

North Rhine-Westphalia – Germany's International Centre of Industry and the New Area of Sustainability



EUROPE'S  HEARTBEAT

North Rhine-Westphalia: The Heart of Europe

Europe's most populous region:



18.1 million inhabitants in NRW



160 million people live within a 500 km radius of the state capital Düsseldorf

Germany's Economic Powerhouse



2024 GDP in € bn in EU,
Source: IT.NRW 2025, Eurostat 2025

Home of World Market Leaders



19 of the 50

largest companies are
based in NRW



690

“Hidden Champions”
are found here



20%

of all German
Startups



24,000

foreign companies
in NRW

Home of the world market leaders



Japanese Business Community in NRW



More than

650

Japanese companies
in NRW



50 %

of Japanese Companies
with **European**
headquarter in NRW



81.000

employees



38 bn. €

annual turnover

More than 650 Japanese companies in NRW



Global Logistics Provider



Leading Innovation >>>



Little Parts. Big Difference.



Japanese culture in Düsseldorf



Industrial Heartland

10.000

industrial companies

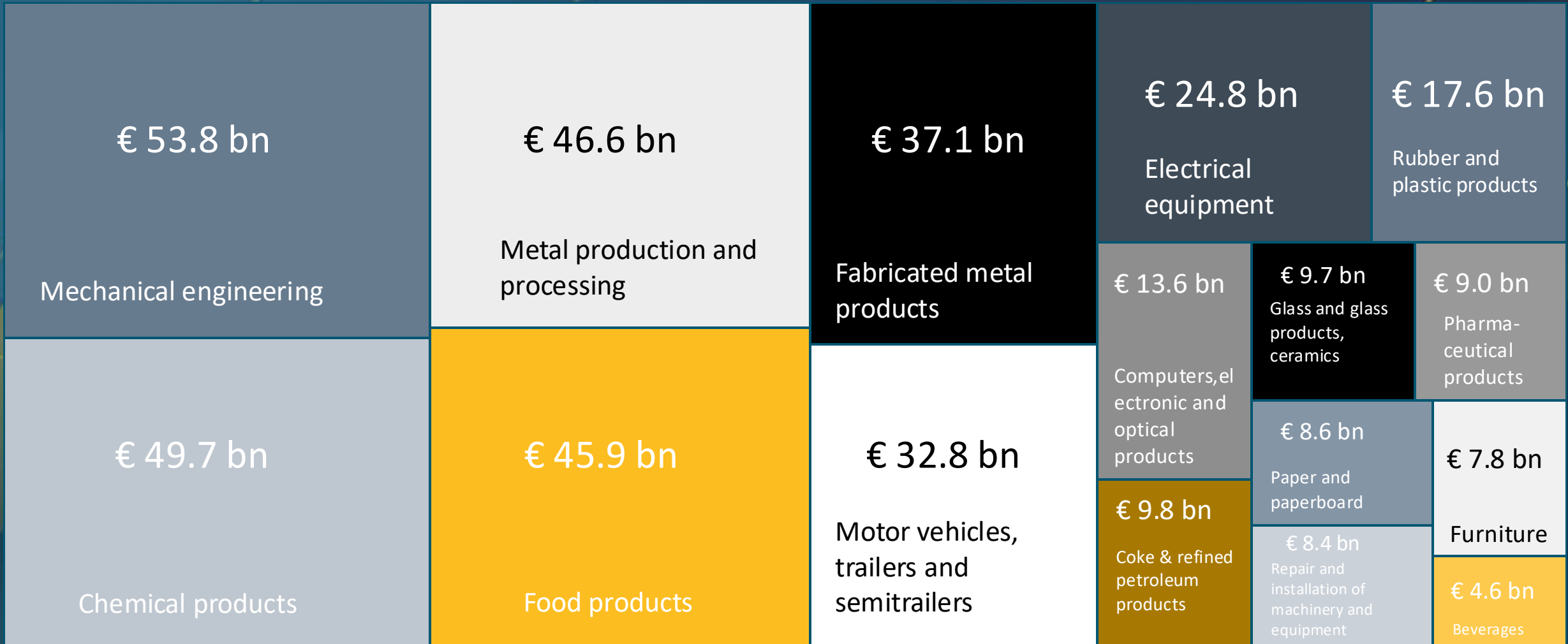
€317 bn

in sales is generated by industrial
enterprises

1.3 mn

employees in the
industrial sector

The Industrial Heart of Europe



Europe's densest R&D Landscape – and attractive talent pool



68

universities and
technical colleges



More than

60

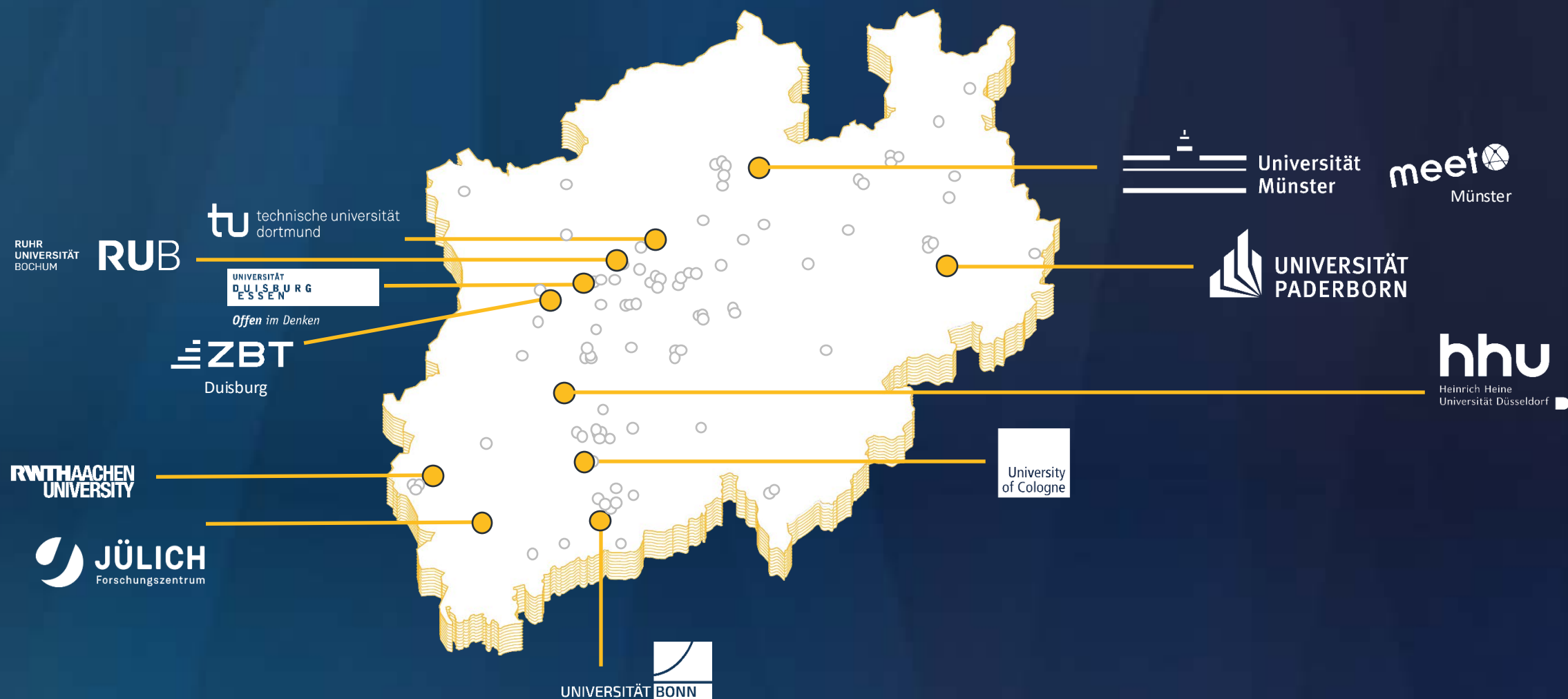
independent
research institutes



750,000

students at NRW
universities

Europe's densest R&D landscape



Our mission: zero emissions

Committed to be
Europe's first
climate-neutral
industrial region

Energy and heat strategy:

34 GW installed capacity
of **wind turbines**
by **2030**

Hydrogen Roadmap:
104 TWh per year of **hydrogen**
demand

Transformation Potential

50%

of the **German production** sites of the basic materials industry sector

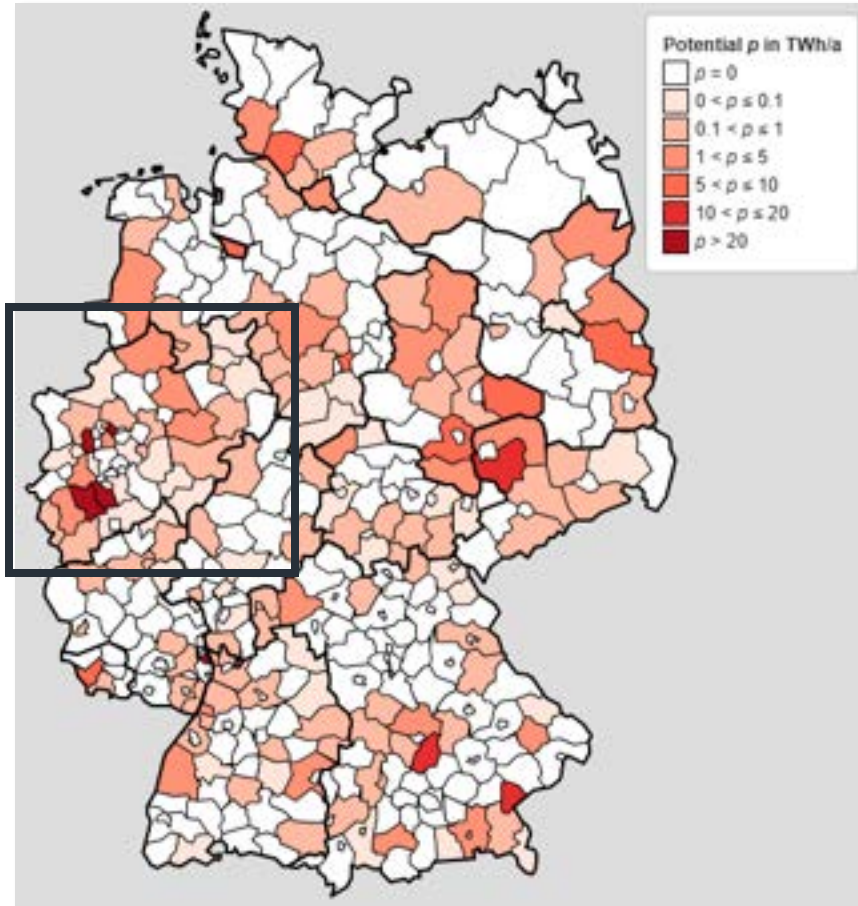
32%

of Germany's industrial final energy demand

50%

of the **central industrial plants** need to be **renewed** within the next 10 years

Net-Zero Transformation: Hydrogen



Potential long-term hydrogen demand,
Ref.: Fraunhofer ISI (2023) ([Link](#))

- ✓ Expected industrial hydrogen demand in 2045:
70 – 190 TWh
- ✓ Largest climate action project in the world (“Rheinisches Revier”)
- ✓ Climate-neutral steel production with direct reduction plants (ThyssenKrupp)



Europe's No. 1 GreenTech Region



€52.8 bn gross value added



600.000 employees



€14.5 bn exports from NRW



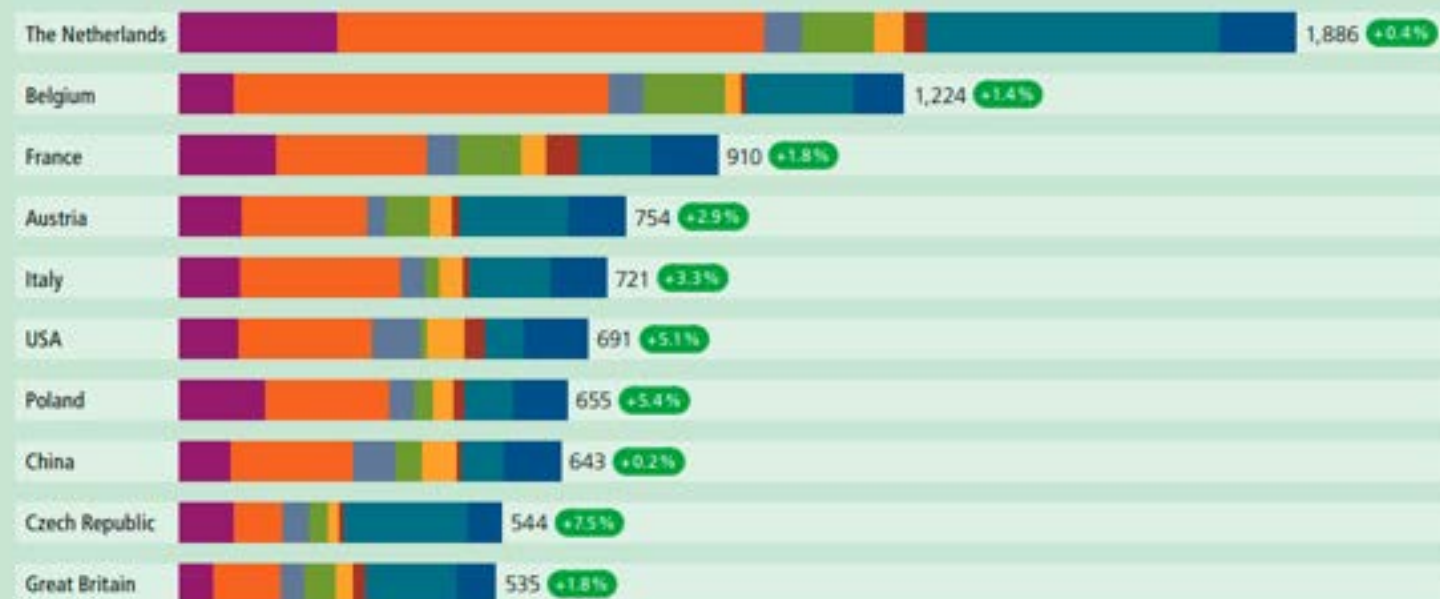
17.4 % of global patent applications from Germany (rank 3)

Energieforschung.NRW

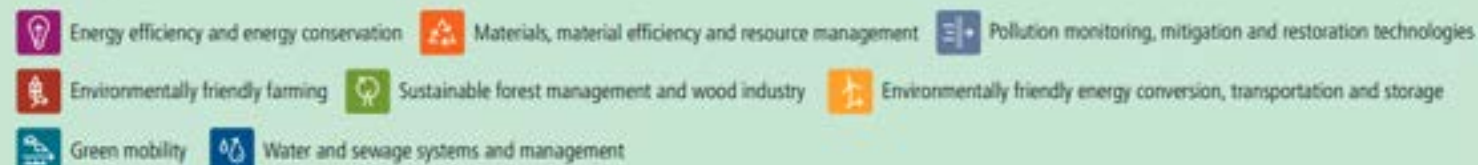


Greentech made in NRW

The most important purchasing countries for North Rhine-Westphalian green economy exports in 2023, in € million, and growth 2010–2023 in % annually.



Source: Prognos, own calculation based on data from the Federal Statistics Office



Innovative Players in GreenTech

Recycling of batteries

ACCUREC

cylib

Solutions for renewable energy technologies

 **Reiling**
Unternehmensgruppe

 **PV CYCLE**

Recovery in the plastic/chemical field

INEOS
 | **PLASTIC[®] ENERGY**

 **LYB** | LyondellBasell

Circular Economy & Greentech

- Selection of funding programmes in NRW



Circular Economy –
Circular Cities.NRW

The state and the EU are providing more than **€ 8.1 million** as part of the **ERDF/JTF programme from 2021 until 2027**.



Ressourceneffizienz und
Circular Economy

Grant of up to **60 %**, **max. € 4 million**, for new and innovative technologies to improve resource efficiency



NRW.BANK.Invest Zukunft

Loan of up to **€ 10 million** for investments in transformation – from innovative technologies and digital processes to the transition to renewable energies



Startup Welcome Package

Grant of up to **€ 10.000** for max. 12 months for foreign startups interested in settling in NRW

Questions? Please contact:



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