

**Press release**Frankfurt am Main, 22nd October 2014**PMR Conference: Communication requirements and solutions in the energy industry**

As part of the Energiewende it is not only the economic but also the technical framework conditions which have changed in the energy industry. The Renewable Energy Act and the Energy Industry Act present network operators and public utility companies with new tasks and challenges that require a highly secure communications network. Smart Grid and Smart Metering bring about new communication challenges in the field of voice and radio data transmission, for instance. The same applies to emergency communication systems.

PMRExpo, which will take place from 25 to 27 November 2014 in Cologne, also provides a platform for communication experts from energy supply companies. The PMR Conference's central topics also include energy supply companies' communication requirements and their solutions. Frank Scherff (Kellner Telecom GmbH) will discuss the "communication requirements of the energy industry" in general.

Stefan Weißmann (EWR Netz GmbH, Worms) will explain "Meter reading and Smart Metering at EWR Netz GmbH." The lecture will describe a pilot project in which smart household meters (about 600 units) installed in a cottage area on the Rhine can be read via a TETRA radio network. There is no stable GSM network in this area and even landline communication is not safe when the Rhine floods. For this reason, EWR uses its TETRA network for meter data transmission. The data is sent via SDS. The meter cabinets are located at a height of about 2.5 to 4 metres so as to be protected from flooding. Previously, collecting the data was very time-consuming and costly as it had to be obtained using lifting platforms.

Wolf Fischer (Stromnetz Berlin GmbH) will discuss "Load and generation management via the e*Nergy broadcast system". In the area covered by Stromnetz Berlin GmbH, interruptible appliances (electric night storage heaters, heat pumps, etc.) within households and other customers' premises can be controlled using a new and innovative broadcast system. The switching times for night storage battery heaters for example are calculated using forecast weather data for the following day and sent to the corresponding pager unit ("StromPager"). By using special signature schemes, the switching commands are protected against manipulation when

travelling between transmitter and receiver. The basis for this pager radio ripple control (pager RRC) is a nationwide, 466 MHz paging network (e*Message) so that this new technology can also replace the audio frequency ripple control (AFRC) technology still being used by many operators.

Another focus of the two-day PMR Congress, which is very relevant to energy supply companies, is communication in times of crisis and disaster. In this context, the importance of communication for the protection of critical infrastructures will also be addressed.

The presentations held at the PMR Conference will be simultaneously interpreted into English.

The PMR Conference at the PMRExpo:

Tuesday, 25 November 2014, 10:30 am to 5:30 pm, Offenbachsaal

Wednesday, 26 November 2014, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm, Offenbachsaal

For up to date information about the presentations and speakers, please visit www.pmrexpo.de/pmr-konferenz

***PMRExpo** is taking place for the 14th time this year. Since 2009, Koelnmesse has been home of the leading trade fair for Professional Mobile Radio (PMR) and control rooms. A large number of national and international exhibitors will be featured, e.g. producers, users and operators of Professional Mobile Radio systems. The Professioneller Mobilfunk e. V. (PMeV) acts as conceptual supporter of PMRExpo. The event is organised by EW Medien und Kongresse based in Frankfurt am Main.
www.pmrexpo.de/en*

*The **Bundesverband Professioneller Mobilfunk e.V. (PMeV)**, i.e. Federal Association of Professional Mobile Radio, is a federation of leading suppliers and users of communication systems for mobile professional applications. Its members include manufacturers, system providers and application houses as well as network operators and users. The aim of PMeV is to further expand and develop the PMR market in Germany. In addition, PMeV offers manufacturers, users and enquirers a neutral dialogue platform for the assessment of technologies and the discussion of chances and risks of technical solutions and concepts.*

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*Frankfurt-based **EW Medien und Kongresse GmbH** is a leading provider of information in the energy and water industry in Germany. In keeping with their slogan "Know-how is our energy" EW compiles and prepares the most important information from the industry. Focusing on quality, topicality and practical approach, EW reacts fast to current political and legal developments in the sector due to its closeness to the BDEW, Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft. EW also organises events for PMR-related topics, such as a specialist forum on PMR for utility providers, a symposium on on-call duty and other conferences on emergency and crisis management such as PMRExpo which EW has been organising since 2013.*

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