HASYLAB and XFEL
This year’s HASYLAB users’ meeting will take place on January 26. Open lectures will begin at 9 h in the auditorium, the poster session follows at 15 h in the Reemtsma hall. The first XFEL users’ meeting will take place on January 24/25.

Director’s Corner
Welcome to the brand-new year 2007. I hope you have spent some recreative days and started the year well and in good health. After my retrospect in December, today I would like to look ahead. The year 2007 will probably go down in DESY history as the year of major events, among others the end of HERA operation and the beginning of construction of PETRA III and XFEL. All these events must be launched adequately, which also means in an attractive way for the public.

In January, there will be a meeting of the future XFEL users for the first time, independent of the yearly HASYLAB users’ meeting. End of May is the beginning of the International Linear Collider Workshop (30 May - 4 June). In the first half of 2007 Germany takes over the Presidency of the European Council. Since research and science will be main topics, this year’s European Conference for Research Infrastructures (ECRI) will take place in Hamburg, including at DESY (5 - 7 June).

Expected participants are the European research ministers and the EU Commissioner Potocznic. On this occasion Minister Schavan, together with her colleagues, plans to lay the XFEL foundation stone.

Strong Shoulders for PETRA III
New girder concept will give stability to the beam position

Girders look a bit like oversized horizontal t-beams. They form a solid foundation for magnets that will later direct the electron beam of PETRA III. In order to generate extremely brilliant X-ray light, the cross section of the electron beam must not exceed the size of a hair. This requires special adjustment and stabilization specifications for magnets and foundations. Thus, the magnet axes have to be accurately positioned to each other to a precision of 50 micrometers, i.e. a twentieth of a millimeter. The slightest vibration, the smallest displacement or temperature difference already cause significant disturbances.

Therefore, until the beginning of December, the new girder system has undergone extensive stability tests. The results confirmed that the new construction and assembly concept developed at DESY works. The installation of single girders in building 26 will start in spring. In about four weeks, the dipoles, quadrupoles and other components will be pre-installed on a girder. Later, in the air-conditioned experimental hall, they will be fine-tuned. A laser tracker measures the magnet axes accurately to 25 micrometers, and then the magnets on the girder are fixed with epoxy resin. Gluing the magnets to the girders means they don’t shift when the girder is moved into its final position. The total adjustment of the girder takes less than a half day. In case the girder has to be readjusted, due to a lowering of the foundations, a high-precision water level gauge will detect this immediately. The so-called micromovers are even able to compensate horizontal and vertical displacements of the girder during operation of PETRA III.

Plan of Action for 2007
Administrative Council set the course for the coming year

On its last meeting, the Administrative Council not only took some important staffing decisions (as we reported, Reinhard Brinkmann becomes new director of the M division, and Christian Scherf stays in office for another five years). The Council also assessed the cash flows of PETRA III and XFEL—with positive outcome: the project risks are known and controllable, and all the milestones will be reach. The seven-member controlling commission also considered the Technology Transfer (TT) department, whose strategy was widely appreciated. As the interface to industry, DESY-TT realizes the potential economic added value of basic research by means of cooperations, licenses or research collaborations with interested companies. The Council also approved the budget 2007.
Where to Get Rid of the Christmas Tree?
No dumping private waste at DESY

Sounds familiar? The new year has begun, the holidays are over, and you ask yourself: where do I leave my Christmas tree?

In Sweden, people allegedly throw it out of the window; in the Caribbean, the plastic tree is stored away until next Christmas; in Germany, however, a million Christmas trees have to enter the proper disposal cycle.

Whatever you do with your tree, one thing is impossible: taking it to DESY and throwing it into one of the containers. Dumping any kind of private waste at DESY is strictly forbidden. This should really go without saying. Nevertheless, it has happened several times in the past. As a circular sent in December also pointed out, this ban is valid for all DESY employees, guests and external companies. Anyone who continues to dump private waste at DESY risks a warning or even a ban for entering the DESY site.

There are a few exceptions, however: the recycling containers for clothing, paper and glass at the DESY petrol station, and the collecting point for corks at the central store. So here’s where you can get rid of the champagne corks from the New Year’s Eve party.

There are good reasons for the ban on private waste disposal. The costs for waste pickup are exploding; currently they amount to approx. 200,000 Euros per year.

There’s also the problem of dumping the wrong waste in the wrong container. This caused a fire in a container in June 2006—the material in the container ignited spontaneously because the wrong things were mixed together.

Thus, a reasonable waste separation is also important for DESY. If you have waste that was produced at work you can find appropriate containers on the DESY site. In case you are not sure how to dispose of waste professionally and where to find the corresponding containers, please ask the “security and environmental protection” department D5.

And your Christmas tree should be dumped at the nearest public tree collecting point.

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Bonne chance et à bientôt
Former DESY trainees get the chance to gain experience abroad for one year

Scientific cooperation between the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) in Grenoble and DESY has tradition. A novelty is the collaboration in the field of professional development: Since 2006, finished trainees of all branches have the opportunity to breathe some maintain air, learn different work routines and brush up their French. In short: they can spend a year working at the lightsource ESRF.

Anja Sandmann, former trainee of the Zeuthen mechanical workshop, is the pioneer. Since June last year, she has been working at the synchrotron radiation facility in France. There is no doubt that she has the required qualifications for this employment abroad. In 2004 she was awarded by the Cottbus chamber of commerce and industry as best of the year of the industrial mechanics trainees.

The opportunity to work abroad for one year is a unique chance for those who have recently completed their training and would like to acquire additional qualifications and gather valuable work experience abroad.

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