

In Austria and Switzerland, CON•ECT Event Management has earned an excellent reputation for providing access to expert knowledge and standards to employees over the years. Thus, in our view CON•ECT has made a valuable contribution to Austria as a location for IT.”



**Helmut Pichler (ANECON):** “In my view, the CON•ECT Business Academy and CON•ECT Informunity represent a very active network of highly qualified professionals from a great variety of fields, which CON•ECT manages to animate. Time after time, CON•ECT has succeeded in organising events around ‘red-hot’ topics. In addition to offering inside knowledge presented by the expert speakers, these events are a continual source of new network contacts. Also as a speaker I have been impressed by the professional assistance of the organisational team on every occasion. The fact that they complement their services by a comprehensive training programme is a good example of the target-group oriented focus of CON•ECT.”



**Dr. Klaus Pirkbauer (Software Competence Center Hagenberg GmbH):** “Beyond a situation in which no industry can do without IT systems, we have now reached a point where IT plays the key role in most industries. The rising importance of data as an active component determining the algorithmic process by conclusions drawn and models derived from them, as well as the challenges of more complex software with interconnectedness and new modes of interaction are characteristic of our times. Key words like Industry 4.0, IoT and digitalisation have brought additional momentum to the development as well as the discussion of the related topics. The Future Network picks up on those topics. In addition to expert talks from a variety of perspectives, surveys of trends and developments are presented. As a further bonus, there is also ample opportunity for networking among the participants.”



**Marcus Scheiblecker (WIFO):** “Like in other fields, also in IT investment activities greatly depend on the expectations with regard to the future economic development. As a consequence, the current economic situation as well as that of the future is a decisive driver of the investment behaviour of businesses. Therefore, my presentations on the development of economic trends in the coming years have always attracted a lot of attention and have been a regular feature of the ICT Trends event.”



**Peter Stanjeck (USU AG):** “Digitalisation of businesses is the main topic for the next few years, as it will enter a broad range of business spheres. As providers of service management software solutions, at USU we experience this trend first hand: businesses have started to use our products to manage their service processes also outside IT departments, for instance in human resources, facility management or controlling. CON•ECT has been our longstanding business partner for events in Austria and Switzerland. With great personal commitment and an infallible instinct for trending IT topics, for many years CON•ECT has managed to convene a great number of interested visitors at events and provide appealing presentations and has thus made a major contribution to maintaining and expanding the network for all those interested in IT topics in the area of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The USU Company sends best wishes for future success to CON•ECT. We are looking forward to many more joint events and opportunities for further exchange of experience. Congratulations on your 20th anniversary!”



**Dr. Edgar Weippl (SBA Research):** “Secure planning, developing and operating complex cyber-physical systems are essential and difficult challenges of the future. In the past few decades the integration of software and organisation processes in companies increased; today, a similar development regarding the interconnectedness of machines and sensors is taking place. Software is part of our everyday lives. In the future, empirical and applied research in the field of software development will rise in importance. The increasingly complex software systems are hard to observe and figure out for users. Therefore, systematic monitoring is necessary in order to gain insights into the internal functions and discover potential security risks. Due to the growing complexity and integration with hardware, successful attacks are possible even if software has been developed flawlessly and diverse protective mechanisms at the level of operating systems and compilers have been installed.”