

Particle accelerators: ships of discovery, engines of development

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Particle accelerators were born a century ago, together with the discovery of elementary particles. Cross-fertilized by technical progress and emerging technologies, they have shown sustained development over the years to become the modern ships of discovery in high-energy and nuclear physics, and also –as powerful sources of probe radiation –in atomic, molecular and condensed-matter science. Today, particle accelerators have found their way as new tools in health and medicine, both for research and clinical applications, as well as in industry and security. We will present examples of such diverse applications and briefly discuss future paths of development.

Presenter: LEBRUN, Philippe (CERN)

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