

Structuring Europe's "Quantum-Landscape"

EU-Project aiming at structuring and co-ordinating Europe's „Quantum-Landscape“ initiated by the Austrian Research Centre Seibersdorf to start this month.

Vienna, February 16 2005. Europe's scientists in the field of Quantum Information and Quantum Technology are amongst the world leading groups. To stay competitive on an international level, common strategies of both funding and policy are necessary.

The Project "ERA-Pilot QIST" (Structuring the **E**uropean **R**esearch **A**rea within **Q**uantum **I**nformation **S**cience and **T**echnology) aims at structuring the rather young scientific area of "Quantum Information Science and Technology (QIST)" within Europe. Topics covered by these key words are for example quantum cryptography, quantum teleportation, quantum computer and their potential industrial applications.

As results of the project a map of European activities and excellences will be developed as well as a guideline for strategic decisions and a common vision for the future of QIST in Europe.

Networking and Co-ordination of national research programmes

The Project „ERA-Pilot QIST“ is part of the ERA-NET scheme by the European Union that provides support for the transnational networking and coordination of national research programmes.

The project is managed by its co-ordinator, the business unit Quantum Technologies at ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH. It has a duration of two years. The EU supports this effort with 850.000 Euro.

„Within the framework of the project we will contribute to the development of a European QIST-roadmap that shall show the way to achieve the leading position in QIST-research and industry for Europe“ says Dr. Christian Monyk, head of the business unit Quantum Technologies at ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH and also co-ordinator of the project.

Austria prominently represented within the project

A total of 15 participants from 10 European countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands and Slovakia) are involved in the project, forming the "steering group".

Austria has three prominent partners within this group: The Ministry of Traffic, Innovation and Technology, the ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH and the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Institute of Quantum Optics and Quantum Information, Prof. Rainer Blatt, Prof. Hans Briegel, Prof. Rudolf Grimm, Prof. Anton Zeilinger, Prof. Peter Zoller).

Thus the ERA-Pilot QIST addresses European national policy and funding organisations as well as the European Commission.

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