

Olma Messen St.Gallen
NanoEurope
Splügenstrasse 12
Postfach
CH-9008 St.Gallen
Tel. +41 (0)71 242 04 44
Fax +41 (0)71 242 02 32
www.nanoeurope.com



Do not publish before Wednesday, September 17, 5 pm

Media Release of September 17, 2008

Focus on Nanotechnology in St.Gallen

St.Gallen. On September 16 and 17, 2008, St.Gallen (Switzerland) was the venue for the sixth NanoEurope. This international specialist nanotechnology congress attracted a broad public made up of both congress attendees and visitors to the exhibition as well as exhibitors from a wide range of industries. One of the special events was the Forum on Commercialization Strategies and Investment Opportunities, which was held for the first time this year. It offered companies and managers exciting insights and valuable tools helping them in their decision-making.

Also the sixth NanoEurope attracted a global specialist public. A total of some 3000 persons attended it, of which over 1500 specialist visitors, from 22 countries. They met exhibitors from Europe as well as more distant countries such as Iran.

The visitors to the exhibition and the attendees of the specialist conferences were offered a wealth of information on current applications, trends, and future uses of nanotechnology. The focus of the technical subjects this year was on Multifunctional Textiles and Smart Systems & Surfaces. In these areas, the NanoEurope informed the specialist public not only on current research results, but – thanks to its industry orientation – also on the broad experience gained up to now in the commercialization of these technologies. The extensive Poster Session with about 75 posters from 12 countries finally presented research and development results, production processes, and processing technologies.

This year for the fourth time, the internationally renowned NanoRegulation Conference on Voluntary Measures in Nano Risk Governance was held as part of the NanoEurope 2008, together with an international Nano Stakeholder Dialog. “Since no nano-specific laws and regulations are yet in existence, voluntary measures taken by industry and associations are all the more significant,” said Christoph Meili, CEO of the “Innovationsgesellschaft” and co-organizer of the NanoRegulation Conference.

Offering managers decision-making tools

The Forum for Commercialization Strategies and Investment Opportunities was held this year for the first time. It was addressed explicitly to managers and decision-makers from industry and research institutions as well as investors. The complexity of nanotechnology often makes it difficult to decide on investments in this area or to make other related management decisions. The Forum discussed instruments and strategies enabling management staff to move assuredly in this technological environment.

NanoPubli for the public at large

The NanoPubli was held again this year concurrently with the congress and the trade show. This special event was addressed to the technically interested public at large and was governed this year by the motto "Experiencing Nanotechnology." As in earlier years, it once again generated keen interest. Some 1500 visitors explored objects of the traveling exhibition "Nano – Small Things Great" of the MEMS-Point association, exhibits of students from the Vocational School of St.Gallen, and shows and papers presented by employees of the Swiss Institute of Materials Science and Technology Empa, which explained the complex subject matter of nanotechnology in an easy-to-understand way.

Euregio Bodensee Micro and Nanotechnology Association (NanoCluster Bodensee) in cooperation with "Innovationsgesellschaft mbH" will organize NanoEurope in St.Gallen on August 27 and 28, 2009.

In the future, the NanoEurope will be organized by the Euregio Bodensee Micro and Nanotechnology Association (Nano-Cluster Bodensee) in collaboration with the "Innovationsgesellschaft mbH" in St.Gallen. To date, the Nano-Cluster Bodensee was the co-organizer of the NanoEurope and bore the main responsibility for the congress and conference. Olma Messen St.Gallen will continue to provide support in organizing future NanoEurope events.

The Nano-Cluster Bodensee was set up in 2004 as a cross-industrial network of companies plus research & development institutions for promoting the innovation power of companies in the Euregio Bodensee region. It is supported by the Swiss Confederation and the Canton of St.Gallen.

Since the first NanoEurope was held in 2003, the needs of businesses have changed. Whereas the goal at the outset was primarily to provide information on the basics of nanotechnology and to make the opportunities offered by this new technology known, expectations today are substantially higher. Companies wish to know how they can improve their products and processes with the aid of nanotechnology so as to enhance their competitiveness. As a result, the NanoEurope with its conferences has evolved into an important platform for exchanging knowledge and experience. On the other hand, the specialist exhibition has not completely fulfilled expectations. The significance of the specialist technical knowledge required for successfully preparing and holding the NanoEurope will continue to increase. For these reasons, the Olma Messen St.Gallen will transfer the responsibility for organizing and holding future NanoEurope events to the Nano-Cluster Bodensee.

Images are available at

www.nanoeurope.com => Media => Images

For more information, please contact

Rolf Brun, Head Trade Show Department, Olma Messen St.Gallen

Phone +41 (0)71 242 01 27

Mobile +41 (0)79 436 42 77

Email rolf.brun@olma-messen.ch

Dr. Jörg Güttinger, Managing Director Nano-Cluster Bodensee

Co-organizer and future organizer

Phone +41 (0)71 274 73 84

Email joerg.guettinger@ncb.ch

www.nanoeurope.com

www.ncb.ch