

ATROPINE – Fast Track to the Physical Internet

The Physical Internet facilitates the transport of the future. Material will flow analogous to data in the digital internet. This open logistics system is based on physical, digital and operative connectivity. Participants follow standardized protocols and use specific interfaces and modules. In ATROPINE Upper Austrian researchers and industry partners join forces to design a Physical Internet model region.

Logistikum researchers are international pioneers for promoting the vision of the Physical Internet. The project core team of the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria therefore designs a 'Physical Internet Innovation Chain' for the economic region. The goal of the research project ATROPINE is to bring regional businesses and especially all participating logistics partners on a 'Fast Track to the Physical Internet'. Furthermore, the project team works in close cooperation with the European technology platform ALICE, the 'Alliance for Logistics Innovation through Collaboration in Europe'. The members of the platform develop a comprehensive strategy for research, innovation and market deployment of logistics and supply chain management innovation.

The ATROPINE project team closely cooperates with the founder of the Physical Internet Prof. Benoit Montreuil, Chair of Material Handling & Distribution at GeorgiaTech University (Atlanta/USA), as well as other renowned researchers all over the globe. In an applied R&D project with more than 15 regional logistics service providers and core industry partners the ATROPINE team is testing several prototypes, such as the so-called 'smart transport units' that are able to communicate with transport means and or material handling devices.

The ATROPINE project team furthermore designs a business models which supports the idea of a sharing economy). A major economic benefit of the Physical Internet is that it supports the development of more efficient and effective business models for logistics by sharing assets.

Through the ATROPINE project Upper Austrian businesses have the opportunity to be amongst the first to get to know new technologies, products and solutions in the Physical Internet research and business area. The project findings will show how companies can optimize transport costs through cooperation and how they can simultaneously increase productivity. Ecological benefits result from reducing the consumption of energy and resources and prevent pollution by lowering greenhouse gas emissions.



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Contact:

Prof. Dr. Oliver Schauer

Tel: +43 5 0804 33224

Email: oliver.schauer@fh-steyr.at

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