

Press release

9. July 2015

Big Data Center Opens at Leipzig Fraunhofer Center

Making innovative, smart and efficient use of data – developing and shaping knowledge and expertise

Leipzig, 2 July 2015 – Today's information session on the strategic realignment of the Leipzig Fraunhofer Center also marked the official launch of the institute's very own Big Data Center. This new facility enables it to make smart use of large data volumes and, as a result, to shape knowledge. The digital research infrastructure has been supported by Professor Reimund Neugebauer, President of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Dr. Fritz Jaeckel, State Minister and Head of the State Chancellery of the Free State of Saxony, and Dr. Wilhelm Krull, Secretary General of the Volkswagen Foundation and Member of the Board of Trustees of the Leipzig Fraunhofer Center.

The Big Data Center enables the Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy to store and analyze digital data on a large scale. As a result, data analyses, simulation, real-time forecasts and visualization are now part and parcel of innovative solutions for clients and research partners from businesses, regions, institutions and governments.

Institute Director Professor Thorsten Posselt sees the Big Data Center as a key building block in the digitization of the Leipzig Fraunhofer Center. "Our experts research ways of deriving knowledge from exploding data volumes and developing and shaping expertise for modern society and the knowledge economy. We turn big data into smart data for our clients."

Dr. Lutz Maicher, Head of the Business Unit 'Competition and Technology Analysis', oversees the development of smart data services at the Leipzig Fraunhofer Center. "The Big Data Center enables us to live up to our aspirations of providing first-class support to our clients in the process of digitizing their own processes and business models. All research projects comply with data-protection and IT-security requirements."

The Big Data Center is equipped with over 220 processor cores and a storage capacity of around 450 terabytes. Some EUR 300,000 in funding is being provided for the center by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Free State of Saxony as part of the Improving research infrastructure and research-project funding program.

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Leipzig Fraunhofer Center

The Leipzig Fraunhofer Center has undergone major structural and subject-related developments since it was established in 2006. Originally a research center primarily bringing together political, social and economics researchers from Germany and Central and Eastern Europe, it has now become a highly sought after partner for companies, regions, institutions and governments in Europe and around the world. With an international team of 110 staff from 16 nations, the Leipzig Fraunhofer Center researches the internationalization of the business and research sectors. Building on the results of this work, the research staff develop strategies, policy instruments and options for action to enable their clients to respond appropriately to the opportunities and challenges of globalization.

Further information: <http://www.moez.fraunhofer.de/de/bigdata.html>

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The **Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy** develops scientifically substantiated solutions to the challenges of globalization. Companies and regions benefit from a whole range of such solutions, including potential analyses, the design, financing and implementation of international projects and networking activities, analysis and optimization of business models, and knowledge and technology transfer. The institute and its experts possess proven expertise in internationalization, innovation and technology management, innovation finance, strategy development, the knowledge economy and research marketing. Currently, some 50 full-time staff are working on projects for companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as projects forming part of the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, and projects of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, and the German Federal Environmental Foundation.