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Plenary Talk

Laser-driven Inertial Confinement Fusion – Technology and Potential

In 2022 Laser-driven inertial confinement fusion achieved a groundbreaking scientific milestone: generating more energy from a laser-driven fusion reaction than delivered by the lasers to start it. This talk will give an overview over the latest results and the challenges on the way towards a fusion power plant. Successful realization will require a vivid fusion innovation eco system supported by political leadership, industry and institutional research.

About the Speaker

Prof. Haefner is Managing Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Laser Technology ILT since 2020, Full Professor & Chair of Laser Technology at RWTH Aachen, and former Director of the Advanced Photon Technologies Program, National Ignition Facility & Photon Science Directorate at Lawrence Livermore National Lab., US. He is a renowned expert in advanced high-energy laser science and technology, particularly in Inertial Confinement Fusion applications, where he has made pioneering contributions.