

Press release

250 industrialists meet in Lucerne for CSEM's third Business Day

Innovate to remain competitive

Lucerne, November 7, 2017 – For a day, Lucerne became the Swiss capital for innovation. At the invitation of CSEM, around 250 entrepreneurs and other innovators came together on the shores of Lake Lucerne to discuss Switzerland's industrial future. Organized each year, the technological research center's Business Day meets with increasing success. This year, the event was graced with the presence of Sir Konstantin Novoselov. This 2010 Nobel Prize for physics inspired the audience with his talk, which highlighted the potential of graphene – the material of the future.

CSEM's third business day, in Lucerne, focused on how to leverage microtechnology – one of Switzerland's key sectors – to enable maximum economic growth. Following the previous events in Neuchâtel and Zurich, the Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology invited the country's industrialists to central Switzerland for its annual event focused on innovation. Thanks to the support of the six cantons that make up this region, more than 15 years ago CSEM opened its first regional center at Alpnach (in the canton of Obwalden).

From the promising graphene to the digital realm

Around 250 players from the Swiss economy accepted the invitation of the Neuchâtel-based organization, whose role is to serve as a bridge between research and industry. The audience was able to discover two key aspects of technological innovation: in the morning, Sir Konstantin Novoselov, Nobel Prize for physics in 2010, explained the potential of graphene, while in the afternoon, Thomas Skordas, Director of DG Connect – the entity responsible for digital questions at the European Commission – outlined the challenges posed to Europe by digitalization.

Keeping industrial production in Switzerland

The goal of the Business Day is to bring new ideas to industry, and to present potential applications from CSEM in areas such as Industry 4.0, personalized healthcare and energy transition. This year, our organization introduced an innovation by co-facilitating the sessions with its industrial partners, which was much appreciated by the participants. Mario El-Khoury, CEO of CSEM, wanted the event to be a valuable source of inspiration for them, reminding us of his conviction that Switzerland must remain a site of industrial production so that companies and those involved in R&D can innovate by working closely together.



Sir Konstantin Novoselov,
Nobel Prize 2010, a key
speaker at the Business Day



Mario El-Khoury, CEO of CSEM



The Business Day, a meeting
point between industry and
technology

High definition pictures

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About CSEM

CSEM—Technologies that make the difference

CSEM, founded in 1984, is a research and development center (public–private partnership) specializing in microtechnology, nanotechnology, microelectronics, system engineering, photovoltaics, and communications technologies. Around 450 highly qualified specialists from various scientific and technical disciplines work for CSEM in Neuchâtel, Zurich, Muttenz, Alpnach, and Landquart.

Further information is available at www.csem.ch

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