

Dear friends and business partners,

At the beginning of the new year, I would like to reflect on the experiences and thoughts of the year 2025. There were enthusiastic ideas and plans, of which only a few could be realized directly. Life is never as straightforward as we would like it to be. Nevertheless, I look back gratefully on the year and look forward to what will come in 2026.

As is so often the case, January was marked by conferences, trade fairs and similar events. I was allowed to represent the Edelkrebsprojekt NRW at the fishing fair in Duisburg and at the "boot" in Düsseldorf. Corrosion protection in maritime technology once again took place in Hamburg. My personal highlight was a visit to Oslo, framed by the annual reception of the German-Norwegian Chamber of Commerce and a visit to the Munch Museum.



In the spring, I had to undergo another surgery. Things like this shakes up the plans and shifts priorities. However, by hiring another employee in May, the laboratory was able to work through the peaks of analytics and push ahead with development projects. Another product for corrosion protection in cooling water systems has been launched on the market and many ideas are still in the quiver.



Immediately after my stay in the clinic, I was able to combine the beautiful with the useful time. A week on Heligoland with topics of corrosion protection in a maritime environment and relaxing at wonderful weather by the sea and in nature gave me an unforgettable experience.



In the summer, I was received at the German-Norwegian Chamber of Commerce to discuss the further development of the expansion of business in Norway.

With these thoughts in mind, I returned to Norway shortly afterwards and was able to enjoy a full summer break: fishing, collecting, boating, reading, meeting friends, experiencing impressive traces of history and much more.



After these very nice days in summer, I had to face a new challenge. Medical treatment at the University Hospital in Essen ran for several weeks. I still hope for a full recovery and healing! I am grateful to the doctors who are largely responsible for using their expertise with wisdom for this. Unfortunately, rare diseases are given only a small amount of financial resources in research. The University Medicine Foundation provides a valuable service in this regard. On this year's Sarcoma Tour, I was able to contribute at least a tiny part by myself. Who knows, maybe in 2026 I'll be able to drive a few laps on my own.





Other events within the framework of the Edelkrebsprojekt have shaped one or the other weekend in summer and autumn. NRW fishes, an event at the Möhnesee, the farm day at the nature conservation center in the Märkischer Kreis, at the city festival with the diving club Delphin Lüdenscheid and another crayfish training, to mention a few examples.



I have never experienced so many reminders due to poor payment practices, so much reduction in the number of employees and even company closures as this year with our customers since feldlabor was founded. Nevertheless, or perhaps precisely because of this, the trend in the feldlabor is in the opposite direction. We offer the services that are essential for industrial companies, but often can no longer be managed on their own. The importance of having knowledge of the condition of pre-treatment baths, cooling water and other process materials is essential for manufacturing companies. Further inspections of evaporative cooling systems and the legally required tests for legionella and other parameters are still an important pillar both for the feldlabor and for me as a freelancing expert.



In the wire industry, the response to drawing lubricants (Lubrimetal) and seminars was low this year. The more it was a pleasure for me to give an in-house seminar on the subject of corrosion protection at a company in Vienna.



The Rahmedetalbrücke, a bridge of the motorway in Lüdenscheid, was certainly one of the major obstacles in the region in 2025 as well. Since shortly before Christmas, the motorway has been passable again. The relief is already noticeable and I hope that this positive mood will continue for the future. I would also like to bring a positive mood to the Freelance Chemists Group (FFCh) in the German Chemical Society (GDCh), which has elected me to its board for the coming term of office.

In the meantime, my daughter supports us with her knowledge in the commercial field, deliberately only to a small extent, because the challenges posed by her three boys should not be underestimated ... I say it as a grandpa. I am very happy about all the employees of the feldlabor. My thanks go to you, to my right and left, because only together can let exist and move forward such a company:



Solveig Niemann, Sören Feld, Uwe Kölsche, Heike Bendlin, Natalie Zängler

In 2025, we continued to fulfil our social responsibility, among other things, through various donations to non-profit associations from the Christian, professional, medical and nature conservation sectors.

A blessed year 2026 !

<https://feldlabor.de>

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