

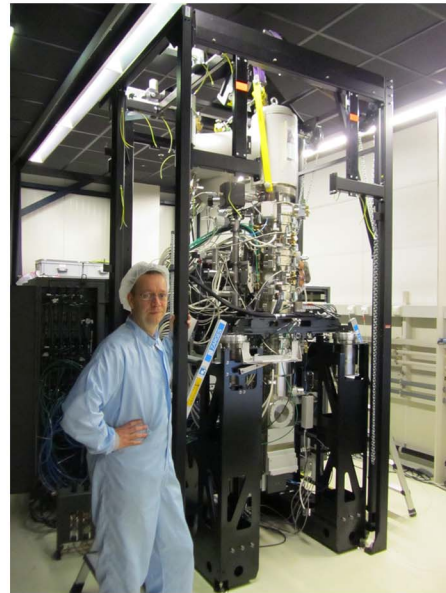
We are happy to present the first newsletter of the Netherlands Centre for Electron Nanoscopy (NeCEN). From now on, our newsletter will inform you about the latest developments concerning NeCEN on a monthly basis.

New building for NeCEN stands

Last weekend, the appearance of the Gorlaeus building in Leiden changed dramatically. Although preparatory work has been going on for months, the modules that will house NeCEN were all transferred on April 9th and 10th. The completed building is expected to be delivered before June.

In order to ensure an optimal environment for the centre, Universiteit Leiden decided to build an extension for NeCEN next to the Cell Observatory. The first pile was drilled into the ground on March 11th and two weeks later two concrete blocks were visible on the building site. These blocks form two vibration-free islands in the building and define the exact locations for the two cryo-transmission electron microscopes. The construction for the microscope rooms was set up soon afterwards, yet the site remained largely empty. Last weekend however, the modules for the new building were delivered.

Once the building is completed, the microscopes will be put together and calibration and tests will be started as soon as possible. Services and microscope time can be offered once the microscopes are fully running.



Photos: left: transfer of the modules to the building site. Right: one of the NeCEN microscopes at FEI company in February

Microscope update

NeCEN will offer two advanced cryo-transmission electron microscopes. The microscope optimized for tomography arrived in Leiden in October and will be built once its new location is ready. The microscope optimized for single particle analysis is currently being engineered in Eindhoven. According to the latest reports, the construction team of FEI Company is halfway. This implies the basis is ready and the critical components are being tested right now.

Access to NeCEN

Open access is one of the key elements of NeCEN. In order to ensure a fair chance on microscope time, all applicants have to go through the same procedures. A fair and realistic procedure for research institutes and companies is currently being developed.



Netherlands Centre for Electron Nanoscopy

NeCEN is supported by:

