

## Rolle, November 2020

Dear members, colleagues and friends,

2020 has been an exceptional year for EPOS and worldwide. COVID-19 was declared a pandemic and forced the EPOS Leadership to postpone the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, to April 2021 in Porto, Portugal.

Considering that the pandemic has surged again globally and to safeguard against the spread of the novel Corona virus the EPOS Leadership has taken the decision to shift to a virtual event from **14-16 April 2021**, instead of in-person meeting.

EPOS is already adapting to this current global climate with creativity. While we wait for the in-person meetings to restart safely, EPOS has been using innovative ways to engage with its members and the wider community.

We conducted a survey among our members, speakers and industry partners and we are very grateful that the majority have supported this decision by responding to our questions on how to best deal with the current challenging times. Your view was very important and helped the Executive Committee to come to this final decision.

We trust that 2021-year's virtual EPOS Annual Meeting will be a great opportunity to reconnect and move forward together, and definitely a meaningful meeting in the history of EPOS.

Join us to increase your knowledge, share experiences and common challenges with your peers and colleagues.

We hope 2021 will bring along positivity and optimism.

Keep healthy and safe!

Sincerely,

EPOS Executive Committee

Thomas Wirth, Antonio Andreacchio, Ignacio Sanpera, Jarosław Czubak, Elke Viehweger, Pierre Journeau, Virginie Pollet, Cristina Alves, Renata Pospischill, Vito Pavone and Stefan Huhnstock

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