



GRAPHENE FLAGSHIP

press release
11 Oct 2013

GRAPHENE FLAGSHIP HAS SET SAILS

The Graphene Flagship – one of Europe’s first ten-year, 1,000 million Euro flagships in Future and Emerging Technologies – was launched during a ceremony in Gothenburg today.

A sail of Graphene Flagship was symbolically set jointly by Wolfgang Boch, Head of Flagship Unit, EC; Karin Markides, President of Chalmers University of Technology; and Nokia’s representative Tapani Ryhänen.

Graphene Flagship was selected as one of Europe’s first technology flagships by the European Commission in January 2013. The mission is to take graphene and related layered materials from academic laboratories to society, revolutionise multiple industries and create economic growth and new jobs in Europe.

– Now, we are all in this together, the Commission and all the academic and industrial partners of The Graphene Flagship. It’s is an unusually long-term commitment, and there will be challenges, let’s be clear about that, says Carl-Christian Buhr, member of the Cabinet of European Commission Vice-President Neelie Kroes.

– One challenge will be to keep the agility, to get the right new partners inside, so that you can react and steer in a new direction as the context changes. Another is of course the scientific challenge. Thirdly, we need to bring in industry in such a way, that ideas are taken up in a way that leads to new products and markets. That’s the whole idea of the flagship.

The voyage of Graphene Flagship is divided into two separate phases: a 30-month ramp-up phase under the 7th Framework Programme (1 October 2013 – 31 March 2016) with a total European Commission funding of 54 million Euro, and a steady-state phase under the Horizon 2020 programme, starting 1 April 2016, with expected European Commission funding of M€ 50 per year.

The consortium of Graphene Flagship initially includes 75 academic and industrial partners in 17 European countries. It focuses on the general area of communications, concentrating on ICT and on the physical transport sector, and supporting applications in the fields of energy technology and sensors. The consortium will be expanded with another 20-30 groups through an Open Call, to be issued in November 2013, which will further strengthen the engineering aspects of the Graphene Flagship. The Executive Board of Graphene Flagship will decide details on topics of the Open Call, its funding limits and final rules during October 2013. Please see separate fact sheet for more information.



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Parallel to this, work is performed among EU member states and associated nations,

through an ERA-NET, to coordinate national funding initiatives on graphene, complementing Graphene Flagship funding from the European Commission.

Graphene Flagship launches a range of initiatives focused on graphene dissemination within and outside the flagship:

Graphene Week is an annual conference aiming to present up-to-date fundamental science of graphene and applications of graphene-based devices, with an estimate of 400 participants. Graphene Week 2014 will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 23 – 27 June 2014.

Graphene Connect is an interaction platform for academia and businesses promoting scientists to think outside the box and industries to develop end-user products based on graphene. A number of industrial workshops will be supplemented by sessions for business angels, entrepreneurs and venture capitalists to discuss the potential graphene investment opportunities and related issues. Graphene Connect “Composites”, in Toulouse, France, on 6 - 7 May 2014.

Graphene Study is a European winter school on graphene that serves to build tightly integrated community, and to create new direct communication channels between young researchers and academia-industry players. It is an important vehicle in fostering the next generation of graphene researchers and a key element in the continuous renewal of the Graphene Flagship. Graphene Study 2014, in Obergurgl, Austria, on 2 - 7 February 2014.

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Press kit is available below, and at:

www.graphene-flagship.eu/press