

Canadian Light Source *Access Mechanisms*



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TEN YEARS
OF DISCOVERY

International CLS users

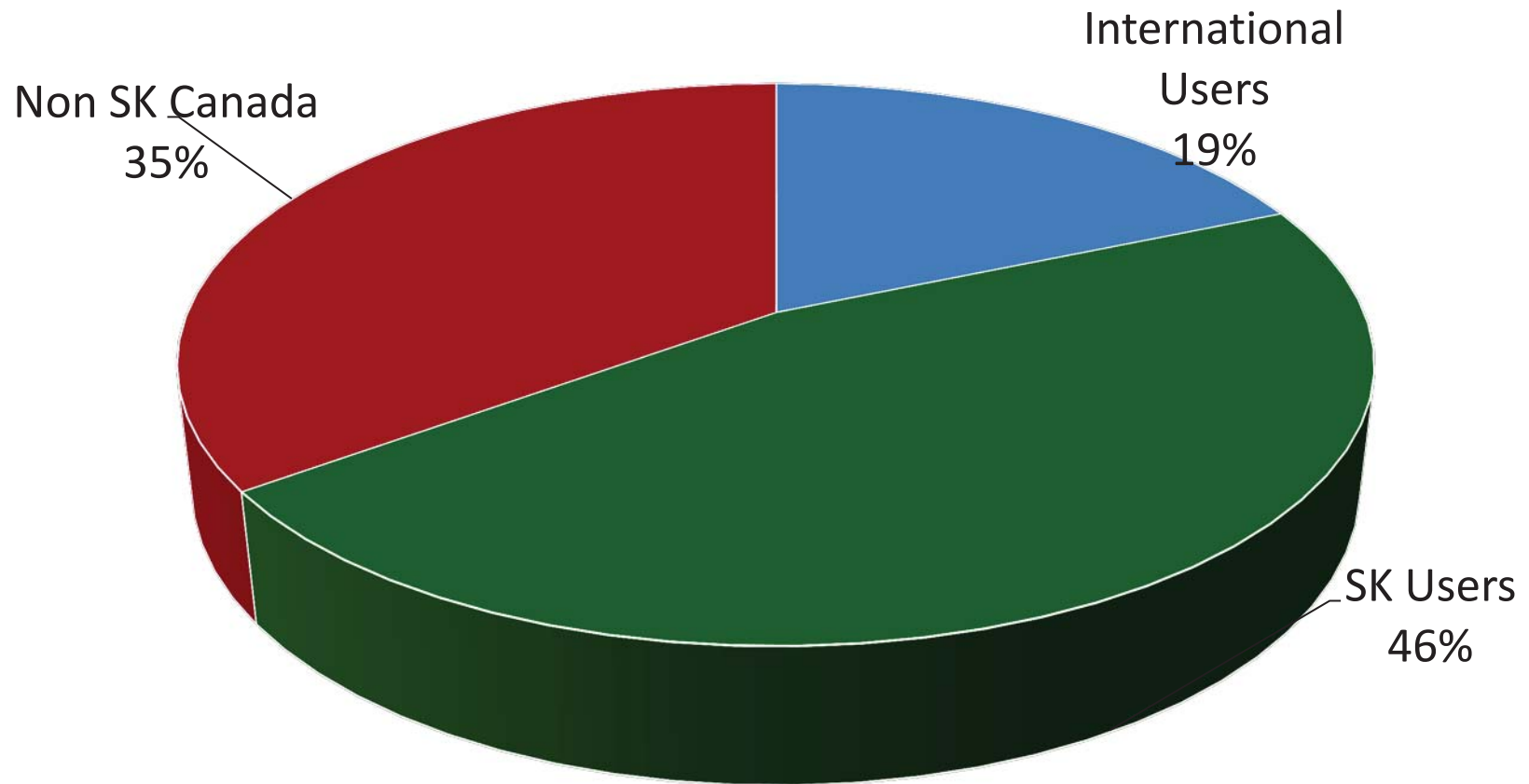


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But where are the biggest users (Researchers)

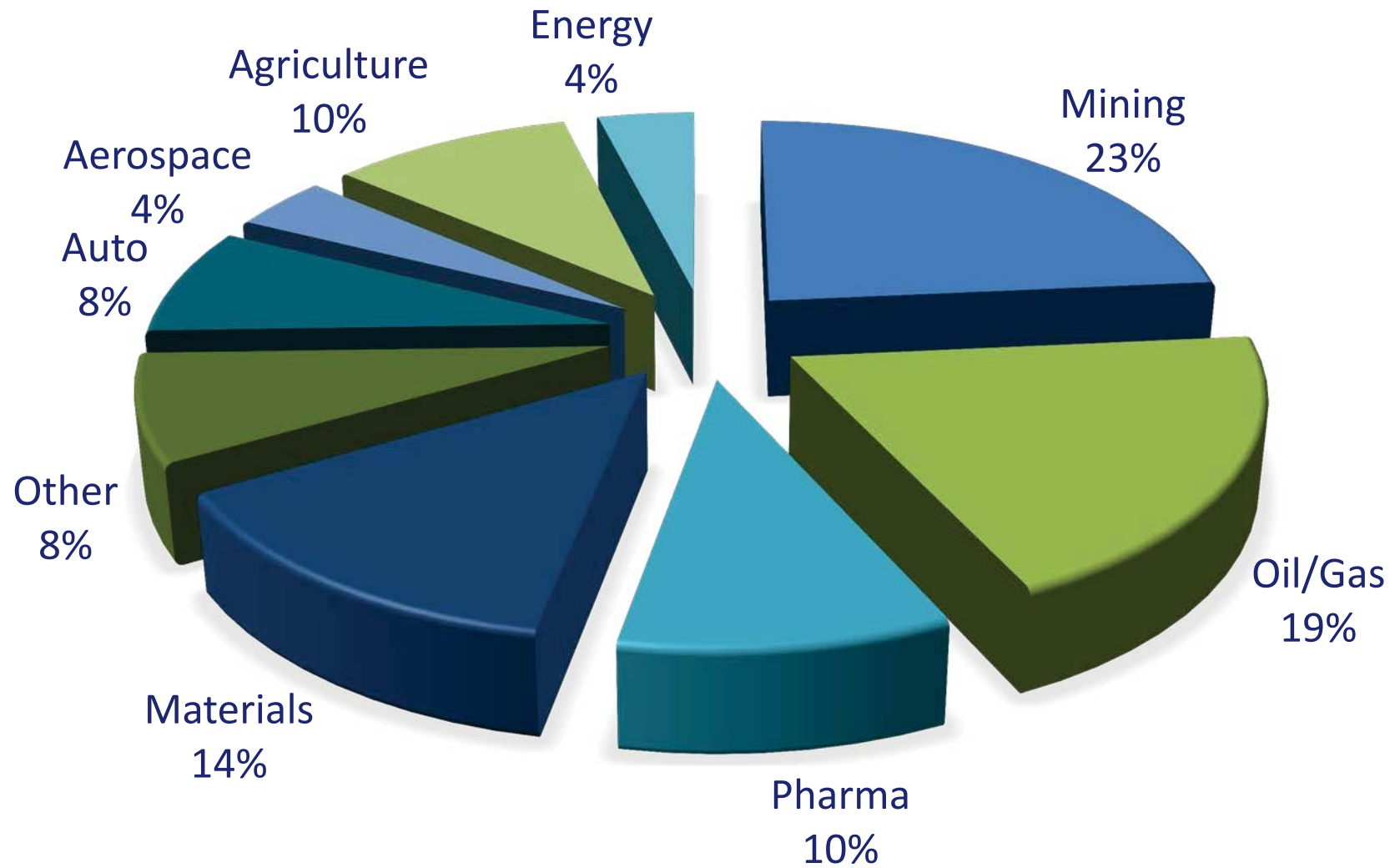
Users come from



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Applications



CLS Access

- ✿ CLS followed established best practice in the synchrotron world
 - ✿ 1. Most synchrotrons have purchased access
 - ✿ 2. Most synchrotrons have a “partner user” access mechanism, where those who provide money and expertise get preferred access
 - ✿ 3. Most have a peer review of proposal access



Purchased Access

- ✿ Up to 25% of beamtime on each beamline is available for purchased access
- ✿ Fees are negotiated with the CLS Industrial Group

Beamteam Access

- ✿ Beamteams: academics who provide support, advice and funding
 - ✿ Up to 25% of beamtime available to a beamteam, documented in an MOU
 - ✿ Beamteam access reviewed by external review panels
 - ✿ All fully operational beamlines & beamteams will be reviewed in November 2015



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General User Access

- ✿ >30% of beamtime on each beamline
- ✿ Publish or intend to publish!
- ✿ Scientific peer reviewed proposals twice per year
 - ✿ At least 3 external reviewers, and up to 7
 - ✿ Database of several hundred reviewers
 - ✿ Reviewers selected by external Peer Review committee
- ✿ Proposals scored primarily on scientific merit
- ✿ Peer Review Committee
 - ✿ Selects reviewers, checks proposal scores for consistency
 - ✿ reviews proposals with one outlying score – decide whether to discount that review.
- ✿ Peer Review & Allocation Committees are separated – CLS takes responsibility for awarding beamtime



Do's and Don'ts







Do's

-  External committee members at arms length
-  No “power users” or beamteam leaders
-  No members from the University of Saskatchewan
-  Make it clear: “knowing the right people” does not help
-  Be transparent
 -  representatives from the User Advisory Committee are invited to observe both Peer Review and Allocation
 -  Peer Review Committee members named on our website.
-  Have an established complaint mechanism to handle PIs who don't get beamtime – include a neutral party
 -  we use the User Advisory Committee



Do's and Don'ts

Don'ts

-  DON'T try and keep everybody happy
 -  if users think they will always get beamtime, where's their incentive to publish ?
-  DON'T ask your scientists who work with users to be peer reviewers – stops them being partners with the users, both literally and figuratively.
-  DON'T assume everyone knows you have a fair process
 -  Talk about it!
 -  Users will always assume some other factor than how poor their proposal was, is responsible for them not getting time.



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