

COMET Centre (K1)

PCCL-K1

K1-Center in Polymer Engineering and Science



>> **Main location:** Leoben, Styria

>> **Other locations:** Graz, Styria

>> **Thematic focus**

Development of functional and reactive polymers, polymer processing and surface inspection; material characterization and fracture mechanics of polymers; recycling of polymers (Circular Economy); lifetime prediction of polymer materials

>> **Planned realisation and outcomes**

Design and structuring of polymers with shape memory behavior, dynamic surface structures, virtual process optimization by numerical simulation, surface testing and image processing supported by artificial intelligence; models for the simulation of deformation and fracture behavior of polymers and composites; polymers for long-term applications under extreme conditions (e.g. in photovoltaics)

>> **History of establishment**

2002: Foundation of PCCL as Kplus competence centre; 2010-2016: first funding periods and 2017-2020: 4th call, 1st funding period as COMET centre (K1)

>> **Selected partners**

Company partners (max 10)

1. AT&S AG
2. Semperit Technische Produkte GmbH
3. SKF Sealing Solutions Austria GmbH
4. Engineering Center Steyr GmbH & Co KG
5. Krenhof AG
6. Julius Blum GmbH
7. Binder & Co AG
8. Fronius International GmbH
9. Burg Design GmbH
10. Kruschitz GmbH

Scientific partners (max 5)

1. Montanuniversitaet Leoben
2. TU Graz
3. TU Munich
4. Politecnico di Torino
5. JOANNEUM RESEARCH GmbH

International partners (max 3)

1. Aliaxis R&D S.A.S
2. Evonik Resource Efficiency GmbH
3. Neue Materialien Bayreuth GmbH

>> **Duration of the COMET Centre:** 01. 2017 – 12. 2024 (8 years)

>> **Staff employed at the Centre:** 86 FTE, thereof 67 Researchers

>> **Management of the Centre**

DI Dr. Elisabeth Ladstätter (CEO),
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Kern (CSO)

>> **Organisation**

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