



Anniversary guests (from left to right): Prof. Dr. Axel Müller-Groeling, Executive Director for Research Infrastructures and Digitalization at Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Dr. Wibke Mellwig, Head of the Waterways and Shipping Department at the Federal Ministry of Transport, Prof. Dr. Carlos Jahn, Director of Fraunhofer CML, Prof. Dr. Andreas Timm-Giel, President of Hamburg University of Technology, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Uwe Clausen, Head of Fraunhofer IML, Dr. Niels Wiecker, Head of the Port and Logistics Department at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Innovation of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Anniversary

15 years of Fraunhofer CML: Innovations for the maritime sector

The Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services CML is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year. Since its founding in 2010, it has established itself as a leading research institution for innovative solutions in the maritime sector.

With a clear focus on maritime challenges, Fraunhofer CML has implemented numerous groundbreaking projects over the past decade and a half. From developing technologies for the (partial) automation of maritime shipping and optimizing port processes to digitalizing maritime supply chains, Fraunhofer CML has had a lasting impact on the industry with its forward-looking technologies and concepts.

"It is very fulfilling for me to see how Fraunhofer CML has grown from an idea into an internationally recognized research center," says Prof. Carlos Jahn, Director of Fraunhofer CML. "We are proud of what we have achieved over the past 15 years and look forward to continuing to actively shape the future of maritime logistics. I am convinced that the next years will be at least as exciting and groundbreaking as the past ones."

Looking back: Research priorities

Over the past 15 years, Fraunhofer CML has made significant progress in maritime research. The most important achievements include:

- Autonomous shipping: Development and testing of technologies for autonomous and remote-controlled ships
- Port logistics: Optimization of port processes through the use of artificial intelligence and mobile robotics
- Sustainability: Improving process efficiency in transport operations through digitalization and quantum computing

Looking ahead: technological, regulatory, and environmental challenges

Fraunhofer CML will continue to play a key role in shaping the future of the maritime sector in the coming years. With a strong focus on digitalization, automation, global supply chains, resilience, and sustainability, the team is working on solutions that strengthen the competitiveness of the maritime industry and reduce its environmental footprint.

Anniversary celebrations

The company's 15th anniversary was celebrated with an event on November 7, 2025, at its location in Hamburg-Harburg. After welcoming remarks by Dr. Wibke Mellwig, Head of the Waterways and Shipping Department at the Federal Ministry of Transport, Dr. Niels Wiecker, Head of the Port and Logistics Department at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Innovation of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Prof. Dr. Axel Müller-Groeling, Executive Director for Research Infrastructures and Digitalization at the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, and Prof. Dr. Andreas Timm-Giel, President of the Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH), there was an opportunity to experience selected demonstrations live in the modern laboratories.

The anniversary brochure with the motto “15 Years – Innovating the Maritime Sector” is available for download, as is our new video with a view into the laboratories of Fraunhofer CML.

[15 Years Fraunhofer CML: Brochure](#)

[Fraunhofer CML: A look inside the laboratories](#)





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