

Today European Spallation Source AB has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the research facility FRMII

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Colin Carlile, Director of ESS AB and Prof. Winfried Petry, Director of the FRMII research facility in Bavaria today signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The agreement covers technological collaboration, as well as scientific cooperation in order to prepare for the future scientific opportunities at ESS, notably within energy research, life sciences, nano technology and materials for the mitigation of climate change effects.

-The agreement is an important element for securing that the ESS is developed in cooperation with the leading European scientific environments, says Colin Carlile. The ESS project can find much inspiration in Heinz Maier-Leibnitz courageous thinking.

Forschungs-Neutronenquelle Heinz Maier-Leibnitz FRMII takes part in the German initiative to participate in the realisation of the ESS.

The agreement was signed, witnessed by two ministers, during a press conference today in the framework of a visit by the Bavarian Minister of Science Dr Wolfgang Heubisch to the Danish Minister of Science Charlotte Sahl-Madsen, together with several leading German scientists.

ESS will be an advanced research facility for materials and life science. It will be co-hosted by Sweden and Denmark. The main facility will be built in Lund in southern Sweden, and the ESS Data Management Centre will be built in Copenhagen, Denmark. For the Öresund region, today's agreement means that scientists in the Öresund region will get increased possibilities to cooperate with leading German scientists.

The FRMII neutron source is a research facility associated to the Technische Universität München. Over 20 German scientific organisations are partners of the FRMII, among them Forschungszentrum Jülich, the Max Planck Society, the München University Hospital and ten other universities. FRMII is used for fundamental science as well as applied science within medicine, radiography, materials and molecular analysis. It is also used for clinical diagnostics and PET scanning.



ESS IN SHORT

The European Spallation Source – the next generation facility for materials research and life science

The European Spallation Source (ESS) will be a multi-disciplinary research laboratory based on the world's most powerful neutron source. ESS can be likened to a large microscope, where neutrons are used instead of light to study materials – ranging from polymers and pharmaceuticals to membranes and molecules – to gain knowledge about their structure and function. ESS will be up to 100 times better than existing facilities, opening up new possibilities for researchers in for example health, environment, climate, energy, transport sciences and cultural heritage.

ESS is an intergovernmental project resembling CERN in Geneva, and it will be built in Lund in southern Scandinavia. At least fourteen European countries will take part in the construction, financing and operation of the ESS. Sweden and Denmark will co-host the ESS and cover 50 percent of the 1,4 B€ investment costs and 20 percent of the operating costs together with the Nordic and Baltic states.

The European Spallation Source ESS AB is a public limited company, today owned by the Swedish State. ESS AB is planning the future international ESS organisation. Building is expected to start around 2013, the first neutrons to be produced in 2019 and the facility to be fully operational around 2025.

ESS will support a user community of 5000 researchers and will have great strategic importance for the development of the European Research Area. Lund and the Malmö-Copenhagen region have excellent preconditions to attract leading scientists: several large universities, a broad research-based industry, high-quality infrastructure, an English-speaking population and world-class research capabilities in, among other areas, biotech and nano technology. Near by there will be complementary laboratories, such as the synchrotron MAX IV in Lund and XFEL and PETRAIII in Hamburg.

ESS has adopted the goal that the facility will be carbon dioxide neutral, by means of an energy conservation strategy, the use of renewable sources of electricity, and the reuse of excess heat through the Lund district heating and cooling system. ESS built in Lund will be the first large-scale scientific facility operating under this principle, and it will be a demonstration project for other future facilities.

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