

Notice on current situation during COVID-19

To our members and partners,

We hope that you, your family and beloved ones are doing okay. In these surrealistic times where COVID-19 seems to control the world, it is important to keep communicating. Now that most of our daily lives have come to a halt, everyday life needed to be rearranged and working spaces have been moved homewards, we guess most of us now have found their modus operandi.

We also hope that you are able to limit the economic consequences that the measures of the current situation are causing. At this point it's too early to do any predictions about them but that the future will be different is certain.

PhotonicsNL is not just your partner in prosperity, in these difficult times we want to be open to your concerns. In the upcoming weeks we will be in touch with you personally to learn about the impact of corona on your business and see where we can give a helping hand.

As many others, we also had activities on our calendar that we had to cancel. Among these were an inspirational Day of Photonics with the Photonics Starters community, an interesting workshop with end users in the Healthcare sector and a special 3 stage collaboration between the Netherlands and Germany, during the Holland High Tech spring event, Hannover Messe and finally a gathering in Berlin at the beginning of June parallel to the visit of our Royal Couple.

We are for sure willing to organize these activities as soon as possible but we also want to be careful not to overfill the photonic calendar in the second half of 2020, as many postponed activities will be held in this period as well. We will carefully plan the activities virtually where possible or in real life after the summer.

This also brings us to one of our main events of the year, our DutchPhotonicsEvent. We had it planned in early September, right after summer break. Organizing this event requires a thorough planning and organization, with you but also with the location and other external parties. Unfortunately the uncertainty is too high for now. We've therefore decided to postpone the DutchPhotonicsEvent to December 2020. We will of course keep you updated about the exact date and location.

At this moment we are also talking with our German partners on collaboration during the Photonic Days of Berlin on the 7th and 8th of October, in Berlin.

For now, no travel doesn't mean we can't share knowledge and opportunities. We are making an inventory of topics that are valuable at this moment and we will find the easiest way to share these with you. Some short but insightful and informative webinars may be useful. For example on certain photonics techniques, business related topics or government measures to help you navigate through the current situation. Soon you will find more information about these in your mailbox.

For now we hope you stay healthy, keep your spirits high and we look forward to the time when current measures can be eased again.

On behalf of the board of PhotonicsNL,
Best regards,
Ron van der Kolk, Petra Wicherink