

PRESS RELEASE

March 2023



Precision meets innovation – at the W3+ Fair Wetzlar 2023 trade fair

For the ninth time, the interdisciplinary trade fair for the key technologies optics, photonics, electronics and mechanics opens its doors at the end of March. In addition to national and international exhibitors, many companies from the region will be present.

Professionals from the field of optical technologies should make a note of the date: In addition to the exhibition, about 30 speakers and many accompanying events invite to knowledge transfer and networking. For the first time, the UPOB e.V. association is organizing the High Level Expert Meeting (HLEM 2023) to accompany the trade show.

Hamburg, March 09, 2023. "Calling all Innovators" will be the motto again on March 29 and 30, 2023 when the W3+ Fair Wetzlar (w3-fair.com) opens its doors. Then the regional, national and international experts in enabling technologies will meet at the famous optics location in the heart of Germany - at the invitation of the gold partners Wetzlar Network and EPIC. Cross-industry innovations for user sectors such as medical technology, life science, automotive, aerospace or tools & machinery are to be promoted. More than 150 exhibitors, partners and speakers have announced their participation in the upcoming event, including companies from the region such as OptoTech, Carl Zeiss, Hensoldt, Bofort, Brückmann Elektronik, Bühler Alzenau, Janitza, Harmonic Drive and Oculus. Also national and international players like Hamamatsu, Schunk, the Dutch Technology Alliance (NL), Meopta (CZ), IMT and WZW Optic AG (CH) or Universal Photonics and Taylor Hobson/ Ametek (US) are present. The photonics hotspot, the Thuringia region, will be represented with a joint booth, and the IVAM Microtechnology Network will present "Microtechnologies for Optical Devices".

For up-to-date knowledge transfer, the free accompanying conference en-tech.talks - Enabling Technologies - will provide with over 25 speakers on the topics of optics manufacturing, market trends in optics, business opportunities, EPIC TechWatch and others. Companies and universities such as Leica Camera, Dioptric and the JLU Justus Liebig University in Giessen will be sending speakers. The keynote speeches at the end of the first day of the fair will be held by business expert Patrick Flesner on the topic "The Leadership House" and China expert and former Federal Minister Rudolf Scharping on the topic "Perspective on China: How are the world markets developing?". Also interesting: Andreas Lukic of the Business Angels Mittelhessen invites together with the regional management to matching

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with interesting start-ups. Tickets for the fair and conference are now available on the W3+ Fair website.

Numerous accompanying events – from technology to management focus

Once again, partner associations and networks are taking advantage of the high-class high-tech environment for [interesting accompanying events](#). This makes a visit to the fair even more worthwhile for professionals in the region.

For the first time, the Association for Ultraprecise Surface Processing UPOB e.V. is organizing its **High Level Expert Meeting (HLEM 2023)** on the topic of "Asphere Metrology on Joint Investigations" to accompany the W3+ Fair. It will start the day before the fair. Wetzlar Network invites all managing directors and technical directors to network and attend lectures together on the first day of the fair - to the **C-Level Coffee**.

The Chamber of Commerce IHK Hessen innovativ will be making a major appearance: the four chambers of Lahn-Dill, Darmstadt Rhein Main Neckar, Kassel-Marburg and Giessen-Friedberg will be presenting exciting innovations from the regions at a joint stand.

The **VDI Association of German Engineers** is also represented with an area and invites engineers to breakfast and guided tours of the fair.

On the **Campus Area** the THM technical university central Hessen presents new realizations of the university research. Pupils and students can find entry-level opportunities for suitable jobs at the **Job Wall**. Recruiting partner **Karriere-Mittelhessen** will be on hand to advise young talents as well as interested companies in their search for the right match.

Also of interest: **IVAM**, the microtechnology network, welcomes interested parties to the **Photonics Group Meeting**. The Regional Management Mittelhessen is doubly involved: On the first day of the fair, **international guests** are expected to get to know the fair.

At the last W3+ Fair in July of last year, more than 125 companies and partners as well as more than 1500 trade visitors were present. The event takes advantage of the competence density at the optics location Wetzlar/ Mittelhessen to network experts across industries.

More information at w3-fair.com

Image material at [W3+ Fair press page](#) - under downloads

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W3+ Fair Wetzlar at a glance:

Event: 9rd W3+ Fair Wetzlar, networking trade fair and high-tech conference for enabling technologies.

When: March 29 + 30, 2023

Where: Buderus Arena Wetzlar

Opening hours: 9.30-17.00 hrs.

Tickets: 25 euros day ticket, 40 euros two-day ticket

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About the W3+ Fair

The event traces its roots back to an industry imitative organised in Wetzlar and Mittelhessen, and its objective is to interlink the four sectors of optics, photonics, electronics and mechanics. The aim is that new interfaces and points of contact will pave the way for forward-looking technologies. The trade fair debuted at the Rittal Arena in Wetzlar in February 2014. The W3+ Fair is organised by the Hamburg-based company, FLEET Events (www.fleet-events.de). In September 2019, the W3+ Fair Rheintal celebrated its premiere in the transnational region of Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Germany, with EPIC, Swissphotonics and Photonics Austria as its Gold Partners.

About Fleet Events

Fleet Events GmbH, based in Hamburg, is one of Germany's leading private trade fair and conference organisers. In cooperation with its subsidiaries Fleet Education Events and CE Chefs Events, the company, set up in 2006, designs and stages consumer and business events such as Babini (previously Babywelt), Eat&Style and Heldenmarkt, professional events such as Chef-Sache, W3+ Fair and Photonics+, as well as the educational conferences DSLK, ÖSLK, DKLK, ÖKLLK, HRocks and DILK. Fleet Events has developed, through its subsidiary Fleet X, its own online event platform using Xircus, allowing it now to offer online and/or hybrid events too. Overall, Fleet Events organises nowadays more than 50 major events a year, both live and online. This company with more than 60 employees is run by shareholders Dr Thomas Köhl and Christoph Rénevier.

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