

PRESS RELEASE
19th September 2014

FRANK TREPPE CHOSEN NEW VICE-PRESIDENT OF EARTO (EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATIONS)



The EARTO Steering Committee chose Frank Treppe as Vice-President of EARTO and EARTO Members have welcomed his nomination. He has taken on his seat on 11th September after receiving unanimous support from EARTO Steering Committee Members.

Frank Treppe is an Associate Member of the Board and the Director Corporate Strategy and International Affairs of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. Fraunhofer is the leading and largest technical research organisation in Germany.

Frank Treppe graduated in mechanical engineering at the Technical University (RWTH) in Aachen, Germany. He started his career at the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology in Aachen. Since then he has served in various managing positions at different Fraunhofer Institutes and companies in Germany and in the United States. Mr. Treppe was in charge for the incorporation and operation of Fraunhofer USA. As Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Fraunhofer USA, he initiated the launch of 6 Fraunhofer research centers. He also set up his own company in Michigan which later on founded together with Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft and others an additional technology marketing firm in Germany.

Today, Mr. Treppe has a wide range of domestic and international responsibilities. He is Chairman of Fraunhofer UK and Fraunhofer Chile and member of the Supervisory Board of Fraunhofer Austria and Fraunhofer Sweden. In October 2014, he will also take over the responsibilities as President of Fraunhofer USA. In addition, he serves as evaluator in the technology programs of the European Commission, and he is member of Steering Committees for several international large-scale technology projects.

He said: "I am honored to serve and support the voice of 350 European Research and Technology Organisations together with EARTO President Maria Khorsand, at a time of great challenges in Europe". He also expressed his strong conviction that EARTO will remain a key partner for EU RD&I policy-makers in Europe in the next years to come with key issues coming up soon on EU agenda.

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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATIONS

Notes to Editors

Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs) have a distinct mission and a key role in the knowledge and innovation economy: they produce, integrate and transfer science and technology to help resolve the grand challenges of society and support Europe's industrial competitiveness. RTOs occupy nodal positions within innovation eco-systems, bringing together key players across the whole innovation chain, from fundamental to technological research, from product and process development to prototyping and demonstration, and on to full-scale implementation in the public and private sectors.

EARTO is the European trade association of the research and technology organisations (RTOs), a non-profit organisation founded in 1999. EARTO groups over 350 RTOs with a combined staff of 150,000, an annual turnover of €15 billion, special equipment and facilities to a value of many € billions and more than 100,000 customers from the public and private sectors annually. [EARTO Corporate Video](#)