Interreg North-West Europe OIP4NWE

European Regional Development Fund

NEWS

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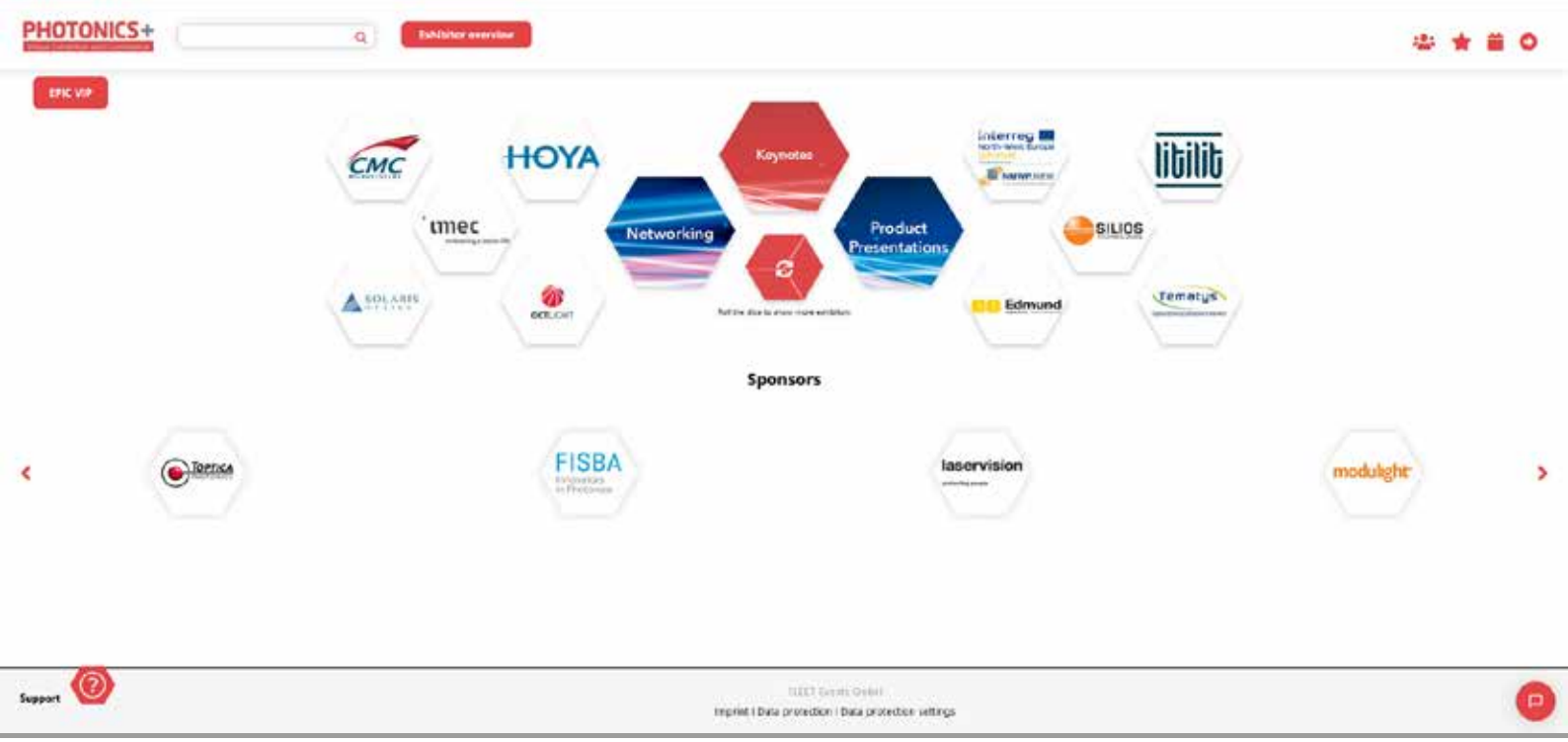
The OIP4NWE pilot line was successfully presented at the PHOTONICS+ – the largest digital event for the photonics industry in 2021

On 30th June the 2nd PHOTONICS+ Virtual Exhibition and Conference ended successfully. For two days, more than 140 players from the photonics world met over 2,072 participants and potential customers at the last industry get-together before the summer break to discuss new partnerships and projects together. Among the exhibitors was the pilot line of the Interreg NWE project "OIP4NWE", represented by the partners Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the NMWP.NRW state cluster.

Besides many interesting contacts and discussions at the OIP4NWE-booth between the project partners and the participants, Jürgen Van Erps, Professor in Photonics and Optical Communications at Brussels Photonics (B-PHOT), Vrije Universiteit



Brussel also had the opportunity to present the project and the pilot line in a presentation which was broadcasted to the audience.

This presentation was recorded, and you can find it online: https://bit.ly/3ALDOjO

The PHOTONICS+ event was a great place to meet new contacts as well as strengthen and grow the network of companies who are active in the field of photonic integrated circuits. We are looking forward to our next meetings.

OIP4NWE
Open Innovation PIC Pilot

The Interreg NWE-Project "OIP4NWE" aims at establishing an open innovation pilot line for the development of a generic photonic integration technology for the production of Indium Phosphide Photonic Integrated Circuits (PICs). Integrated photonics is the emerging technology where the manipulation of light takes place on a chip, making the components an order of magnitude cheaper, smaller and more energyefficient compared to today's solutions. By providing these services to SMEs across Europe, the project reduces PIC access barriers and strengthens the competitiveness and innovativeness of European SME sustainably on the global markets.

Current generic PIC facilities are of a laboratory nature and inadequate for manufacturing and packaging PICs with cost-efficiency, speed and reliable quality. There is a strong need to increase the technology readiness level (TRL) from the current 4 to 7. The equipment for PIC manufacturing and packaging is of an innovative, specialised nature that cannot be obtained from a single country. As application of PICs grows, North-West Europe needs to stay ahead. Therefore, intense collaboration between innovation stakeholders at transnational level is an important goal of the project.

The project is funded by the Interreg North-West Europe programme, which fosters transnational cooperation to make North-West Europe a key economic player and an attractive place to work and live, with high levels of innovation, sustainability and cohesion.

www.nweurope.eu/oip4nwe