



Contribution ID: 301

Type: **Poster (in person)**

## **AWAKE: from proof-of-concept towards first particle-physics applications**

*Monday 8 July 2024 18:20 (20 minutes)*

The AWAKE project at CERN makes use of plasma to transfer energy from the SPS proton beam to a short witness beam of electrons. We here give an overview of the project, from the exploitation of beam-plasma instabilities to generate large accelerating fields, to the next stages of the project, which will demonstrate sustained accelerating gradients and control of the witness bunch emittance. These developments will allow the first applications of AWAKE-like technology to particle physics in the 2030s.

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**Session Classification:** Posters

**Track Classification:** Accelerator: Advanced Accelerator Concepts