

New VDE President: Alf Henryk Wulf will follow after Armin Schnettler

- **The VDE is a familiar terrain for Alf Henryk Wulf, who already held the presidency in 2011-2012 and will take over from Prof. Dr. Armin Schnettler on January 1, 2023.**
- **The goal of the passionate electrical engineer and industry expert is to make the VDE broader and to realize the VDE Campus.**
- **Schnettler is accompanying the transition as outgoing president and can look back on two successful years despite challenging times.**

(Frankfurt a. M., 30.12.2022) When handing over the baton to his successor Alf Henryk Wulf, outgoing VDE President Prof. Dr. Armin Schnettler asks a question that probably moves many people at the moment: "Who would have thought two or three years ago that a VDE presidency would be facing completely different conditions, with a global pandemic, global supply difficulties, a war of Russian aggression and an energy crisis?"

Nevertheless, the VDE as a team with all its members has managed to navigate safely through difficult times and successfully drive forward new topics such as hydrogen or artificial intelligence. Schnettler wishes the same success and "also the necessary portion of luck" to his successor, who will take over the office of VDE president on January 1, 2023.

Alf Henryk Wulf: Expanding range, communicating openly

After completing his studies at the Technical University of Munich, Wulf spent many years in leading positions in industry at companies such as Alcatel-Lucent Germany AG, Alstom AG and GE Power AG. Currently, the well-connected electrical engineer is an active investor as well as a supervisory board member or chairman in various companies.

Currently, the well-connected electrical engineer is an active investor as well as a supervisory board member or chairman in various companies. In his second term as VDE president, Wulf wants to work above all toward a higher visibility of the VDE as well as a wider range of content: "This includes all areas of electrical engineering, electronics and information technology, as well

as related fields, by which I mean three very specific ones: Environmental technology, transportation including the maritime part as well as individual transportation, and the segment of modern energy." To achieve this, he said, it is necessary for everyone to be involved and to communicate candidly. Therefore Wulf also pointed out in his New Year's address that his door will be open and that questions and suggestions will be warmly welcomed in order to bring the VDE even more successfully into the future.

All Electric Society and VDE Campus

In the view of the new VDE President, another building block for the future is the All Electric Society. The concept foresees that regeneratively generated electricity will become the new primary form of energy worldwide and replace fossil fuels. The basis for this is energy sector coupling in the grid, i.e. an integrated system of all users in mobility, in the heating sector, in industry, etc. The key to this is information technology sector coupling, because information from all sectors is needed for control.

Thus, in the future, questions of electrical engineering and information technology would become central in this context. In order to be able to support the development professionally on all levels, it is important to use the VDE Campus as a meeting place for the VDE's own specialist societies and for interested and committed people outside the VDE. The new campus will also include the testing and certification institute as well as the DKE as the core of standardization and all the other areas of the VDE Group. Wulf also emphasizes the importance of standardization for the rollout of innovations: "In this way, I would like to ensure that Frankfurt is the center of the standardization world. I want content to be communicated from this forum that will be provided to political decision-makers as a precise basis for setting the course for the future."

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

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