

Mission Statement:

EOS Focus Groups

Background and Motivation

The creation and further develop of new technologies is the basis for the overall technological progress in Europe and the European industry in particular. Technological progress is the basis for both the further improvement of Europe's economic situation and better living conditions.

Technological progress can only be planned and achieved on a step-by-step basis. A perfectly co-ordinated technological roadmap for the next decade is crucial for a long-term planning of Europe's technological future.

To successfully advance technological progress and to contribute to an improvement of the economic situation in Europe, the support from us, the professionals involved in the development and application of new technologies both in industry and research, is required.

Role of the EOS

The European Optical Society (EOS) is a recognised European society in the field of modern optics and photonics which, now representing more than 5000 individuals, 100 companies and institutes as well as 18 national optical societies, has the potential to constructively contribute to the technological progress in Europe.

With such a large number of players organised in one society the EOS can not only positively influence and support new research fields, but can also enhance technological innovations and reveal relevant technology trends in the field of modern optics, photonics and related fields.

This is a comprehensive and challenging task that needs to be well defined and co-ordinated on the European level. The European Commission is actively working on this difficult task and has already formulated the wish to receive competent, independent advice from the EOS. In a field as wide and rapidly further developing as modern optics and photonics qualified support and advice from scientific and technical experts is becoming increasingly important. For the EOS it is a priority task to support this process.

The success of this demanding task is essential for all of us - for individual EOS members as well as for European companies and research institutes and for the national optical societies. Everyone in the European optics and photonics community will strongly profit from the results of this process by better marked conditions, job security, ideological and financial support for R&D and last but not least competitive, innovative products and applications for industry.

The basis for an effective co-ordination of this process is a focusing of the know-how and competence of all EOS members. To be able to focus such an immense quantity of know-how a subject-specific analysis, reconditioning and evaluation of the main areas of modern optics and photonics is indispensable.

Establishment of EOS Focus Groups

The first step is to establish EOS Focus Groups covering the different fields of modern optics. All EOS members will be offered to join either one or a combination of several EOS Focus Groups (at no additional charge).

The EOS Focus Groups will provide a platform for the communication between experts from science and industry which helps to identify new trends in the field of modern optics and contributes to a greater presence and visibility of modern optics and photonics on the European level.

Aims of the Focus Groups

- 1) Focus Groups help the EOS officers to provide the members with specific information about their areas of interest.
- 2) Focus Groups help all members to quicker and easier connect with their peers and to establish new contacts within their area of interest.
- 3) By making the working results and recommendations from the Focus Groups available to our FP7 Task Force they can be focused and considered for recommendations to the European Commission.

Activities and communication of the Focus Groups

- The Focus Groups will be offered:
 - Protected discussion forums on the EOS homepage.
 - Access to the forums is only available to registered Focus Group members.
 - Every Focus Group member has the opportunity to post messages (technical discussions, requests for information on a specific topic, search for qualified project and co-operation partners, suggestions for Topical Meetings on a specific topic etc.)

Rules and structure of the EOS Focus Groups

- New EOS Focus Groups can be established at any time by one or more members of the EOS. The membership to an EOS Focus Group is open to all members.
- The thematic focus of each EOS Focus Group has to be carefully selected and defined and should not compete with those of other EOS Focus Group.
- Each EOS Focus Group appoints a speaker who is responsible for the organisation and coordination of activities, meetings etc of the Focus Group.
- All members of an EOS Focus Group are registered by the EOS Secretariat
- The EOS Secretariat will support the organisation and communication of the Focus Groups.
- The Focus Group speaker reports annually by letter to the EOS Board on the activities, progresses and/or problems of the EOS Focus Group.
- The speaker of the Focus Group can propose the closure of the Focus Group to the EOS Board.
- The EOS Board reserves the right to close an EOS Focus Group in case of no activities over a period of more than 12 months, or in case of violation of bylaws of the EOS.