

FRAUNHOFER-INSTITUT FÜR WERKSTOFF- UND STRAHLTECHNIK IWS

PRESS RELEASE

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Christoph Leyens appointed to acatech Executive Board Director of Fraunhofer IWS completes committee of science and economy

(Dresden, 03/25/2022) With immediate effect, Prof. Christoph Leyens is a presidium member of National Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech), the German Academy of Science and Engineering. He now receives this honor after having already actively participated in various working groups as a member. Leyens completes the body in which Reinhard Ploss, CEO Infineon, succeeds former President Karl-Heinz Streibich.

Christoph Levens, Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Material and Beam Technology IWS and Director of the Institute for Materials Science at Technical University of Dresden, was newly appointed to the acatech Presidium. The materials scientist had already contributed to working groups on the topics of competence monitoring, additive manufacturing and framework conditions for materials research. For many years he was spokesman for the acatech thematic network Materials Science and Engineering. "I am thrilled to contribute my many years of experience from the technical work of the thematic network now for the benefit of the entire academy," says Leyens, expressing his delight at his appointment. "The innovative strength of the economy and thus our prosperity depend to a considerable extent on new materials and tailored material solutions. Materials are the central 'enablers' for technical progress – as the basis for the virtual world and for our real world. With this in mind, I will be particularly active on the Executive Committee in promoting interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary cooperation between the various engineering sciences." His term of office is set to last four years. The Presidium is responsible for the scientific management of the Academy and its external representation.

New president thanks predecessor

At the same time, a change takes place at the top of acatech. Infineon CEO Reinhard Ploss assumes the office of President from Karl-Heinz Streibich. "As the voice of the technical sciences, Acatech advises politics and society – with a focus on the common good and creating benefits," he says on the occasion of his inauguration as acatech president. "Together with the many bright minds from science, industry and organizations at acatech, I will strive to ensure that innovation policy decisions are made at the cutting edge of the latest research and applications. With a smartly

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Director Fraunhofer IWS and Institute of Materials Science TU Dresden



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designed innovation policy, Germany and Europe will achieve their climate protection and sustainability goals, maintain competitiveness and social balance, gain technological sovereignty, and become an international role model and partner for sustainable business." Ploss thanked his predecessor, who left a lasting legacy, personally and on behalf of the acatech presidium and the academy. The outgoing president will remain actively associated with the Academy.

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Info box

The new Presidium of National Academy of Science and Engineering

- Ann-Kristin Achleitner (G)
- Claudia Eckert
- Ursula Gather
- Jürgen Gausemeier (G)
- Armin Grunwald
- Christoph Leyens
- Stefan Oschmann (G)
- Reinhard Ploss (G)
- Manfred Rauhmeier (G)
- Ortwin Renn
- Hermann Requardt
- Frank Riemensperger
- Siegfried Russwurm
- Dirk Uwe Sauer
- Michael Schenk
- Christoph M. Schmidt (G)
- Thomas Weber (G)
- Jan Wörner (G)

Persons marked with "(G)" are members of the Executive Board of the acatech Presidium. It is responsible for the management of acatech topics and programs. The acatech Executive Board steers the Academy and represents it externally. Up to twelve members are elected by the General Assembly, and up to six are elected by the Senate. In addition, there is the executive director of acatech.

Further information:

www.acatech.de/praesidium

Materials and Lasers – Competence with a System. The **Fraunhofer Institute for Material and Beam Technology IWS** develops complex system solutions in materials and laser technology. We define ourselves as idea drivers developing customized solutions based on laser applications, functionalized surfaces as well as material and process innovations – from easy-to-integrate custom solutions to cost-efficient solutions for small and medium-sized enterprises to industry-ready one-stop solutions. Our research focuses on aerospace, energy and environmental technology, automotive, medical and mechanical engineering, toolmaking, electrical engineering and microelectronics, and photonics and optics sectors. In our five future and innovation fields of battery technology, hydrogen technology, surface functionalization, photonic production systems and additive manufacturing, we are already creating the basis today for the technological answers of tomorrow.



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