

# Pressemitteilung

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Deutsches Technikmuseum

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## Key Facts about Sugar in Berlin

- 1747** Andreas Sigismund Marggraf (1709 - 1782) discovers sugar in beets.
- 1798** Franz Carl Achard (1753 - 1821) produces the first beet sugar in what is now Berlin-Kaulsdorf and has it refined at the Berlinischen Zuckersiederey Compagnie (boiling house).
- 1799** Franz Carl Achard presents the first beet sugar to the Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm III.  
  
In Berlin, Friedrich Wilhelm III provides the capital for the construction of the first beet sugar factory in the world.
- 1801** Achard builds the first beet sugar factory at Cunern in Silesia.
- 1806** Napoleon issues the Berlin Decree establishing the Continental Blockade against England.
- 1815** The fall of Napoleon results in the failure of the nascent beet sugar industry.
- 1821** A second wave of start-ups in the beet sugar industry in France.
- 1833** Beet sugar factories begin being established again in Germany.
- 1850** Founding of the Association for the Sugar Beet Industry which still exists today. It was established by around 100 beet sugar producers under the name „Verein für Rübenzuckerindustrie im Zollverein" (Association for the Sugar Beet Industry in the Customs Union).
- 1867** The Association founds an initial research and training laboratory in Berlin under the direction of the chemist Carl Scheibler.

**1881** The Association's laboratory is incorporated into the Royal Agricultural University of Berlin under the name "Institute for Sugar Industry".  
(Located at Invalidenstraße 42, Berlin N 4)

**1897** Alexander Herzfeld (1854 - 1928), the director of the Institute for Sugar Industry, begins establishing the ICUMSA (*International Commission for Uniform Methods of Sugar Analysis*), of which he was the president until his death.  
Herzfeld initiated the worldwide standardization of applicable analytical methods without which science and economics would not be viable.

**1904** Opening of its own Institute for Sugar Industry at Amrumer Straße 32 in Berlin-Wedding.

The building is built by the Association for the Sugar Industry. A display and teaching collection for specialists is set up on the top floor. Historically important objects collected by the sugar industry are archived and exhibited there.

**1978** The Technical University of Berlin takes over the Sugar Institute and the "Sugar Museum" collection.

**1988** The Sugar Museum becomes an autonomous Landesmuseum (State Museum) that after 1989 is open to the public at large.

**1995** The Sugar Museum is incorporated into the Deutsches Technikmuseum and is consequently also a part of the Stiftung Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin after 2001.

**2012** The historical location at Amrumer Straße is vacated.

**2015** Opening of the new permanent exhibition "Sugars and Beyond! Food – Matter – Energy" in the Deutsches Technikmuseum in Berlin-Kreuzberg.