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Munich, March 26, 2021

## Final Report

### LOPEC 2021 Online Edition

## Flexible and printed electronics continues its course for success

- Digital Conference and online exhibition with 1,300 attendees
- Participation in digital Conference on par with physical attendance event
- Printed electronics as innovation drivers for medical and pharmaceuticals

**From March 23 to 25, LOPEC was held as an online event. In 180 contributions, the speakers of the digital Conference and more than 70 companies at the online exhibition presented groundbreaking developments in printed electronics. Numerous user industries, such as the automotive, textile and entertainment sectors, are drawing on the potential of this technology. In the medical and pharmaceuticals sectors, in particular, a tremendous surge in development became evident.**

Following the three-day online event, Messe München Managing Director Falk Senger gave a positive summary: “Participation of more than 70 exhibitors and 1,300 international attendees at LOPEC 2021 demonstrated the importance of a digital meeting point for the industry this year. We are pleased that the online format was so well received. For next year, however, we hope to be able to welcome our exhibitors and visitors back on site in Munich.”

Dr. Klaus Hecker, Managing Director of OE-A, is also very satisfied with the results: “Following a decline in sales last year, the printed electronics industry is now very optimistic about the future. This confident mood and the desire for exchange and continued development was also reflected at this year’s LOPEC. I was particularly impressed by the developments in the medical and pharmaceuticals sectors. Our industry has the potential to revolutionize healthcare.”

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### **Wearable electronics conquers the world**

Lightweight, robust, flexible: Various industry sectors rely on organic and printed electronics because of these properties. The digital Conference and the online exhibition provided the setting for the presentation of numerous new developments in connection with the focus topic Smart Living, from ultra-thin sensors to smart textiles to building-integrated photovoltaics. In the medical sector, the focus is particularly on sensors for monitoring systems that are worn on the skin like band-aids. Prof. John A. Rogers of Northwestern University elaborated on the benefits of the technology in his plenary lecture: “Thanks to its properties, printed electronics is compatible with the soft, curved, and dynamic surfaces of the human body. In close contact with the skin, they form an ideal interface for diagnostics and therapies.”

Further applications and products in the field of medical sensor technology were presented by exhibitors including Brewer Science, Henkel, IEE and Quad. Moreover, Evonik, in collaboration with InnovationLab, presented a sustainable battery concept. With printed batteries, sensors can be worn on the skin even more comfortably.

### **Strong influence on mobility transformation**

The automotive industry also relies heavily on printed electronics. Due to their properties including low weight, printed sensors play a major role in the growing e-mobile sector for battery management and temperature measurement applications. Another trend topic: curved, large displays spanning the entire dashboard as well as the functionalization of surfaces through touch sensors. Conference presentations, including those from Heraeus, MacDermid Alpha Electronics Solutions, Novares und TactoTek, focused on the topics of 3D structural electronics and additive manufacturing. In the online exhibition, too, various companies such as Agfa, Chasm, DuPont Teijin Films, Elantas and Joanneum Research showed innovative solutions for mobility applications.

### **International frontrunner: LOPEC Conference confirms its leadership**

This year, the LOPEC Conference once again proved its position as the most important communication platform for printed electronics. Interest in the

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presentations was invariably high. The number of attendees of the digital Conference was at the same level as at the last event with physical attendance in Munich. Wolfgang Mildner, General Chair of LOPEC, emphasized: “Speakers from well-established companies such as Audi, Google, Swarovski or TCL Corporation as well as renowned researchers from CPI, Fraunhofer, Holst Centre or VTT, among others, clearly demonstrate: The Conference is a globally unrivaled platform that promotes the exchange on flexible and printed electronics across all industries. From application to research, it provides important impetus for new products and solutions.”

Speakers from 24 countries presented innovations and future trends in about 180 Conference presentations.

### **Facts and figures about the online exhibition**

In the digital exhibition, 72 exhibitors from 14 countries presented printed electronics solutions and products. Over the three days, 1,300 attendees from 51 countries made use of the offerings of the LOPEC platform.

The exhibitor information is now available in the industry directory free of charge for 365 days. Attendees with a Conference ticket will have access to all presentations until May 9, 2021, both as video on demand and as PDF files for download.

The next LOPEC will take place from March 22 to 24, 2022 in Munich.

### **Service**

Further information and background data can be found at [www.lopec.com](http://www.lopec.com). An overview of the use of printed electronics in various industry sectors is available [here](#). Image material is available from the [media database](#).

### **LOPEC**

LOPEC (Large-area, Organic & Printed Electronics Convention) is the leading international event for printed electronics. The combination of an exhibition and a conference is the perfect way to depict the complex and dynamic nature of this young industry. The online event in 2021 saw more than 1,300 attendees from 51 countries. 72 exhibitors from 14 countries were represented digitally and there were approximately 180 Conference presentations from speakers from 24 countries. LOPEC is organized jointly by the OE-A (Organic and Printed Electronics Association) and Messe München GmbH. The next event will take place from March 22 to 24, 2022. [www.lopec.com](http://www.lopec.com)

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### **Messe München**

Messe München is one of the world's leading networking platforms. In a reflection of the slogan "Connecting Global Competence," Messe München serves as a global networking platform and brings together decision makers from all parts of the world. Messe München's portfolio comprises more than 50 trade fairs for capital and consumer goods as well as new technologies that focus on the latest social issues. These trade fairs include the world-leading trade fairs bauma, BAU, IFAT and ISPO Munich. The roughly 200 events organized by Messe München each year attract about 50,000 exhibitors and 3 million visitors.

Messe München has one of the most modern exhibition grounds in the world and with its four locations in Riem, the ICM – Internationales Congress Center München, the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München, and the Conference Center Nord, is able to fulfill all its customers' requirements individually. Messe München is very successful in its domestic market in Munich as well as in other countries. It is active in all important growth markets: China, India, South Africa, Brazil, Russia and Turkey. Overall, Messe München, with its network of associated companies and foreign agencies, is present in more than 100 countries.

### **OE-A**

The OE-A (Organic and Printed Electronics Association) was founded in December 2004 and is the leading international industry association for organic and printed electronics. The OE-A represents the entire value chain of this industry. The members are world-class global companies and institutions, ranging from R&D institutes, mechanical engineering companies and material suppliers to producers and end-users. Well over 200 companies from Europe, Asia, North America, and Africa are working together to promote the establishment of a competitive production infrastructure for organic and printed electronics. The OE-A is building a bridge between science, technology, and application. The OE-A is a working group within VDMA. [www.oe-a.org](http://www.oe-a.org).