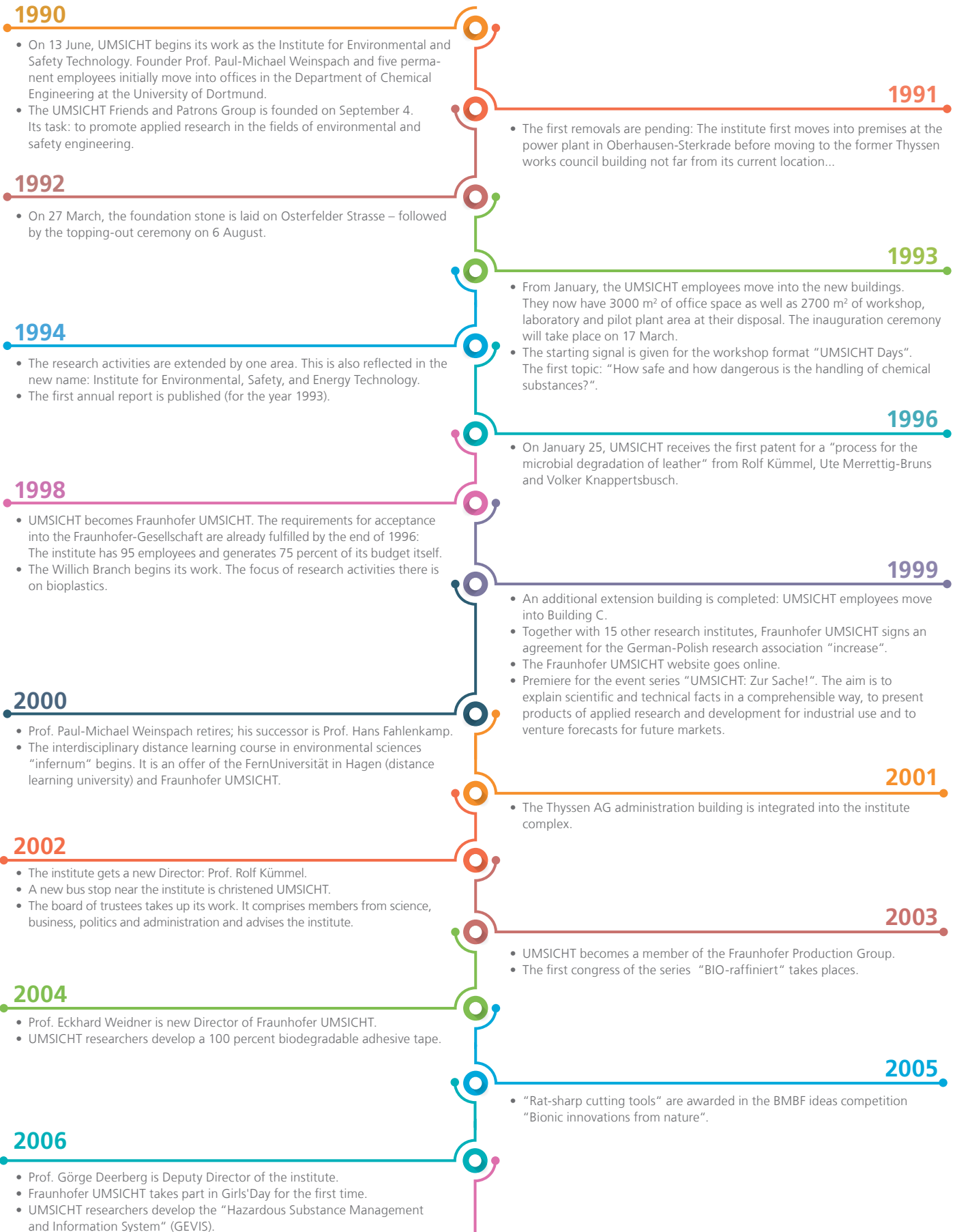


30 YEARS OF FRAUNHOFER UMSICHT – MILESTONES

From a think tank to a pioneer in a sustainable world.

A lot can happen in 30 years. A look at the history of Fraunhofer UMSICHT shows this. One example: At the time of its founding, five permanent employees worked for the institute; currently, more than 500 people work in Oberhausen, Sulzbach-Rosenberg and Willich. We look at some of the milestones in our history.



2007

- On behalf of the Federal Environment Agency, Fraunhofer UMSICHT develops an evaluation scheme that makes cost-benefit analyses in waste management comparable.
- The first "UMSICHT debate" takes place. The idea behind the event: Citizens are invited to short lectures and discussions on current topics.
- The city of Oberhausen awards Fraunhofer UMSICHT the title "Exemplary family-friendly company". Awards in 2012 and 2014 followed.
- The first sustainability report for 2008 is published.

2008

- As part of the exhibition series "46D Art and Culture at Fraunhofer UMSICHT", the institute offers artists the opportunity to exhibit their works for the first time.

2009

- The fourth building in the institute complex is inaugurated on 30 April. The former steelworks building becomes Building D.
- At UMSICHT, the first co-child office of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is inaugurated.
- The institute receives the "E.ON Research Award" and takes third place in the "BEST EXCELLENCE Business Plan Competition".

2010

- The UMSICHT Friends and Patrons Group awards the UMSICHT Science Award for the first time. It goes to Joachim Mahrholdt (category journalism), Dr. Jan Lublinski (category journalism) and Dr. Claudio Cinquemani (category science).

2011

- In cooperation with the Theater Oberhausen, Fraunhofer UMSICHT is organizing an evening program on the topics "Messer" and "Carbon Dioxide".
- The first issue of the employee magazine for:um is published.
- Helmut Geihlsler, Manfred Renner and Eckhard Weidner are awarded the "Nicolaus Augustus Otto Prize" for their developments for environmentally friendly tanning.
- The institute is named an excellent location in the "365 Landmarks in the Land of Ideas" competition for "Odor-induced recognition of critical cracks".
- The "Biogas Innovation Prize" of German agriculture is awarded to Fraunhofer UMSICHT.
- The distance learning course "infernum" is awarded as a UN Decade Project by the UNESCO Commission.

2012

- NRW Science Minister Svenja Schulze honors Fraunhofer UMSICHT as a "Place of Progress".
- The biomass pilot plant in Building G is inaugurated – parallel to the launch of the Fraunhofer Bioenergy Innovation Cluster.
- The former ATZ research institute in the Upper Palatinate becomes the institute branch Sulzbach-Rosenberg.

2013

- The concept for energy generation from residual materials is awarded the British "Climate Week Award" in the category "Best Breakthrough Technology".
- The UMSICHT team wins the "Ferchau-Innovationspreis" for the development of an innovative tanning process.
- for:um Akut is established as a new channel for internal communication.
- Fraunhofer UMSICHT is awarded the "Communication Prize of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft" for the "Annual Report for Urgent Professionals".

2014

- The first participatory citizens' festival "Innovative Citizen" takes place.
- The institute receives the VDI prize for securing raw materials for domestic industry.
- The distance learning course "infernum" is awarded the title of "Place of Progress" by the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Research of North Rhine-Westphalia.
- With the demonstration plant for the combustion and fermentation of spent grains, Fraunhofer UMSICHT and its project partners are among the prize winners of the competition "Excellent Places in the Land of Ideas".

2015

- Fraunhofer UMSICHT has its own photonics laboratory.
- The lead project "Electricity as raw material" is launched.
- The institute becomes "National Info Point on sustainable plastics".
- The research association "Sustainable recycling strategies for products and waste from biobased plastics" starts its work.
- With Maps4Use, a map atlas on topics related to the energy and raw material transition is created.

2016

- North Rhine-Westphalia receives three new Fraunhofer Performance Centers. One of them is DYNAFLEX®.
- Work begins on the joint project Carbon2Chem®.

2017

- The University of Birmingham and Fraunhofer UMSICHT are launching a joint research platform.
- Researchers from Fraunhofer UMSICHT develop a 3,2 m² bipolar plate. It enables the construction of large-scale redox flow batteries.
- The first UMSICHT electromobile is a BMW i3.
- Fraunhofer UMSICHT is included in the statewide exhibition by KlimaExpo.NRW as a pioneer in climate protection.
- The first issue of the series "UMSICHT discourse" is published. Title: "Carbon Dioxide, Biomass and Renewable Power – Resources of a New Carbon Economy".
- Dr. Manfred Renner receives the European Innovation Award EARTO for a new leather tanning process.
- Leandra Hamann is awarded the Kärcher sponsorship prize for her final thesis "Bionic filters for the separation of microplastics".

2018

- Fraunhofer UMSICHT and Turbonik GmbH receive the steel innovation prize for their micro steam turbine.
- The "UMSICHT eye" is removed from the roof of Building A.
- The Fraunhofer Cluster of Excellence Circular Plastics Economy CCPE starts its works.

2019

- A study by Fraunhofer UMSICHT improves the positive influence of artificial light on alternating shift workers.
- The Carbon2Chem® laboratory is inaugurated. In addition, a pilot plant for the production of methanol from metallurgical gases goes into operation.
- The starting signal is given for the "Industrial Innovation Excellence Cluster" (SPIN).
- Prof. Ulf-Peter Apfel is awarded the Lecturer Prize of the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie.
- The AltmarktGARTEN on the roof of the Oberhausen job center is opened.
- A worldwide unique plant for the investigation of biogenic sulphuric acid corrosion goes into operation.

2020

- The updated vision presents the institute as a "pioneer in a sustainable world" for the coming years. Fraunhofer UMSICHT develops climate-neutral energy systems, resource-efficient processes and circular products. In doing so, the institute stands for research and development with responsibility.
- Since March 17, employees have been working mainly at home due to the corona pandemic.