



10th International | 10th German-Japanese
Symposium on Nanostructures
*March 4-6, 2018
Wenden, Germany*



address from

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President of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

for the

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Applied research takes place in a rapidly changing environment in which political factors, market trends and technologies are in constant evolution. The major part of technological challenges are related to materials. Innovative materials are one key to success. Nanotechnology and related topics such as nanostructures are cutting-edge technologies which will serve many applications in the future. In order to face the challenges such as rising competition, product development processes and life cycles becoming shorter and shorter, as well as the emergence of ambitious new global markets, the need for international cooperation has become more obvious. Undoubtedly, Japan is one of the leading countries in the various fields of nanotechnology. In fact, Japan's overall focus on innovation and technology is very similar to that of Germany and despite the geographical distance, Germany and Japan have much in common. Both are leading high-tech nations with excellent economic and scientific infrastructures and where a sophisticated culture of engineering is firmly established. Uniting the competences of both countries presents the chance to create excellent results and a wider range of opportunities. This is also the reason why Fraunhofer has been cooperating with Japanese partners for decades and the intensity of collaboration is today higher than ever. This is also the reason why 80 percent of the Fraunhofer Institutes are active in Japan, and it is among the four most important countries in terms of international revenues.

Many Fraunhofer Institutes have been doing research in different fields of nanotechnology. Nearly one third of all Fraunhofer Institutes are members of the Fraunhofer Nanotechnology Alliance and active in this field. Three researchers of the Fraunhofer Institute for Ceramic Technologies and Systems IKTS won one of this year's Joseph-von-Fraunhofer-Awards - an internal yearly award for excellent scientific performance for Fraunhofer researchers - for the development of a ceramic nano filtration membrane for the purification of waste water. A team of researchers of the Fraunhofer Institute for Laser Technology ILT and RWTH Aachen University was awarded with another of this year's Joseph-von-Fraunhofer-Awards for the development of a high speed laser welding contract that, for the first time, offers an economic alternative to the use of hexavalent chromium. The Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA has a close collaboration with The National Institute of

Advanced Science and Technology (AIST) in Japan in the field of electroactive polymers in the form of a Fraunhofer Project Center at AIST Kansai.

The 10th Symposium on Nanostructures is a wonderful opportunity for exchange and networking among top experts in the field. Over the last decade it has established itself as a tradition and hub for the transfer of knowledge and experience. I support and look forward to the future of this important event and wish you all an inspiring and successful conference.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Pfeiffer". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.