

Factsheet

2nd Meeting of the European Lightweighting Network

23rd-24th of September 2021, Vienna

About

Succeeding the first meeting of the European Lightweighting Network in Germany in 2020, the Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action aims to initiate further working steps by hosting a two-day follow-up conference 23rd-24th of September 2021, which will take place on-site in Vienna with a selected group of invited participants.

However, **the programme on Sept. 23rd will be also live-streamed.** To join the live-stream, register at <https://pretix.eu/EuropeanLightweightingNetwork/ELN/>

Key information

<u>Event Location:</u>	Grand Hotel Wien, Kärntner Ring 9, A-1010 Vienna, Austria
<u>Participation fee:</u>	For free
<u>Accommodation:</u>	Self-organised by participants (see recommendations below)

The conference

Day 1: Join our live-stream on Sep. 23 via the event website:

<https://mobilitaetderzukunft.at/en/articles/european-lightweighting-network.php>

The participants examine the potential of lightweight design from different angles with key notes, panel discussions and in open discussions. The goal is to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of different technology options and to investigate the opportunities for environmental benefits and the competitiveness of the European economy.

A get-together event in the evening will allow to continue and deepen the initiated discussions.

Day 2: The second day focuses on ideas of activities to promote lightweighting and strengthen co-operation between the different stakeholders. The aim is to define the most promising activities and activity leaders responsible to bring these efforts forward until the next European Lightweighting Network meeting. Conceptually, the second part of the workshop is based on the World Café concept, in which the participants discuss ideas, views and experiences with regard to predefined questions and moderators take notes of the discussion results. In at least three successive discussion rounds of 25-30 minutes each, these questions are discussed in two parallel sessions. Group A consists of representatives of governments and funding institutions, Group B brings together representatives of research, industry and networks. Recommendations and proposed solutions are noted. After each round, the participants reshuffle, the moderator remains in the session and welcomes the participants to the next World Café round.

ELN Participants have the possibility to promote their national activities in form of posters or roll-ups. Please notify your interest to walter.mauritsch@energyagency.at

After the break, each group presents and discusses its findings and activity proposals to the other group. As a group, we select the ideas best suited for implementation and collect contact details of interested parties in the implementation participation. Ideally, one or more parties are volunteering to act as a champion to co-ordinate follow-up activities. The Austrian organizing institutions and the organiser of the follow-up European Lightweighting Network meeting monitor progress and first results. The organiser of the follow-up European Lightweighting Network meeting is presenting the motivation for serving as the next host.

Background information

What is at stake?

Our society is determined by an increasing demand for resources. This leads to an excessive consumption of the natural resources energy and materials. Lightweighting materials, lean production and lightweight design is a promising strategy to reduce both, the demand for energy and resources.

Lightweighting can contribute essentially to the European Green Deal striving for a climate neutral economy by 2050. As a cross-sectoral technology, lightweight design is a building block of many innovations in the fields of circular economy, transport or buildings and as such indispensable for achieving ambitious climate goals.

Lightweighting technologies and their deployment are a keystone for industrial competitiveness of European enterprises, engineering companies and research institutions in the ongoing fierce global competition. Less energy and material demand reduces not only the dependence on resources, but as well, the production costs.

What is our objective?

Finding solutions for the challenges the lightweighting community is facing calls for a holistic and interdisciplinary view at the whole process chain from material science and engineering up to production, recycling technologies and financing. This view includes a wide spectrum of advantages and disadvantages of materials and technologies in context of metals, polymers, ceramics and composites.

The overall objective of the European Lightweighting Network meetings is to develop such a common view on the European lightweight potential and the framework requirements to exploit it for serving best the Green Deal Goals. Thus, we need a broad range of minds from industry, research and governments willing to develop ideas for co-operations and activities on project, network and intergovernmental level making the lightweighting potential better tangible for stakeholders, the overall economy, the wider public including each of us.

Covid-19 Disclaimer

Even though the progress of the vaccination campaign is promising, we will continuously assess the situation in Austria to ensure your safe participation. If there is considerable doubt on 1st September that the conference can be held in person, we will switch from a physical meeting to a merely virtual meeting. You will get an update via our event website or can directly contact us.

Contact:

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Agenda Draft

Day 1 Thursday 23 rd September 2021	Lightweighting and its contributions to the European Green Deal 12:00 – 16:30: Keynotes and Discussion 19:00: Dinner invitation by the Austrian Host
10:00 – 12:00	Reception
12:00 – 12:15	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andreas Dorda – Deputy Head of Department Mobility and Transport Technologies, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) • Michael Wiesmüller - Head of Department Key enabling Technologies for Industrial Innovation: ICT, Manufacturing and Nanotechnologies, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) • Moderation: Andreas Dorda/Alexander Pogany (BMK)
12:15 – 14:00	Session 1: Technological state of the art, technology foresight, SWOT-analysis of technology options and their Green Deal contribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote 1: 15'; Keynote 2: 15' • Panel Discussion: Keynote Speaker 1; Keynote Speaker 2 and 4 additional panel speaker from research and industry • Open Discussion with panelists
14:00 – 15:00	Coffee Break
15:00 – 16:30	Session 2: Importance of lightweighting technologies for the European economy. Opportunities and challenges of a European Lightweighting Initiative and the instruments needed for their implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote 3: 15'; Keynote 4: 15' • Panel Discussion: Keynote Speaker 1; Keynote Speaker 2 and 4 additional panel speaker from European Commission, Public authorities, research or private sector networks • Open Discussion with panelists
16:30	Closing remarks – Andreas Dorda
19:00	Joint Networking Dinner

Day 2 Friday 24 th September 2021	08:30 – 14:00 2 Parallel Workshops on maximising the lightweighting contribution to the Green Deal Workshop A: representatives of ministries, funding institutions, European Commission Workshop B: representatives of industry, engineering service providers, research institutions and SME
7:30 – 8:30	Reception
08:30 – 09:00	Workshop setting and objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop A: Moderation – Andreas Dorda, Alexander Pogany • Workshop B: Moderation – tbd
09:00 – 11:30	2 Parallel Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Cafe Setting 3-4 rounds à 30’ • Reflexion and securing results
11:30 – 12:30	Coffee Break/finger food
12:30 – 13:50	Presentation of World Cafe findings Discussion on findings (ALL)
13:50	Wrap up of results and closing remarks – Andreas Dorda

Recommendations for accommodation:

The event location itself, the upscale hotel Grand Hotel Wien has a special offer for the conference participants. If you choose to stay in the location, make sure to mention the name and date of the conference and send a copy to walter.mauritsch@energyagency.at

Grand Hotel Wien, Kärntner Ring 9, A-1010 Vienna, Austria

T: +431515801836

@: reservation@grandhotelwien.com

Link: https://en.grandhotelwien.com/stay-with-us/?_ga=2.43607712.406717099.1627632994-66671640.1624000563

As a more convenient alternative in the centre, we recommend the Motel One Vienna-Staatsoper, Elisabethstraße 5, 1010 Vienna, Austria

T: +43 1 5850505

@: wien-staatsoper@motel-one.com

Link: <https://www.motel-one.com/en/hotels/vienna/hotel-vienna-staatsoper/>

Journey to Vienna:

As a hub of the European Night Train Network, Vienna can be reached conveniently by rail from an abundance of European cities.

[Destinations - Nightjet](#)