

Press Release

Vienna, 18/09/2024

13TH RANSHOFEN LIGHT METAL DAYS 2024 IN SAALFELDEN

AIT invites you to the conference "Light Metals Innovations for Environmental and Economic Sustainability": Light metals, material and process technologies in the context of decarbonisation and digitalisation

What strategies are there to minimise resource consumption in the light metal industry through recycling and energy efficiency? How can lightweight construction make mobility more sustainable? And what role will artificial intelligence play in future processes in the metalworking industry? These and other questions will be addressed at the [13th Ranshofen Light Metals Days 2024](#), which will take place on 26 and 27 September 2024 at the Hotel Gut Brandlhof in Saalfelden. They are organised by the LKR Light Metals Competence Centre Ranshofen of the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology.

The latest scientific findings

Under the title "Light Metals Innovations for Environmental and Economic Sustainability", participants can expect an exciting programme on digitalisation and decarbonisation in the field of process and material development as well as the material characterisation of light metals. A balanced spectrum of international presentations from university, non-university and industrial research will provide an up-to-date overview of the latest scientific findings and successful new light metal applications. Each presentation is a premiere and thus offers a unique information advantage for visitors to the conference. For the first time, simultaneous translation (German-English) will be provided for all presentations in order to offer all international guests in particular the best possible service.

High-calibre sessions, first-class speakers

The individual presentations are thematically assigned to the following three sessions:

- Digitalisation in the context of circularity
- Sustainable process development
- Innovative light metals and their characterisation

The sessions will be introduced by three exciting keynotes:

- Dr Werner Fragner (AMAG Austria Metall AG):
All AI or what?
- DI Christian Vogl (MAGNA International Europe GmbH):
The evolution of mobility: an analysis of the driving megatrends
- Prof Randi Holmestad (NTNU):

Advanced TEM studies of precipitation in aluminium alloys

The 13th Ranshofen Light Metals Days 2024 are therefore clearly dominated by decarbonisation and digitalisation - even in times of diverse challenges. The first session "Digitalisation in the context of circularity" will focus on best practice examples from the aluminium industry, the balance between sustainability and performance in metal processing and the implementation of complex geometries using wire-based additive manufacturing. The second session, "Sustainable process development", will focus on the decarbonisation of industrial processes and the reduction of material usage, for example through GigaCasting, or the use of innovative recycling technologies. In the third session "Innovative light metals and their characterisation" will cover forward-looking topics such as the development of special aluminium alloys for additive manufacturing, the use of old car scrap for new alloys and the decarbonisation of the magnesium industry.

In an accompanying industrial exhibition, well-known companies from industry, research and testing technology will present the latest trends and technologies from their fields. And in a poster exhibition, scientists will provide an insight into current research results. This "marketplace" for industry and science and the traditional Light Metals Days evening reception offer the best opportunities for networking and promote the development of project ideas and business relationships.

Lightweight construction as a key technology of the future

Walter Mauritsch MA from the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) will open the conference. He will emphasise the importance of lightweight construction for future mobility solutions and beyond: "Lightweight construction is a key technology for the future and plays a central role in vehicle and mechanical engineering, aerospace, medical technology and the construction industry. Lighter materials and innovative designs geared towards the circular economy can save resources and energy. This is crucial for both climate protection and the competitiveness of the Austrian economy. As a driver of innovation, lightweight construction thus makes an important contribution to the goals of the mobility masterplan and the circular economy strategy. The BMK is cooperating closely with European partners from industry, research and administration in order to further develop lightweight construction areas of expertise together and make innovations quickly usable for society."

The Light Metal Days as a Green Event

Dr Christian Chimani, Head of Center for Transport Technologies at the AIT and Managing Director of the LKR, gives an outlook on the conference: "Top-class speakers, a renowned industry exhibition and an impressive conference location make the Light Metals Days 2024 a unique opportunity to find solutions to the current challenges facing the industry together. With our event, we also want to create a

We want to make an active contribution to environmental and climate protection: the Ranshofen Light Metal Days are organised in accordance with the criteria of the Austrian Ecolabel for Green Events."

We would like to thank the [Federal Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation & Technology \(BMK\)](#), [AMAG Austria Metall AG](#), [4a engineering GmbH](#), [iba Austria AG](#), [Nedschroef](#), [UAR Upper Austrian Research GmbH](#) and [voestalpine AG](#) for their support!

About the LKR Light Metal Competence Centre Ranshofen

With many years of experience in research and innovation for the lightweight construction of the future, the LKR Light Metal Competence Centre Ranshofen of the AIT is a leader in the development of high-quality light metal alloys, their sustainable and energy-efficient processing through to the development of functionally integrated lightweight components and their recycling. Thanks to this holistic research approach, which is supported by simulation methods, new technologies such as wire-based additive manufacturing of light metals and innovative casting and forming processes are emerging. Based on these new methods and expertise in the entire processing chain, the lightweight components developed by the LKR are widely used in the automotive and aerospace sectors. The LKR Light Metals Competence Centre Ranshofen is characterised by an excellent team of scientists, the highest level of methodological expertise and many years of experience in managing international research projects.

Further links

[13th Ranshofen Light Metals Days 2024](#)

[AIT Centre for Transport Technologies](#)

[LKR Light Metal Competence Centre Ranshofen](#)

Press contact:

Florian Hainz BA Marketing and
Communications
AIT Austrian Institute of
Technology Centre for Transport
Technologies T +43 (0)50550-4518
florian.hainz@ait.ac.at | <http://www.ait.ac.at/>

Daniel Pepl, MAS MBA
Corporate and Marketing Communications
AIT Austrian Institute of Technology
T +43 (0)50550-4040
daniel.pepl@ait.ac.at | www.ait.ac.at