visitors and the intensive discussions at their trade fair booths.”

### **Key technology on a growth course**

The success of the trade fair reflects the ongoing upward trend of the photonics industry. According to estimates from the industry association Spectaris, the global photonics market will grow six percent a year until 2025, while the market for photonic core components like LEDs, lasers and sensors will increase by as much as ten percent. Spectaris CEO Jörg Mayer explains: “In the past, the photonics industry has shown over and over that it is significantly more resilient than other industries thanks to its varied areas of application. Even as a driving force behind future technologies, photonics will contribute significantly to solving business challenges.”

### **Cross-industry added value**

For the first time, automatica, the leading trade fair for robotics and automation, took place in parallel. The goal to make use of the numerous overlaps between the sectors paid off: Every third visitor to automatica also came to LASER World of PHOTONICS or World of QUANTUM. Dr. Sven Breitung, CEO of the VDMA Working Group Laser and Laser Systems for Materials Processing, likewise welcomed holding the events in parallel: “It is very important to us to bring together suppliers and users of laser technology as well as players from automation and robotics. From now on, the co-location offers the perfect opportunity to create new inspiration and added value between the two industries and therefore work together toward innovative solutions.”

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### **Meeting place for the international quantum community**

Following its premiere in 2022, a strong second edition of World of QUANTUM took place with nearly 90 exhibitors and over 15,000 trade visitors in parallel with LASER World of PHOTONICS. “We are very pleased that the platform has seen such excellent visitor numbers and received top marks in the trade fair survey,” says Exhibition Director Anke Odouli. Points of attraction included several quantum computers and a magnetic field sensor which will control prostheses via muscle signals in the near future. “The World of QUANTUM is becoming the most important trade fair for all players from the field of quantum computing,” says Dr. Robert Axmann, Head of the Quantum Computing Initiative from the German Aerospace Center (DLR). “That’s why we’re delighted to be creating a place where research, industry and suppliers can come together to advance the ecosystem of quantum computing with our presence at the trade fair.”

### **Scientific elite visits Munich**

After four years, the international scientific elite were at last able to exchange in person again at Europe’s largest photonics congress. These included big names such as Nobel Prize winner Prof. Donna Strickland, Herbert Walther Award winner Prof. Rainer Blatt and Prof. Constantin Häfner, who, together with Tammy Ma, gave a lecture on laser-based nuclear fusion. Many of the presentations were filled to capacity. Prof. Häfner, Head of the Fraunhofer Institute for Laser Technology ILT, emphasizes the significance of the event: “The congress drives innovation in photonics and creates important inspiration for the future. At the same time, it is becoming a groundbreaking event with its exchanges, presentations, networking and promotion of young scientific talent.” For six days, in five specialist conferences with a total of around 3,600 scientific presentations and poster sessions, the congress addressed all aspects of photonics, from basic research to application-oriented development.

### **LASER World of PHOTONICS in figures**

More than 1,300 exhibitors traveled from 40 countries and regions, around 66 percent of them were from outside of Germany. About 40,000 visitors from

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around 70 countries and regions attended the trade fair. The share of international visitors totaled about 55 percent. After Germany, the top 10 visitor countries were (in this order): Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Italy, Switzerland, USA, Japan, China, Austria, Spain and South Korea.

The next LASER World of PHOTONICS and World of QUANTUM will take place together with automatica from June 24 to 27, 2025, in Munich. The next World of Photonics Congress runs parallelly from June 22 to 27, 2025.

> [Picture gallery](#) LASER World of PHOTONICS und World of QUANTUM

> [Picture gallery](#) World of Photonics Congress

You can find this press release including images at the [LASER newsroom](#).

#### **About the LASER World of PHOTONICS**

The LASER World of PHOTONICS is the world's leading platform for the laser and photonics industry. Europe's largest World of Photonics Congress is part of the trade fair. The program comprises a number of scientific conferences held by globally leading organizations. In addition, Messe München offers practical presentations on photonics applications ("Application panels"). The LASER World of PHOTONICS has been held every two years since 1973; the next edition will be held from June 24 to 27, 2025, in Munich, the next World of Photonics Congress parallelly from June 22 to 27, 2025 at the ICM - Internationales Congress Center München. LASER World of PHOTONICS will also feature the third World of QUANTUM, the leading platform for the international quantum community.

[world-of-photonics.com/en](http://world-of-photonics.com/en)

#### **About the global network of LASER World of PHOTONICS**

The LASER World of PHOTONICS has established an international network. The LASER World of PHOTONICS CHINA and the LASER World of PHOTONICS INDIA are regional leading trade fairs for lasers and optical technologies, and are organized annually in China (Shanghai and Shenzhen) and India (switching between Bengaluru, Mumbai and New Delhi) respectively. With the trade fairs in Munich, China and India, Messe München is the world's leading trade fair organizer for lasers and photonics.

#### **About Messe München**

Messe München is one of the leading exhibition organizers worldwide with more than 50 of its own trade shows for capital goods, consumer goods and new technologies. Every year, a total of over 50,000 exhibitors and around three million visitors take part in more than 200 events at the exhibition center in Munich, at the ICM – Internationales Congress Center München, the Conference Center Nord and the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München as well as abroad. Together with its subsidiary companies, Messe München organizes trade shows in China, India, Brazil, South Africa and Turkey. With a network of associated companies in Europe, Asia, Africa and South America as well as around 70 representations abroad for over 100 countries, Messe München has a global presence.