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The Importance of Test Beams for Particle Physics worldwide

The test beams provided by the major laboratories worldwide are a key infrastructure for developing detectors for high-energy physics, nuclear physics, and adjacent fields. They are also an ideal training ground for the next generation of instrumentation experts. Close to a thousand users make use of the worldwide test beam facilities, with CERN, DESY and Fermilab being the most heavily used ones. Over the last decades all laboratories have worked hard to coordinate the shutdowns of their accelerator complexes as much as possible to prevent a global dark time for test beam users. For the next generation of experiments in particle physics and also for nuclear physics – in particular for the proposed future flagship project of high-energy physics at CERN – the availability for test beams is essential.

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