CEREMONIAL LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE NEW BUILDING OF FRAUNHOFER CML

More than 110 guests celebrated at the Lotsekanal

Hamburg-Harburg, 26 June 2019 - The foundation stone for the new research building of the Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services (CML) at the Lotsekanal in Harburg's inland port was laid in a festive ceremony. Welcoming speeches by the First Mayor of the Hanseatic City, Dr. Peter Tschentscher, the Fraunhofer Executive Board member Andreas Meuer, the President of the TUHH Prof. Dr. Hendrik Brinksma, the architect Stefan Tebroke of BHBVT and the head of the CML, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Carlos Jahn informed guests from politics, business, science and the neighbourhood about the project.

The successful expansion of the CML with increasing project and development tasks, correspondingly growing numbers of employees and the positive prospects for further innovations for the maritime economy and logistics already led to the decision for the new building in 2016.

From the greetings
Dr. Peter Tschentscher, First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, emphasised in his welcoming address: "The CML is a competence centre for innovative port processes and maritime logistics in general. The expansion of research activities, particularly in the areas of productivity, environment and safety, will pave the way for an independent Fraunhofer Institute and strengthen Hamburg's scientific landscape".
Andreas Meuer, board member of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, explains the significance of the new CML building for Fraunhofer as follows: "The mission of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is to build a bridge to the world of science for business, and especially for small and medium-sized enterprises as the heart of the German economy, through applied research and to keep them competitive with new technological impulses, but also to become more sustainable. In the maritime sector, the Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services (CML) here in Hamburg is our prominent example of these efforts."

And "every scientific metropolis includes institutions such as the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, because they stand for future-oriented research and development in Europe. With the Fraunhofer CML, TUHH has an excellent interface between basic university research and applied practice. The Fraunhofer CML will provide strong impetus for Hamburg’s maritime industry," says TUHH President Prof. Dr. Hendrik Brinksma.

The architect of the new building, Stefan Tebroke of BHBVT Gesellschaft für Architekten mbH, explained his thoughts on the design. "With the new Fraunhofer CML building, an emblematic structure with its own language of form is created,
which stands for the departure into a new era and the reorganization of the Harburg harbour area. The traditional material brick, on the other hand, ties in with the context and continues a Hanseatic construction method in a modern form”.

And Prof. Dr.-Ing. Carlos Jahn, head of the CML, is certain: "The new building offers the space, including outstanding research equipment, to develop innovative solutions for the urgent challenges of digitization and automation in maritime logistics, in ports, shipping and shipbuilding”.

Laying the foundation stone
After the speeches, the guests had the opportunity to enter the building site located directly next to the venue, the Fischhalle Harburg. First Mayor Dr. Peter Tschentscher and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Carlos Jahn sunk the time capsule into one of over 110 foundation piles. Afterwards all greeting speakers closed the foundation stone with a ladle of mortar and last but not least Dr. Tschentscher and Professor Jahn honked with a historical fog horn and rounded off the ceremony.

Figure 2: The time capsule is sunk (from left to right): Stefan Tebroke, architect of BHBVT, Dr. Peter Tschentscher, First Mayor of the Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Prof. Dr. Hendrik Brinksma, President of the TUHH, Christian Langfeld, Head of the Construction Department of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Prof. Dr.-Ing.Uwe
The building
The excavation pit and the heads of the foundation piles are still visible on the construction site. However, building construction will begin this year and the eight-storey building will be ready for occupancy in the second half of 2021. Then 2,400 sqm of office, laboratory and workshop space will be available for the employees of the CML, which has been based at the TUHH since its foundation. Around 90 scientists, students and administrative staff will be accommodated in the new building.

The ground floor and the first floor will house reception and event rooms. The two storeys will also be used for the spacious technology hall with access to a research pontoon on the Kaufhauskanal. The offices of the employees as well as other technical rooms and laboratories will be located on the upper floors. The communicative office arrangement in the immediate vicinity of the technical rooms and laboratories will create an innovative, creative working atmosphere.

In terms of urban planning, the brick look of the building blends in with North German architectural traditions. With its sloping surfaces and façade structure, the building itself is reminiscent of ship superstructures and, seen from the canal, of a shipyard building.

A total of €20 million has been earmarked for the project. 50% of the project’s funding will come from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), 25% from the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and 25% from the federal funds of the Fraunhofer Foundation.
FRAUNHOFER CENTER FOR MARITIME LOGISTICS AND SERVICES CML

Figure 4: Entrance perspective of the new building (© BHBVT Gesellschaft von Architekten mbH)

About Fraunhofer CML
The Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services CML develops and optimizes processes and systems along the maritime supply chain. Within practically oriented research projects, CML supports public and private sector clients of port operations and the shipping business as well as from the logistics services and ship building industry.