

BRIEF PORTRAIT

RESEARCH, TESTING, CERTIFICATION.

Fogra Research Institute for Media Technologies conducts scientific research in the field of printing and media technology and presents the results in a form industry can use. To this end the institute has about 50 staff members including engineers, chemists and physicists.



Fogra

We are scientifically rigorous, independent and trustworthy

We are a not-for-profit organization that is not in competition with the members of the printing and media industry. Our international membership is made up of small, medium-sized and large companies from across the entire spectrum of the industry, from producers of printed and electronic media to equipment manufacturers.

One goal unites us: to pursue industry-related research with passion and commitment. We all share the ambition and conviction that as a not-for-profit association it is our duty to pursue research not for its own sake but for its practical application. We search for solutions for industry and in many cases we have been involved in the development of many forward-looking and globally acknowledged process and quality inspection standards. Our capital consists of a massive and constantly expanding body of knowledge combined with a high degree of technological expertise and a detailed understanding of current developments. We offer media companies an expert network and support them in making their adjustments to structural change. In doing so we want to stimulate the opening up of new areas of business and to ensure that the industry is properly configured for the future.

Structure

Members

Around 900 members from more than 50 countries

Technical Committees

- Prepress
- Offset Printing
- Digital Printing
- Packaging & Print finishing
- Materials & Environment
- Security Applications

Executive Committee

- Stefan Aumüller, Chairman
Aumüller Druck GmbH & Co. KG
- Markus Appl, Deputy Chairman
appl druck GmbH & Co. KG
- Dr Bernhard Buck
Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG
- Reinhard Plaschka
Giesecke + Devrient Currency Technology GmbH
- Dierk Schröder, Treasurer
Kroha GmbH
- Josef Schießl
Süddeutscher Verlag Zeitungsdruck GmbH

Institute & Managing Director

Dr Eduard Neufeld



Research, testing and certification are activities that require custom-designed working areas with the latest in laboratory equipment. We have created the ideal setting with our building located in East Munich, officially opened in 2017.



Fogra stands for the highest expertise in research, testing and certification. Those obtained knowledge is made available to the industry through publications and events. Furthermore we actively contribute to the work of international standardisation committees. That's for us knowledge transfer in action.

We are the research institute for the printing and media industry.

We are the only not-for-profit, globally recognized research institute covering the full range from prepress to print finishing and from materials & environment to security applications.

Research

The success of our activities is crucially dependent upon a careful selection of research topics. Advice regarding Fogra's research programme is provided in the Technical Committees and the Executive Committee, that, in accordance with the statutes, determines the research programme. The Technical Committees are the heart of Fogra. It is on these Committees that the scientific direction of the institute is formulated by offering current projects the benefits of industry experience and discussing new research projects. They perform a creative and a supervisory function and, at the same time, help the institute to stay close to industry and embody the joint research approach.

The topics of our research projects are as diverse as the companies in the SME printing industry. In addition to future topics such as digitisation, artificial intelligence, 3D printing and security technologies, Fogra continues to research the fundamentals of conventional printing technologies.

Every year, Fogra works on around 20 research projects and completes about 10 of them. Making this knowledge available to the industry is one of Fogra's central tasks.

Testing

We see ourselves as a modern service provider that carries out inspections tailored to the industry's needs, that advises companies on questions of quality and that mediates in technical disputes. The field of application ranges from customer specific requests to standardised laboratory measurements. The results gained from research projects often lead to new test equipment and control elements (e.g. Fogra MediaWedge), that are both essential components for industry.

Fogra also tests items of everyday life. In its accredited laboratory Fogra tests the anti-counterfeiting of documents, banknotes and packaging as well as the resistance of identity cards, driving licences and bank cards to various external influences (e.g. UV radiation or mechanical, chemical and climatic stresses). In fact, Fogra has the world's only testing laboratory that is accredited for all identity card tests.

Certification

Our standardized FograCert testing programme for materials, products and production processes guarantees safety whilst processing the materials, high-quality products and reliable manufacturing processes. A Fogra certificate confirms a service is fit for purpose. We can also certify staff expertise.

The highly demanded FograCerts are based on current research results and standards and serve to document the high quality level of our members and customers both internally and externally. Examples include certification according to ProcessStandard Offset or Digital. Internationally, we are supported by "Fogra partners" who have gained and proved knowledge during Academy training. This enables us to offer FograCerts worldwide at comparable conditions.



Experience and knowledge: Each of Fogra's staff members became very proficient in the testing and certification services through their involvement in research, is a genuine expert in his or her field and has extensive experience of giving lectures or training courses.

Research results need to be published to give them life and relevance in practice.

Knowledge transfer

We pass on what we have learned to industry because knowledge transfer is a matter of course for us as a research institute. Fogra is your excellent source of knowledge and expertise. We make it available to the industry through training, symposia and other specialist events through which we promote and support the discussions of themes that are key for the future. A large number of companies use our events for the professional development of their employees.

Fogra is increasingly expanding its online services. In addition to the "Colour Management Café", at which experts talk about current colour management topics every month, Fogra successfully introduced the innovative, digital training concept "Fogra Web Academy" in 2020. It complements the long established seminars of the "Fogra Academy".

Committees and standardization

Fogra is represented on various standardisation committees, where it actively protects and promotes its members' interests. Two of Fogra's staff members lead for example work groups of the TC 130 (Technical Committee - Graphic Technology), the International Standardization Organisation (ISO) committee responsible for the print and media industry. International experts from the fields of prepress, printing, materials, print finishing and climate neutrality meet regularly. "ISO News" offers an up-to-date overview of all the relevant developments for the printing industry.

Financing and funding

The current budget is approximately €4.5 million. About 20% of this is made up of membership fees. Fogra has about 900 members. About two third of them are graphic art businesses operating in fields ranging from prepress through to bookbinding, while the remaining third are suppliers. About 50% of the members are based outside Germany.

Our research projects receive public funding from the Federal government and the EU, with the largest portion being provided by the IGF programme for the funding of joint industrial research together with the ZIM programme designed to promote innovation in medium-sized enterprises. Both of these programmes are supported by the BMWi, the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, and are administered by the AIF, the body that coordinates the work of research associations. These research grants account for roughly 30%.

About 40% of the revenues are generated from other Fogra activities (testing and certification services, events). The remaining revenues are made up of donations (usually equipment or materials for research purposes) and other receipts.



WE ARE FOGRA
Just scan the code and get an insight view of us, our labs and activities in the video.

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OUR GOAL IS YOUR GAIN.

The Fogra Web Academy delivers up to the minute training focusing on either the Fundamentals of printing and media technology or a Special industry topic.

We give you tips & tricks for daily practice, show you how to work more efficiently through standardization and much more. All this at the convenience from your home or workplace with a unique concept based on direct interaction and dialogue. If interested you can complete our online courses with a "Fogra Graduate" qualification.

REGISTRATION:

WWW.FOGRA.ORG/EN/FOGRA-WEB-ACADEMY

30% discount for
Fogra members.

Fogra

**Web
Academy**