

Know Before You Go – Important Information for

Thermal and Environmental Barrier Coatings VI Conference

June 14, 2022

To: Participants in the THERMAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER COATINGS VI Conference
From: Barbara K. Hickernell, ECI Executive Director

On behalf of Engineering Conferences International and the conference chairs, **Brian Hazel, Uwe Schulz, Michael Maloney, Robert Vassen** and **Ram Darolia**, we are looking forward to your participation in this conference. **Ram Darolia** will represent the ECI Conferences Committee and I (**Barbara Hickernell**) will be the ECI on-site staff. This note conveys several items that need to be brought to your attention.

CONFERENCE CENTER INFORMATION:

Kloster Irsee (Swabian Conference Center), Klosterring 4, D-87660 Irsee, Germany
Phone: +49-83-41-90-600 - Fax: +49-83-41-74-278 – Email: info@kloster-irsee.de;
Website: www.kloster-irsee.de

You will receive electronic copies of the program and abstracts this week.

Please pay special attention to the highlighted information regarding our approach to precautions for your safety during the Covid-19 pandemic.

For those arriving from outside Germany, we suggest that you visit both your airline's website and that of the German government for the latest Covid-19 testing requirements for those entering Germany. This is important as the regulations are changing frequently and are different in each EU country. What I write today may not be in effect tomorrow.

If your return destination requires you to have a negative Covid test prior to boarding the plane, we strongly suggest that you purchase an e-med test kit so that you can have a certified test done at your convenience in the timeline required. (The US no longer requires a negative Covid test but this regulation will be in review should the number of infections increase dramatically.)

Our community thrives by engaging with each other face-to-face but we wish to be safe in doing so. Thus, safety is our first priority. We cannot make guarantees but we can assure you that ECI will strictly follow the health and safety guidance of health authorities, consult best practices in the meetings community, and try to provide as "normal" a conference as possible during these circumstances.

Prior to registering, all conference participants and their guests submitted proof of full vaccination and agreed to properly wear masks (except when giving a presentation or actively eating or drinking) and to social distance. As the latest version of the virus is highly contagious, we ask you – but cannot force you – to wear your mask in close indoor settings. Your conference material will include a KN95 mask and the ECI staff has access to additional ones should you need them.

We've limited the number of participants and our room sets will be structured to allow for the physical separation of participants. Please employ social distancing in informal settings. The cleaning and sanitation at Kloster Irsee is robust.

We suggest that you bring at least one home test kit with you. Should you feel unwell at any time during the conference, please test yourself. If you test positive, please let us know immediately and stay in your room. We will notify the hotel. In addition, if you test positive once you arrive home, please contact us so that we may inform fellow participants.

As we respect your privacy, we will dispose of your vaccination information/official identification and mobile phone number after the meeting. The reverse side of your name badge (distributed at the conference) is where we suggest that you place emergency contact information.

SOME PRACTICAL REMARKS FROM UWE SCHULZ

1. In Bavaria the FFP-2 mark KN95 is still mandatory in all trains and buses.
2. If people travel by public transportation and do not use fast trains such as ICE or IC, Germany does have in June, July and August a special offer: A 9 euro ticket that covers all rides all over Germany. It can be used in any S-bahn, RE-train, RB train, buses, etc. It is valid for the whole month and can be used for as many trips as you want and can be purchased in any ticket machine, online or at the ticket counter. For instance, it can be used from Munich Airport to Kaufbeuren and can save you money that you can use to buy a good beer.

TRANSPORTATION FROM MUNICH:

Kloster Irsee (Swabian Conference and Educational Center at Irsee) is nestled in the Alpine Foreland of the Allgäu. It is located near Munich and is easily reached by rail or road. For those traveling from the airport by train, we suggest that you purchase your ticket at the Deutsche Bahn booth at the airport. (You can check times on line prior to departure.) They will give you printed instructions. Take the S-Bahn in the direction of Herrsching. You will exit at the München-Pasing station (further than the Hauptbahnhof – main station). From Pasing there are through trains to Kaufbeuren (about an hour ride). The rate is approximately **33 €** one way. In front of Kaufbeuren Station there is a taxi stand. The fees will amount to approximately **25 €** for the 8 km ride to the conference center. (Note – the taxi prices are estimates from previous conferences; we have not been able to confirm actual taxi prices.)

For those traveling from the Munich airport by auto, you can check an online map service such as Google maps before you leave for the conference, or once at the airport, the rental car representative will give you a map and direct you to take the autobahn – A96 - in the direction of Lindau. This road will take you toward Irsee. Take the Bad Worishofen exit (#2) Exit 22 merge onto B-12 toward Jengen/Kaufbeuren/Kempten/Marktoberdorf. Take local roads OAL6/OAL26/KFS26 (local route 16). Follow the road until you reach a traffic circle where you will see signs to Irsee and the Swabian Conference Center, called "Schwabisches Bildungszentrum". Follow the road back for approximately 3 km and pull into the parking area for the conference center.

ATM: If you are arriving at the Munich airport, there are ATMs located throughout the airport; however, the most convenient ones are just outside of baggage claim/customs. There are also ATMs in Irsee and in Kaufbeuren.

WEATHER: You can check Irsee weather at weather.com. The long-term forecast calls for cooler daytime weather with showers and chilly nights, so come prepared with a jacket and umbrella.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: Registration will be open from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm in Room 102. At 6:00 pm we will gather in the garden of Kloster Irsee where a keg of beer awaits us until the BBQ dinner begins at 7:00. For those who attended the last conference, you may remember the band "BauernStreichwurst" who entertained us at the banquet. By popular demand, they will provide music for our return to Irsee. After dinner we expect to continue discussions in the garden.

SPEAKERS: We expect that all presentations will use PowerPoint and we will have a computer projector as well as a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick for loading onto the ECI computer. If you plan to use a Mac computer, please bring the necessary adapters. **Kristyn Ardrey** is our graduate student who will be collecting your presentations and generally assisting you.

Be sure that you provide your session chair with a *brief* biography for introductions.

It is essential to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time (allowing at least 5 minutes for questions/discussion). Keeping in the tradition of these conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social hours are perfect for discussion and questions.

POSTER PRESENTERS: The poster board size is 1 Meter Wide x 1.5 meter High. Your poster does not have to be exactly this size but needs to fit within the provided space.

Guidelines for preparing a poster is available [HERE](#).

MISCELLANEOUS: The following are a few housekeeping items:

- If you have special dietary needs (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you have not already informed us of when you registered, please make sure we are made aware of them during registration. The buffets at Kloster Irsee offer excellent vegetarian options.
- Dress: ECI conferences are casual. We discourage suits and ties.
- ECI does not make pre/post conference reservations - that is the responsibility of the participant. There is a pre/post conference registration [form](#) posted on the [conference website](#). Send [this](#) directly to the hotel.
- Audio, still photo and video recording by any device (e.g., cameras, cell phones, laptops, PDAs, watches) is strictly prohibited during the technical sessions, unless the author and ECI have granted prior permission.
- Smoking is not allowed at any conference function.
- ECI will electronically distribute a conference evaluation/questionnaire on Thursday. Please complete and return it, as your comments are valuable to the current chairs, the future chairs in the series, and ECI.
- Guests/Accompanying Persons: If you bring a guest at the last moment, you must first see the ECI staff at check-in, pay for your guest, and then give the ECI proof of payment to the hotel.
- Internet – There is wireless Internet access.
- Local Hiking/Walking Trails - As you will see when you arrive, there are many walking paths for your enjoyment. Kloster Irsee reception has maps of several suggested walking/hiking/jogging trails and the map is also available on the conference website.
- Excursion: On Thursday, we offer the option of a guided tour of the local walled town of Kaufbeuren. For those who would like to participate, there is a public bus to Kaufbeuren leaving the bus stop at Irsee at 2:02 pm or there is a walking trail for those who prefer to get some exercise. (Both the bus schedule and map are on the conference website.) Otherwise, taxis can be organized. The two guides will meet us at the bus station “Plarrer” at 3 pm.

If you are having transportation difficulties and will be a late arrival, please either email me (barbara@engconfintl.org) or call/text my cell phone (+1-914-484-7349).

Have a safe trip and enjoy the conference!