



Press Release

Frankfurt am Main, 3 November 2015

The PMR Conference and Energy Industry Forum offer a wide range of topics relevant to the energy industry

Not only since publication of Marc Elsberg's bestseller "Blackout - Tomorrow will be too late" has the energy supply industry been aware of the vulnerability of its infrastructure. Secure, reliable communication paths are vital to German and European power grids. The energy turnaround and expansion of regenerative energy have increased the demands on grid monitoring and control. PMRExpo 2015, the leading European trade fair for professional mobile radio and control centres, is paying more attention to this development than in previous years. In addition to the traditional PMR conference with its heavy emphasis on the energy industry, this year will also see the launch of the Energy Industry Forum with its own independent programme.

Panel discussion: "IT security for critical infrastructure"

The energy industry themes of the two-day PMR conference on 24 and 25 November will kick off on the first afternoon with a panel discussion on "IT security for critical infrastructure - better with professional communication" with the following speakers: Dr. Markus Kolland, Managing Director, Cassidian Communications GmbH; Robert Tech, Managing Director, Assecor GmbH, **Michael Sparenberg**, Project Manager, if(is) - Institute for Internet security at the Westphalian University of Applied Sciences, Gelsenkirchen, and Edgar Schmidt, Managing Director, BESCom GmbH and Chairman of the Board of PMeV, the German Association for Professional Mobile Radio (PMeV). The discussion will be chaired by Phil Kidner, Chief Executive Officer of the TETRA + Critical Communications Association (TCCA)

Critical infrastructure, smart grid and first-hand reports

Individual presentations on the energy industry will take place on the second day of the conference, 25 November. Josef Lorenz, of IABG Industrieanlagen-Betriebsgesellschaft mbH, will start the ball rolling with his theme of "Critical Infrastructure and Energy Supply." Dr. Kai Daniel, RWE Deutschland AG and chairman of the expert "control functions" team of the VDE network technology/network operation committee will speak on "Communications and System Requirements in the Smart Grid." Two further presentations will address

operational practice: Roland Beissert, Managing Director of CAx soft GmbH, will give a talk entitled "The Berlin grid - medium-tension grid automation in a city environment," followed by Klaus Gräser, Managing Director of Blickle&Scherer Kommunikationstechnik GmbH & Co. KG, on cooperative operations with "Joint integrated communications network for municipal authorities, using the example of Karlsruhe and Ettlingen".

Energy Industry Forum

On 26 November, the new energy industry forum will address the crucial questions currently affecting energy suppliers in all fields: "How can secure communications be provided for the energy industry, including in crises, and how can professional mobile radio meet the demands of the industry?" Under the chairmanship of Josef Lorenz, of IABG Industrieanlagen-Betriebsgesellschaft mbH, discussion will take place with experts Lothar Schubert (telent GmbH), Dr. Michael Koch (devolo AG) and Harald Huber (Deutsche Energie Funk GmbH).

Communication in a crisis and in day-to-day operations

As public and mobile networks, and public communication in general, are insufficiently crisis-resistant and blackout-proof, they can soon fail in a power cut. Electricity and gas suppliers in particular therefore need reliable communication paths which can be made available on their own dedicated radio networks, for example, providing speech and data communication in equal measure. In addition to communicating in a crisis, the forum participants will also address the current technical challenges of communicating in day-to-day operations. A substantial data flow is required for monitoring and controlling the grid in order to establish smart grids.

Act on digitising the energy turnaround

Energy suppliers will have to face up to completely new challenges in communications technology if smart meters are to catch on in Germany. The German Federal Ministry of Economics recently submitted a draft bill for the Act on digitising the energy turnaround. The Energy Industry Forum discussion panel will definitely address the relevant questions on the draft bill.

Visitors to PMRExpo will be able to visit the Energy Industry Forum and all the specialist forums free of charge by presenting their valid entrance ticket to the fair. The event will be held on Stand C14 in Hall 10.2.

The PMR conference at PMRExpo:

Tuesday, 24 November 2015, Offenbachsaal, from 10.30 to 16.00 hrs.

Wednesday, 25 November 2015, from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

The Energy Industry Forum at PMRExpo:

Thursday, 26 November 2015, from 10.00 to 12.00 hrs., on stand C14 in Hall 10.2

Twitter #PMR_Expo

You will find the latest information on the PMRExpo at www.pmrexpo.de/en.

***PMRExpo**, an international trade fair for Professional Mobile Radio and control centres, will now take place for the 15th time. Koelnmesse has been its home since 2009. A large number of national and international exhibitors are attending, e.g. manufacturers, users and operators of professional mobile radio systems. The German Association for Professional Mobile Radio (PMeV) is the ideal sponsor of PMRExpo. The organiser is EW Medien und Kongresse GmbH, Frankfurt am Main*

www.pmrexpo.de

***PMeV**, which has its registered office in Berlin, is an association of leading suppliers and users of communications systems for mobile professional use... Its members are manufacturers, system vendors, application integration companies, network operators and users. PMeV's objective is to develop the professional mobile radio market in Germany still further. For this purpose, and as the leading centre of excellence in the field of professional mobile radio, it is offering a forum for a neutral, cooperative dialogue with market partners, politicians, authorities and institutions, independent of manufacturers.*

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***EW Medien und Kongresse GmbH**, Frankfurt am Main, is a leading information provider to the energy and water industry in Germany and supplies up-to-date industry-sector knowledge across different media channels from a single source. EW works under the slogan "Knowledge is our energy" every day to gather and process the most important information for the sector. Quality, topicality and practical relevance are always at the forefront. Due to its proximity to the German Federal Association of the Energy and Water Industry (BDEW), EW can react quickly to current political and legal developments. EW also organises events on topics relevant to PMR, such as the PMR information day for utilities, the symposium on stand-by duties, events covering emergency and crisis management and, since 2013, PMRExpo as well.*

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