



## Christopher Lang

*Deputy Director, Representation of the Free State of Saxony to the European Union*



Christopher Lang is Deputy Head of the Representation of the Free State of Saxony to the European Union. At the Saxony State Representation, he is responsible for issues relating to the Saxony Ministry of Economic Affairs, particularly those related to industry and technology. Christopher Lang completed his studies in political science in Mainz and Cork with a Master of Arts degree. Before coming to Brussels, Christopher Lang worked for German state governments in Mainz and Berlin. His work currently focuses on measures to increase the competitiveness of the European Union and the contribution of the regions



## Ylber Azemi

*Project Manager, VDE ETG / Mobility*



Ylber Azemi is Project Manager for Mobility and a consultant at the Energietechnische Gesellschaft (Energy Technology Society) within the VDE. He is in charge of the VDE study “Germany as an Automotive Location in 2035” and the funding projects ELSTA (Promoting Electromobility through Standardization) and BiFlex-Industry.

Previously, he supported the introduction of new electric drives in China as Strategic Management Support at Bosch. As a member of the Ad Hoc Group on Standardization in the Expert Group on Transformation of the Automotive Industry (ETA) of the former German federal government, he worked intensively on standardization projects, particularly in the area of bidirectional charging and reported regularly the current status of standardization to the BMWK. Ylber Azemi has a master's degree in industrial engineering with a focus on mechanical engineering.



## Eric Fribourg-Blanc

*Senior Programme Officer, Chips Joint Undertaking*

Eric Fribourg-Blanc is Senior Programme Officer at the tripartite European partnership Chips since 2019. He holds an Engineering degree from Ecole Centrale de Lille in 1997 and PhD from Université Hainaut-Cambrésis in 2003 with specialisation in semiconductor technologies and functional materials.

He has worked for 11 years with CEA-Leti in France. He has studied in Japan and has experience working in Japan and Vietnam for 5 years. From 2015 to 2018 he worked on various policy files at the European Commission, covering the strategy for electronics, IPCEI and state aid issues. At the Chips Joint Undertaking he is notably managing the APECS pilot line under the Chips for Europe Initiative.



## Sigurd Schuster

Project Officer, Board of VDE ITG



Sigurd Schuster qualified as Engineer in Electronics and Electrical Engineering at Munich Technical University, where he also made his MBA. In 1984, he began his career in Siemens' Corporate Research as a Strategic R&D Planning consultant. From 1987 onwards, he held various management positions in the company's communications businesses in R&D and International Sales, before he was sent to Madrid in 1995 to build up and lead Siemens' Mobile Networks Division in Spain. From 1999 until 2007, Sigurd Schuster was responsible for the global Product Portfolio Management for Siemens' Mobile Networks, then for the Strategy Development for Siemens' Fixed Networks, and finally for the Strategic Portfolio Management for Siemens' Communications, directly reporting to the Group CTO.

With the creation of Nokia Siemens Networks (since 2014 Nokia Networks), Sigurd Schuster served from 2007 onwards as Head of Technology for one of the company's largest customers, a globally active communication networks operator. From 2010 to 2016, he worked for the company's CTO again and was globally responsible for technology strategy, innovation management, and operations of the company's research, standards, and IPR unit. From 2017 to 2023, he represented Nokia in selected activities and institutions in the German ICT ecosystem.

Since 2019, Sigurd Schuster is active as an independent management consultant.

In the German ICT ecosystem, he was member of the Board of VDE ITG (VDE's Information Technology society) from 2018 through 2020. Since 2021, he is project officer and supports various strategic initiatives of VDE ITG. He also is an active member of the prestigious MÜNCHNER KREIS, where he was board member from 2016 to 2019, and he led the German Broadband Initiative from 2011 to 2018.



## Cinzia Missiroli

*Director Standardization, Deputy Director General, CEN CENELEC*



Since July 2017, Ms Cinzia MISSIROLI has been the Director Standardization of CEN and CENELEC, two of the European Standardization Organizations officially recognized by the European Union. Her multifaceted role encompasses management, strategic and analytical functions in support to the development and delivery of state-of-the-art (smart) Standards. Cinzia also manages relationships with key players within the CEN-CENELEC community *inter alia* Members, Partner organizations and relevant European and international institutions. Since January 2025, Cinzia's responsibilities have been enlarged, with her appointment as Deputy Director General. In her new function, she assists the Director General in the delivery of strategic objectives and in managing specific operations activities.

Before holding her current position, Cinzia has worked for CEN for two decades, in charge of sectors as various as Consumer Products, Nanotechnologies, or Accessibility. From 2012, heading the 'Sustainability & Services' Unit, she closely followed horizontal topics such as Smart activities, Energy, Environment, Ecodesign, Services, (Cyber)security and Privacy.

Cinzia holds a master's degree in political science and international Relations (University of Bologna - Italy), complemented by several certificates in European Union's external relations and policies, as well as strategic management. Apart from native Italian, she fluently speaks English and French.



## René Schröder

*Director General, European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA)*



René Schröder is currently working as the Director-General of the European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA). He has significant and extensive experience in association management and policy work, including several industry associations such as the Association of European Automotive and Industrial Battery Manufacturers (EUROBAT), the European Waste Management Association (FEAD), and the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic). Mr Schröder holds a Master's degree in European studies from the College of Europe and a Master's in Political Science and History from the University of Rostock, Germany.



## Prof. Dr. Christoph Kutter

*Director, Fraunhofer Institut EMFT*



Christoph Kutter is currently Vice President of the VDE (Association for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies), a member of acatech (National Academy of Science and Engineering) and the BBAW (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences BBAW). From 1995 to 2012, Christoph Kutter held various management positions at Infineon Technologies AG and Siemens AG, including Head of Communications Product Development, Head of Chip Card Development and Head of Central Research. Christoph Kutter was responsible for several central improvement projects to increase efficiency in research and development as well as for the management of the company-wide innovation initiative.

From 1990 to 1995, Christoph Kutter worked as a research assistant at the High Magnetic Field Laboratory (Max Planck Institute for Solid State Physics) in Grenoble, France. Christoph Kutter received his Dipl. Phys. from the Technical University of Munich and his Dr. rer. nat. from the University of Constance in 1995.

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