

## **VDE ETG's New Board: "Driving energy transformation, building up resilience"**

- **In cooperation with industry, users and science, VDE ETG supports the energy transition**
- **The spotlight is currently on expanding renewable energy and a fundamental transformation of the energy system**
- **New Chair of the ETG Board, Dr. Britta Buchholz, is focusing on "taking an international approach in order to advance faster"**

(Frankfurt a. M., 10.11.2022) The members of the Society for Energy Technology in VDE (VDE ETG) have elected a new Board for the period from 2023 to 2025. Dr. Britta Buchholz, who is Vice President Active Distribution Grids at Hitachi Energy Germany AG, is taking over from her predecessor Dr. Michael Schwan at a very challenging time for the energy transition. Electrical energy is set to play an increasingly important role in the overall energy supply as the world strives to go climate-neutral in as many fields as possible.

### **Involving the population, making use of international drive**

Buchholz explains: "Our goal is to rapidly expand wind and solar power and integrate new electrical consumers from the fields of transport, heat and industry into the energy system. In light of this task, it is more necessary than ever to share knowledge and present solutions within a technical and scientific association like ETG." In this context, Buchholz believes it is essential to involve the public in expanding the energy infrastructure, thereby contributing to greater flexibility. What's more, she adds, it is important to view energy transformation not just at national level but to take an international approach in order to make headway faster and more cost-effective. Buchholz intends to make this a priority in her role at Hitachi Energy and her work in ETG's international sister association CIGRE.

## **Building up resilience, inspiring the next generation**

Dr. Stefan Küppers, CTO at Westenergie AG, was elected as deputy to Dr. Buchholz. Alongside the climate targets set by the German government and the EU, his focus is on maintaining supply security and building up resilience. The public has a legitimate interest in a power grid that is able to withstand fluctuations in the power supply or energy load, as well as in increased resistance to cyberattacks or natural disasters. On this topic, Dr. Küppers comments “We need extensive digitalization, we need to scale up existing technology and we need more innovation. Therefore we need young engineers to take on responsibility and support development.”

The other members elected to the ETG Board are: Prof. Jutta Hanson, Head of Electrical Power Systems with Integration of Renewable Energies at TU Darmstadt, Prof. Andreas Ulbig, manager of the Institute of High Voltage Equipment and Grids, Digitalization and Energy Economics at RWTH Aachen University, Richard Tretter, Head of Energy and Network Economy at Stadtwerke München GmbH and Dr. Karsten Viereck, Director of Technology Automation at Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH.

### **About the Power Engineering Society within VDE (VDE ETG)**

With more than 12,000 members, the Power Engineering Society within VDE (VDE ETG) bundles the expertise of power engineering from generation, transmission and distribution to the various fields of applications. The comprehensive expert knowledge of the approximately 300 volunteers from industry, research, utilities, universities and authorities, who participate in specialized areas, technical committees and working groups, forms the technical-scientific basis for events and publications of the Energy Technology Association in the VDE.

For more information, visit [www.vde.com/etg](http://www.vde.com/etg)

### **About VDE**

VDE, one of the largest technology organizations in Europe, has been regarded as a synonym for innovation and technological progress for more than 125 years. VDE is the only organization in the world that combines science, standardization, testing, certification, and application consulting under one umbrella. The VDE mark has been synonymous with the highest safety standards and consumer protection for more than 100 years.

Our passion is the advancement of technology, the next generation of engineers and technologists, and lifelong learning and career development “on the job”. Within the VDE network more than 2,000 employees at over 60 locations worldwide, more than 100,000

honorary experts, and around 1,500 companies are dedicated to ensuring a future worth living: networked, digital, electrical. Shaping the e-dialistic future.

The VDE (VDE Association for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies) is headquartered in Frankfurt am Main. For more information, visit [www.vde.com](http://www.vde.com)

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