Fraunhofer IML closely linked to the Foundation: new members appointed to the committees

**Michael Henke and Alice Kirchheim new members of the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors of the Open Logistics Foundation**

Tuesday, 08 October 2024

**Michael Henke, Managing Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Material Flow and Logistics IML, has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Open Logistics Foundation. He takes over the position from Michael ten Hompel, who is stepping down due to retirement. Henke was previously Chairman of the Board of Open Logistics e. V. As part of the new appointment, Alice Kirchheim, Director of the Fraunhofer IML, will become a new member of the organisation's board.**

The Open Logistics Foundation and its support association Open Logistics e. V. were founded in 2021 and are independent, neutral, non-profit and commonbenefit organisations. The Foundation, based in Dortmund, is the result of an initiative by Dachser, DB Schenker, duisport, Rhenus and Fraunhofer IML. As an organisation, it is fully funded by donations and industry and is dedicated to the development of innovative open source solutions for the logistics industry and supply chain management.

As part of the growth strategy, Prof Dr Dr h. c. Michael Henke was appointed as a new trustee of the Open Logistics Foundation at a general meeting. He will support Markus Bangen (duisport) and Jakub Piotrowski (BLG), who are also members of the Board of Trustees. “As Spokesman of the Board, it was a special honour for me to support the association during its development and growth phase,” summarises Henke. “I am now delighted to succeed Michael ten Hompel on the Board of Trustees and to contribute to the positive development of the Open Logistics Foundation from there. In recent years, the Foundation has already made significant progress in the area of de facto standardisation, as the example of the digital consignment note, eCMR, shows.”

**New support for the Open Logistics e. V.**

Prof. Dr. Alice Kirchheim, Director of the Fraunhofer IML, was newly appointed to the association's board at the general meeting. She joins the board consisting of Markus Sandbrink (Rhenus), Dieter Sellner (DB Schenker) and Alexander Garbar (duisport). “The Open Logistics Foundation and open source solutions in general offer significant added value for everyone involved in logistics,” explains Kirchheim. “As the software components can be used free of charge, this not only creates synergy effects, but the collective work on the source code also makes it more robust. That's why I'm happy to volunteer for this non-profit initiative.”

Andreas Nettsträter, CEO of the Open Logistics Foundation, appreciates the valuable support from competent partners: “I am delighted that with Alice Kirchheim and Michael Henke we have two renowned figures from the world of science on our strategic committees. The Fraunhofer IML stands for future research in logistics and supply chain management like no other institute. It is fundamentally important for the Open Logistics Foundation that these developments, ideas and concepts can flow into our concrete work, inspire our other partners and broaden our horizons.”

Further information on the Open Logistics Foundation at [openlogisticsfoundation.org](https://openlogisticsfoundation.org/)

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**Image 1: Prof Dr Dr h. c. Michael Henke has been appointed as a new trustee of the Open Logistics Foundation.**

**Image 2: Prof. Dr. Alice Kirchheim is a new member of the board of Open Logistics e. V.**

**Image 3: Andreas Nettsträter, CEO of the Open Logistics Foundation.**

**About**

The Open Logistics Foundation and its supporting association Open Logistics e.V. were founded in 2021 and are independent and neutral organisations. The non-profit and commonbenefit foundation based in Dortmund is completely financed by industry partners and is dedicated to the voluntary development of innovative open source solutions at a commodity level for the logistics industry. The focus is on open and fair cooperation between different companies, which can also be competitors in the free market. The overarching goal is to solve the most pressing existing problems of the logistics and supply chain management (SCM) community with uniform standards, tools and services, based on open source.

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