

Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D

25-27 June 2019

Messe Erfurt

"Future areas of relevance for additive manufacturing will be revealed in Erfurt" AM Science forum to present the latest findings from research and development

(Erfurt, 9 May 2019). The hype surrounding 3D printing has made way for a professional approach to the new technology. Additive manufacturing is now being used in the series production of medical products and aerospace components. Other sectors are close to achieving this goal. Over just a few years, AM has evolved rapidly from a niche area of prototype manufacture into standard day-to-day industry practice – thanks to the extraordinary focus and speed of research by science and business. Germany is ranked first in Europe for innovations in additive manufacturing. "And Erfurt is where everyone wants to present the latest developments. The future areas of relevance for additive manufacturing will be revealed in the AM Science forum at Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D. Many young scientists will be using the podium to present their research results and discuss them with potential users," says Professor Gerd Witt.

The Chair of Production Technology at the University of Duisburg-Essen – who is co-founder of the Erfurt event and co-chair of the advisory board together with Michael Eichmann of Stratasys – is responsible for the content of the two-day AM Science forum, which will take place at Messe Erfurt on 26 and 27 June 2019. The persistently high interest in gaining a chance to address this forum is evidenced by a total of 30 submissions received from Europe and overseas for 13 available places. "Talks were selected on the basis of a double-blind review. Our review commission comprises renowned researchers from the field of additive manufacturing, who assess proposals solely on the basis of their technical merit, without knowing the name and position of the applicant. This means we can be sure that the topics presented are highly innovative and of significant relevance to users," explains Professor Witt.

The contributions for the 2019 session will be made by scientists from German universities and research institutions, as well as from Singapore. They will present new developments and improvements in materials and material combinations for additive manufacturing, as well as optimised processes that result in efficient material processing and a positive effect on component parameters during the production stage. One innovative approach comes from the field of plastics. A joint project by the University of Duisburg-Essen and the Siemens Group has produced a further development of the FLM process that allows continuous fibre-reinforced polymers to be processed directly by means of laser preheating, which results in improved mechanical properties.

The forum will also demonstrate that research and development in both plastics and metals is constantly providing solutions for increasing numbers of applications, and that the appeal of additive manufacturing is broadening. This is bringing post-processing and combining additive and subtractive methods into focus, and issues in these fields will similarly be addressed in the context of a range of examples during the two-day forum.

The AM Science forum is one of 14 sector- and subject-specific forums on the conference programme for Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D. Three forums – Software & Processes, Plastics, and Standardisation & EHS – are appearing on the agenda for the first time. Alongside these new additions, the programme will feature the established forums on the Automotive Industry; Aviation; Contract Additive Manufacturing; Medical, Dental and Orthopaedic Technology; 3D Printed Electronics & Functions; Tool, Mould & Jig Construction; Metal; Design; and Law, as well as a session by the Fraunhofer Additive Manufacturing Alliance. Overall,



over the three days of the conference, there will be more than 100 lectures presenting the latest developments, trends and findings relating to additive technologies and applications in theory and practice.

The 3D Printing Conference and the redesigned presentation spaces and networking opportunities at the exhibition will also help attendees to share their knowledge and experiences and to build and maintain their networks.

For their 16th edition, to be held from 25 to 27 June 2019, Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D are yet again expecting over 200 exhibitors from Germany and abroad, as well as more than 5,000 international trade visitors and conference delegates.

Further information: www.rapidtech-fabcon.com

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