

press release ZG-2105, Wenden, 06.08.2021



Zoz Workshop in Albania – the story continues.

Nanostructured materials & technology from Wenden

e.g. for a booming construction industry, e.g. for herbal resources - bioeconomy.

Workshop in Tirana full success, again State-President Meta visited.

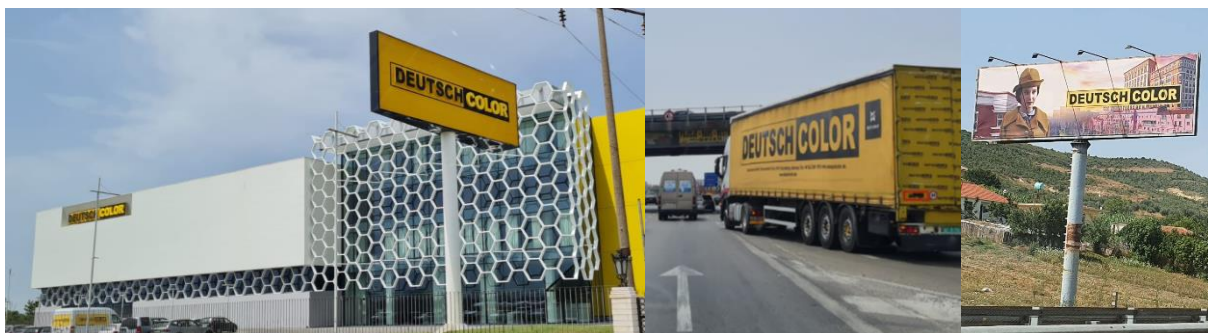
Trends in Nanotechnology Int. Conference (TNT2021), October 04-08, 2021

For background and technological details, see ZG-2104, 14.07.2021.

Wenden/Tirana/Vlora

For the second time within 3 weeks, 4x Zoz traveled to Albania, so for the second time at all. This is what you do particularly once you feel comfortable and welcome. And this is what it was again from 28.07.-04.08.2021. Discussions with politics and business as well as on Monday the half-day workshop at the Academy of Sciences, agreed at the beginning of June, were on schedule this time.

The feeling of well-being already lands on the airplane with the passengers, it is always the people who are important. Continuing with the shuttle traffic from the airport, you can read that Germans and Germany enjoy a very high priority in Albania, otherwise such advertisements would not be seen everywhere:



The company DeutschColor is also on Zoz' Albania agenda, the focus is on nanostructured pigments and ductile metal flakes, particularly the zinc flake coating - Zoz|CP301 (zinc-rich corrosion protection), however this is not that far yet.

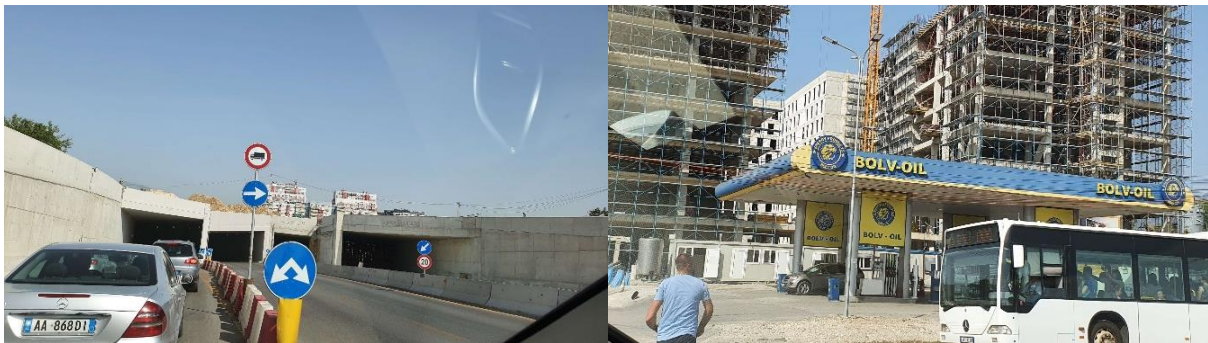
No Corona-panic in Albania.

In Albania, fortunately, health is also very important, there is no mask requirement nor quarantine and Albania is not a corona risk area (!!!), people live their lives. The advice from the German Foreign Office on a night curfew in Albania is wrong. The misinformation may be found here:

https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ausssenpolitik/laender/albanien-node/albaniensicherheit/216248#content_0

Albania is fully different.

Just as incorrect is the predominant image of Albanians and Albania in Germany. This time, too, friendly people, a consistently better road condition than in Germany and a miles ahead standard with respect to digitization, shaped the impressive pictures for the travelers.



Two of the numerous major construction sites in Tirana # 29.07.2021

There are pedestrian traffic lights that are equipped with LED light strips from top to bottom, free urban WiFi in Tirana and an amazing construction boom, at least in the cities of Vlora and Tirana, which have again been visited. About 14 days ago, a 28.7 km long bypass road from Levan (Fier) to Vlora over and through the mountain ridges was opened to traffic, still two short and "difficult" sections of the route are single-lane.



View down on Flora from the brand new bypass road, partly still single-lane, # 01.08.2021

Ministry for Infrastructure and Energy

On Thursday, the day after arrival, Zoz visited the Minister for Infrastructure and Energy, Belinda Balluku, together with Prof. Korpa and a whole support team. In addition to the core topics of "modern building materials and municipal clients", there was also an exchange about energy economy, which in Germany is increasingly approaching the supply-critical level. Minister Balluku explained that Albania produces almost all electricity from so-called renewable energies, meaning fossil-free energy generation.

In this country, waste incineration plants are operated, which correctly should be included in such calculation, other than this, there is in fact only one power plant with fossil incineration (TEC in Vlora). Fossil fuels are also burned in three cement plants Titan/Antea Cement in Borizane, Fushe Kruja Cement in Fushe Kruja and Elbasan Cement in Elbasan, where also the KURUM steelworks is located.

Right here, in this case in cement and steel industry, Zoz technology as well as the workshop on Monday comes in for enabling the savings of enormous amounts of CO2 in a cost-neutral manner. If one believes in such corresponding effect, then that would be a good thing.

According to Minister Balluku, the main goal of current government policy is to build a first or further coal or gas power plant as soon as possible in order to be able to control fluctuating energy requirements quickly, as this is (still) done in Germany at present.

From Friday to Saturday, a suitable coastal property was sought for the planned location of Zoz Sailing in Albania, where a boathouse made of FuturBeton shall provide the first demonstrator (see ZG-2104).

Ministry of the Protection of Private Businesses

The naming of ministries says a lot about political priorities in a country. Having said so, we went back to Tirana on Sunday. In the evening, the reunion with Prof. Korpa (Uni Tirana, former University of Siegen/Germany) and Prof. Mercoki (Academy of Sciences, NanoAlb) to meet Eduard Shalsi, Minister for the Protection of Private Businesses, talking about Zoz plans in Albania. Also the two Albanian parliamentarians Besnik Baraj and Vasilika Hysi joined. Mrs. Hysi was deputy speaker of parliament and might very soon be met as a professor of law like Mr. Baraj in the chemistry faculty. The two members of the Berlin Parliament, Gunnar Lindemann and Frank Schermesser had already arrived in Tirana the day before, following Zoz' enthusiasm and invitation for and to Albania. Zoz was also looking forward to welcome Richard Gretzinger, who unfortunately got stuck at the Berlin airport, but will very well coordinate the support by the SME companies forum, the humanitarian commission is always taken care by Mda Lindemann.



f.l.t.r.: MP Besnik Baraj, Minister Eduard Shalsi, Prof. Merkoci, Zoz, MP Vasilika Hysi (in front), Mda Frank Scheermesser (behind), Prof. Korpa and Mda Gunnar Lindemann. Richard Gretzinger (Mittelstandsforum) was missing.



Workshop NanoAlb & Construction Industry (FuturZement|FuturBeton)

Monday morning, the workshop started in the academy's premises. Prof. Merkoci, as the director of NanoAlb, welcomed and opened, Minister Shalsi and Mda Lindemann provided an address for Albania and Germany respectively and Zoz then for about an hour explained nanostructure technology from Wenden to almost 40 participants from business, education and politics. Short lectures by the academy followed later to identify the potential that already exists here.

Particularly Prof. Korpa reported on his own work, very closely related to the subject of FuturZement|FuturBeton. Direct hit - since after all, right after the bridge Rosenthal was built years ago at Olpe/Germany, he visited the Zoz Technology Center (ZTC), also located at Olpe.



Inauguration Monday morning at the Academy in Tirana, Zoz and Merkoci on the podium.

On Monday also the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Milva Ekonomi, attended. She was particularly interested in the Dandelion project (alternative natural rubber made from Dandelion Taraxacum), in which Fraunhofer-IME and Zoz cooperated for many years, particularly at the ZTC in Olpe. The result has been acquired by a large autotire manufacturer, continuing operation. For further exchange, Ekonomi and Zoz agreed to meet at the academy dinner again.



f.l.t.r.: Bledar Kola (behind, sectioned), Minister Shalsi, Bledar Mankollari (behind), Prof. Gjinushi, Minister Milva Ekonomi, Mda Frank Scheermesser, Prof. Korpa (hidden), MP's Hysi and Baraj.

Time unfortunately has been tight, Zoz thereupon could briefly talk with Bledar Mankollari, Managing Director of the German Industry and Trade Association in Albania (DIHA) and with Bledar Kola, Manager at Titan-Antea Cement SH. A. Very soon reunion guaranteed. From Harum Sarica, manager at Kurum Steel Factory in Elbasan, Zoz received 2x 5kg steelworks slag, which will be examined for suitability to be utilized in FuturZement by super-activation in the coming weeks at ZTC in Germany. Both granulate containers could be checked-in at Deutsche Lufthansa without any problems on presenting an MSDS document, which insofar has been surprising.



Kurum steelworks in Elbasan # 01.08.2021, the view reminds to Hüttental (steelmill-valley) at Siegen many years back.

Lunch with the President

For the second time within 4 weeks, Zoz was invited by the Albanian President Ilir Rexhep Meta, this time in Tirana and this time for lunch. The president you don't keep waiting, thus time was running out in the morning. Zoz' polite request for bringing along his wife Katharina b. Heinz, skeleton world champion from Siegen, as well as the two youngest children, resulted in President Meta to also bring his wife Monika Kryemadhi, member of parliament and chairwoman of the socialist integration movement as well as their son.



Lunch at Tirana, 02.08.2021, 3x Presidential Family and 4x Zoz Family.

Likewise, Zoz had requested to bring along initially three and then the remaining two „colleagues“ from Germany as well as Jona and Lea Katzner from the support team. Like Prof. Korpa, the ladies joined the meeting at Dürres 3 weeks before. It is Prof. Korpa, who is responsible for the contact. In the end it became quite a large lunch-group, including the head of the presidential cabinet, Edmond Panariti:



f.l.t.r.: Jona Katzner, 4x Zoz, Gunnar Lindemann, President Meta and son (in front), Frank Scheermesser, Lea Katzner, Monika Kryemadhi, Edmond Panariti und Prof. Korpa (in front), at the Sofra e Ariut restaurant (Bear-table).

Major points of discussion were Zoz' plans in Albania, which had matured further since the first meeting, and in some cases associated with those, the fundamental problems in both countries and how one can support each other at best. Subject was not only setting the base for Zoz (technology) in Albania, but also school plans, students exchange and social cooperation. How to correct the image of Albania in Germany and how to optimize the image of Germany in Albania.

President Meta wishes Zoz and companions, wishes the Germans and wishes Germany all the best in successfully coping the current politically and socially precarious situation.

President Meta confirmed for the second time that he wants to visit Zoz in Germany, his wife Monika Kryemadhi wishes to accompany and take part in an event organized by the SME companies forum.

Once again a very pleasant conversation with professional, very pleasant and impressive personalities.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Bioeconomy.

After interim strategy discussions, the day almost non-stop moved on to dinner, to which Prof. Gjinushi, President of the Academy of Sciences, had kindly invited. Zoz was particularly grateful that the meeting on short notice has been relocated to the Zoz family's hotel, otherwise the schedule would not have been manageable for Zoz.

Zoz appreciated invitation and patronage from Prof. Gjinushi, Prof. Merkoci for the organization on behalf of NanoAlb and Minister Ekonomi for the ongoing interest.

During the first visit at the academy about 4 weeks ago, Zoz had already agreed to attend the Int. Conference TNT2021 (Trends in Nanotechnology) in October and to recommend to some high-caliber experts from industry, research and education to attend and contribute as well. The first one to confirm has in fact been the very scientist, who made the dandelion rubber extraction facility at Olpe at under the roof of ZTC possible.



with Minister Milva Ekonomi and the entire table

Since dandelion is "occupied", one could search for other agricultural, thus herbal raw materials in order to generate valuable materials in a highly modern way. For example, rubber can also be found in the peel of bananas and also in the leaves of sunflowers, the Christmas tree of creation is richly set. In addition, Zoz would like to address the senior representative of the tire manufacturer in the next few days, there may also be interest here. In any case, Zoz had seen a not so small sales point for such German autotires on the main road from Tirana to Dürres.

Zoz also recommended to taking part in EU projects, since one knows from own experience, that non-members can also gain access via various bilateral bridges. This was not new for Minister Ekonomi, corresponding undertakings have already been initiated. Soon, Prof. Korpa would be involved, so that Zoz would as well be "in the boat", and a meeting with Prime Minister Edi Rama would be recommended. One agreed that the next meeting on the bioeconomy issue shall be scheduled over the duration of the conference in October. Zoz said: "If necessary, we will come over (again) beforehand".

On this day, the travelers had two times the opportunity to experience Albanian cuisine. Conclusion here too - that arouses interest in more. The following TV report was published on Monday evening, translation to follow:



<https://shqiptarja.com/lajm/akademia-e-shkencave-projekt-i-nanoteknologjise-per-riciklimin-e-mbetjeve-bashkepunim-me-kompanine-e-njohur-gjermane>