

Powerful Forces in Energy Technology Unite: CIGRE Germany Joins VDE ETG

A new chapter begins for the German CIGRE community: As part of VDE ETG, it will benefit from a strong network, remain firmly anchored internationally, and gain additional opportunities for national technical collaboration.

(Paris/Frankfurt am Main, August 31, 2026) The German Committee of CIGRE at the VDE (DK-CIGRE) has decided that CIGRE Germany will join the VDE Energy Technology Society (VDE ETG) effective January 1, 2027. The more than 800 individual German members of the international forum in the field of electrical power systems will thus automatically become part of the VDE ETG. The corresponding agreement was signed during the 51st CIGRE Conference in Paris.

CIGRE Germany has been part of the VDE since 1952 and represents German membership in the international CIGRE organization. Today, Germany is one of the most important and active countries within the international CIGRE network and provides key impetus for the further development of electrical power systems. The interests of German members are represented by the German Committee of CIGRE at the VDE (DK-CIGRE), where the secretariat is also located. CIGRE Germany's accession to the ETG is therefore a logical step. "After 70 years, this decision marks a historic moment for everyone involved," says Dr. Ralf Petri, Managing Director of VDE ETG and DK-CIGRE. "CIGRE is the platform where experts from around the world come together to shape the energy supply of the future—just as VDE ETG does in Germany."

"One central question was at the forefront of our decision: How do we create the greatest added value for our members? Many of our experts are already actively involved in both CIGRE and VDE ETG. They work on the same future-oriented topics, in the same projects, and interact within the same networks. Through this close collaboration, we are pooling our resources and creating even better conditions for professional exchange, international visibility, and active

participation in shaping the energy transition,” says Pascal Daleiden, CEO of Hitachi Energy DACH and Slovenia and Chair of the DK CIGRE.

“The community fosters professional exchange, international contacts, career opportunities, and access to unique expertise, as well as direct interaction between young talent and experienced experts across the entire industry,” adds ETG Chair Dr. Britta Buchholz. The VP of Active Distribution Grids at Hitachi Energy is a CIGRE Fellow and a member of DK-CIGRE. “This is all the more important because major societal challenges can only be solved through collaboration within strong networks—both nationally and internationally.”

“CIGRE for power systems expertise” is one of the most significant international technical and scientific organizations in the field of energy systems. Founded in 1921 in Paris, where its General Secretariat is still headquartered today, it brings together over 26,000 technical and scientific experts from more than 120 countries worldwide, as well as approximately 1,250 corporate members from industry, energy utilities, and academia. They work to advance technical and scientific knowledge in the field of electrical energy systems and to intensify the global exchange of information among experts.

About the Power Engineering Society within VDE (VDE ETG):

The Power Engineering Society within VDE (VDE ETG) promotes the development of energy systems in Germany. It combines expertise in the generation, storage, transmission and distribution of electrical energy and the relevant interdisciplinary technologies, as well as the many different ways in which this energy is used. Integrated into the VDE interdisciplinary network, ETG is a widely recognized and respected technical and scientific association. The volunteer experts create a common platform for knowledge exchange in science and industry, contribute to accelerating the energy transition and to promoting an understanding of sustainable energy technology in society, and identify areas of action for policymakers. ETG connects people, different generations, start-ups and established institutions, science, business and society with performance and energy.

For more information, visit 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 130 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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