

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



OUR COMPASS

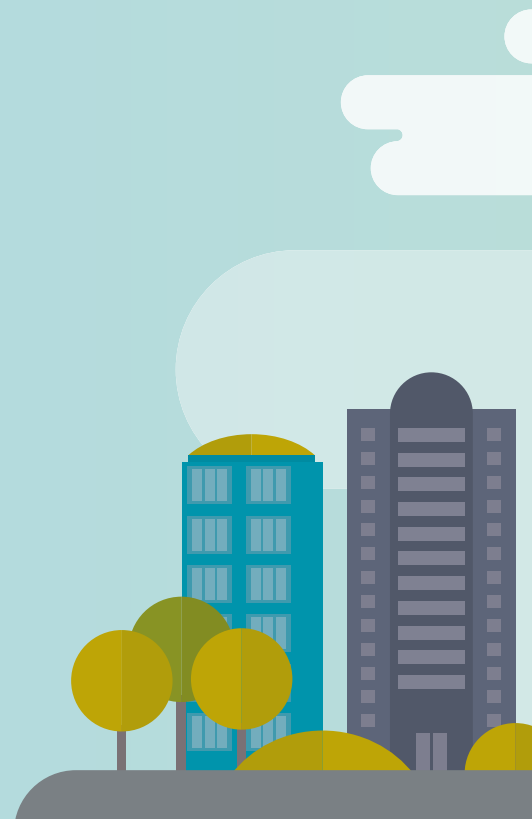
The UN Sustainable Development Goals serve as our fixed points

OUR MISSION

MESSE ESSEN aims to be climate-neutral by 2030

OUR PROJECTS

A sustainable approach – environmental protection meets social responsibility



CLIMATE-NEUTRAL PRINTING

MESSE ESSEN is also doing its part for more sustainability in the production of this report. The paper complies with the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), an NGO that promotes the environmentally friendly, socially acceptable and economically profitable management of the world's forests. Starting with this report, printing will also be climate-neutral. The CO₂ emissions generated in printing this report will be offset by funding a reforestation project in Africa. MESSE ESSEN is also sponsoring further reforestation in Germany.

www.klima-druck.de



IMPRINT

PUBLISHER:

MESSE ESSEN GmbH,
Messeplatz 1, 45131 Essen, Germany
2nd edition

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Daniela Mühlen, Senior Vice President
Communication & Advertising

DESIGN: PHOTOS:

Maenken Kommunikation GmbH
MESSE ESSEN, Getty Images (pp. 1, 2, 10, 12, 22),
United Nations (p. 7), Shutterstock (pp. 8, 14),
Alexandra Roth (p. 16), Doppelmayr (p. 24)



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FOREWORD

DEAR READER,

It gives us great pleasure to publish our new Sustainability Report. MESSE ESSEN has sharpened the focus of its ambition to operate responsibly and sustainably, translating this into a clear mission: We aim to be a climate-neutral trade fair venue by 2030.

The course we will follow to achieve this uses the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as its fixed points. They are the focus for the way we work and for the active climate-protection measures we will be presenting on the following pages. To ensure a holistic approach, these measures cover ecological, social and economic areas of activity.

For example, did you know that we have fitted the exhibition halls with state-of-the-art CO₂ sensors to measure the exact amount of fresh air required so we can steer electricity consumption accordingly? Or that the rainwater running off the hall roofs does not end up in the sewers but is routed to the nearby Margarethensee lake, thus returning it to the natural water cycle and easing the pressure on wastewater treatment plants?

We have already successfully reached many milestones en route to climate neutrality but many more challenges still lie ahead. This Sustainability Report provides an overview of the status quo and describes the projects we will be tackling in the near future.

Our sustainability activities are not restricted to the MESSE ESSEN site. As a responsible corporate citizen, we are also committed to contributing to the community in which we are located – as an active member of organisations which seek to translate future topics into a practical reality and as a sponsor of culture and sports.

On behalf of the shareholders of MESSE ESSEN, we would like to expressly thank our exhibitors, our visitors and our business and service partners for their support on our path towards climate neutrality.

We hope you enjoy reading our report.



Thomas Kufen

Mayor of the City of Essen and
Chairman of the Supervisory Board of
MESSE ESSEN GmbH



Oliver P. Kuhrt

CEO
MESSE ESSEN GmbH

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

THE COMPASS FOR OUR ACTIVITIES

As the operator of an international trade fair venue, we are responsible for the people who attend our events, for our employees and, most particularly, for our environment. Ecological, social and economic sustainability therefore frames everything we do. We have made this framework as specific as possible by aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reflecting the commitment made by Germany's trade fair industry via AUMA (Association of the German Trade Fair Industry).

The 17 SDGs are at the heart of the Agenda 2030, which was adopted by the United Nations in 2015 with the mission of enabling people worldwide to lead a dignified life and, at the same time, preserving the natural basis for their existence. They address the global ecological, economic and social challenges which can only be mastered if we all do our part – as a society and as business enterprises.

That is why we have aligned our sustainability strategy with these international standards and have identified the following SDGs as the ones to which we at MESSE ESSEN can contribute.

ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY



Trade fairs use a great deal of energy. Depending on the outdoor temperature, our halls must be heated or cooled. Water and electricity consumption is considerable at large events or trade fairs with machine demonstrations, in particular. Events also generate a lot of waste which must be disposed of sustainably.

We are very aware of the special responsibility this entails, so the careful use of resources is one of our main priorities. We are not only committed to producing, storing and using renewable energy perspectively, but to actively protecting water resources and operating our own circular waste management system.

Environmentally friendly event management also extends to catering. Regional foodstuffs from certified organic production are a guarantee in terms of animal welfare and promote sustainable agriculture in the area surrounding Essen.

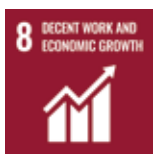
ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY



Sustainability is about more than just the environment. A productive and resilient economy is a key factor in achieving the good quality of life that is the goal of the UN Agenda 2030. Innovation has a crucial role to play here, serving as the driver of economic success and sustainable development. Trade fairs are a platform for innovations from around the world, showcasing products, technologies and solutions that make our lives better. We are therefore consistently expanding our portfolio of events to cover future topics and evolving our existing successful formats in this direction as well.

As a part of Essen's municipal corporation, we see ourselves as a link between local and global stakeholders. We bring together our international network of exhibitors, industry associations and trade fair experts with decision makers from the Ruhr Metropolitan Region, thus fostering communication between them. Moreover, we continue to invest in our site, strengthening our infrastructure and contributing actively to developing the local economy.

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY



Work is a large part of our lives and has a major impact on our well-being. As an employer, we are very aware of our responsibility for the physical and mental health of our employees, which we support with a wide range of measures. These include working from home days which can be used flexibly, subsidised top-up health insurance and many occupational health offerings.

In our view, social sustainability also includes training and development. As well as training future event technicians and offering a dual study programme, we also provide continuing professional development for all the people we employ.

We have formulated our Management and Collaboration Guidelines as the framework for the way we work together. Mutual respect and openness are central aspects, as is active inclusion which we ensure through our cooperation with Franz Sales Werkstätten, a renowned institution for the disabled.



Phase 1

Identify and assess measures for optimising energy savings

Phase 2

Assess structural and legislative aspects; review the measures identified in phase 1 for their operational and economic feasibility; determine costs; analyse cost efficiency

Step 3

Identify technical measures for ensuring the climate neutrality of MESSE ESSEN; establish a project structure


 Implementation

 THREE-PHASE PLAN

OUR MISSION: CLIMATE-NEUTRAL FAIRGROUND

Our sustainable development goals guide us on our path towards achieving our ambition. By 2030, we aim to be a climate-neutral trade fair venue that produces no greenhouse gas emissions or fully compensates for any emissions it cannot avoid. We have evolved a three-phase plan to achieve this ambition.

Phase 1, completed at the start of 2022, involved identifying and assessing measures for optimising energy savings. Working with external experts, we analysed possible measures that could be implemented immediately. Where can we reduce electricity consumption in the short term? How can we link individual building technology systems to improve efficiency? What contributions do the paperless office and the use of LED lighting make to reducing CO₂ emissions? We found the answers to these questions and are now successively implementing our findings.

Phase 2 primarily concerns energy generation. An open-ended feasibility study is delivering information about the structural, legal and economic framework and analysing the viability of energy generation measures. There are challenges associated with, for example, the installation of new photovoltaic systems because there

are structural restrictions on the suspended loads on the hall roofs. Phase 3 will involve identifying specific technical measures based on the study's outcomes so that we can actually make our operations climate-neutral. It goes without saying that these measures must be both sustainable and economical.

Sustainability is not static but an evolving process. We have already reached many key milestones of our mission and many others will soon follow. On the next pages, we will be demonstrating where MESSE ESSEN currently stands.

We will be focusing specifically on these areas of activity:

- Energy and emissions
- Waste and disposal
- Water
- Catering
- Social sustainability

Whether smart taps or recyclable drinking straws, subsidised e-bikes for work or biodegradable cleaning products – all the measures are contributing to climate neutrality and more are being added all the time.

ENERGY & EMISSIONS

SAVINGS STRATEGIES MEET EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES

The energy transition is considered to be one of the most important challenges of our era. As a trade fair venue, we are aware of our responsibility to future generations which is why we are doing everything we can to reduce our energy consumption and switch to renewable energy sources.

When it comes to carbon dioxide, our only goal is reduction. To achieve this, we are implementing many different measures. We are already using energy-efficient LED lamps on parts of our site and will extend the use of state-of-the-art LED technology to the entire site in the years ahead. This will cut carbon dioxide emissions by way more than 100 tonnes a year. We have also installed CO₂ sensors in our halls to measure carbon dioxide concentrations in the air and regulate the fresh air supply. If there is a smaller number of people in a room, there is less CO₂ in the air so the fresh air supply is reduced temporarily, thus cutting electricity consumption. As we are also addressing the issue of mobility, this electricity may be needed elsewhere. In cooperation with Allego, we have installed a number of charging points for electric vehicles on our site.

Air plays an important role in our air-conditioning and heating management. It is used to heat and cool some of our halls and offices thanks to a series of heat pumps installed on the roof of Hall 6, which use ambient air as the energy source instead of gas. The pumps are operated with electricity generated as a by-product by the combined heat and power plant in the basement of Hall 6, which is mainly used to produce heat. At the end of the day, the plant produces two different types of energy and supplies the entire east section of our site. We use an efficient low-temperature gas boiler for Halls 4 and 5 in the north section.





Essen registers around 1,500 hours of sunlight each year. That is why, in 2001, we installed a photovoltaic system on the roof of the Galeria. A total of 731 double-glazed modules were fitted on the arched roof, providing visitors with protection from the sun at the same time.



WASTE & DISPOSAL

WE THROW (ALMOST) NOTHING AWAY

Waste is produced by every event and on a day-to-day basis in our offices and workshops, quickly adding up to several hundred tonnes each year. We have therefore implemented a smart waste management system with the goal of returning as much waste as possible to the economic cycle.

Ahead of a trade fair, exhibitors can register their anticipated waste volumes via an online system and request disposal. Essen's waste disposal company painstakingly separates scrap metal, wood, plastic, light bulbs, paper and residual waste for disposal or recycling. During trade fairs, waste advisors tour the halls to help exhibitors separate their waste correctly. We donate valuable materials such as carpets to charities, childcare facilities and schools. Of course, we also separate and recycle the waste produced by visitors, with around 100 twin-chamber collection containers located across the site.

We freely admit that our offices are not yet entirely paperless. However, we use much less paper than we did

just a few years ago thanks to the digitalisation of many processes. Whereas we used to put a lot of effort into printing and completing forms, this is now done online with just a few mouse clicks. This applies similarly to orders and invoices and to tickets for exhibitors, visitors and journalists. If we do have to use paper, we make sure it is as environmentally friendly as possible. That is why this report is printed on recycled paper using a climate-neutral process. Moreover, in our sanitary facilities, we use only unbleached tissues, toilet paper and paper towels made from at least 30% recycled material. As a result, we are reducing the emissions associated with production and preserving natural resources at the same time.

We also recycle food waste in cooperation with ReFood. This company collects our food waste bins and uses the organic contents to produce biogas, biodiesel, organic fertiliser and sustainable electricity. Likewise, reusable packaging is not disposed of but recycled by a partner company in an environmentally friendly way.



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WATER

AS MUCH AS NECESSARY, AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE

Recently, Germany has experienced increasingly hot summers. These result in something which had previously seemed impossible; drinking water became scarce in some areas and emergency measures were introduced. This reminded us that water is the world's most precious resource and that its availability in our latitudes should by no means be taken for granted.

It is for this reason that MESSE ESSEN has implemented an intelligent water management system, using as much as necessary, but as little as possible. To achieve this, we have fitted water-saving toilet flush valves and self-closing taps across the site, enabling us to cut our annual water consumption by more than 10,500 cubic metres. This saving is particularly evident during large events with many tens of thousands of visitors. We are also reducing the impact of the waste water we produce thanks to our cleaning services provider, Stölting Service Group, which uses

only biodegradable products and environmentally friendly cleaning agents.

Good neighbourhood relations are important – and this also applies to active water protection. The rainwater which collects on the hall roofs and elsewhere on the site does not end up in the sewers but is routed directly to Margarethensee lake, in the nearby Grugapark. From there, it returns to the natural water cycle. At the same time, this measure eases pressure on the sewer system and wastewater treatment plants. In 2016, we were awarded Emschergenossenschaft's water mark for our exemplary rainwater management.

We also regularly inspect our sewer and wastewater system and perform any necessary repairs. In this way, we can avoid contaminating the groundwater and contribute to ensuring an intact water cycle.

CATERING

DELIGHT WITH A CLEAR CONSCIENCE

Lush green fields, extensive woodland and an idyllic river flowing through protected meadowland – just 20 kilometres from MESSE ESSEN, the river Ruhr passes through Hattingen, home to Schultenhof organic farm. Our catering partner for many years, it supplies our exhibitors and visitors with regional specialties and foodstuffs. As a Bioland-certified farm, Schultenhof operates in accordance with strict guidelines which far exceed the statutory minimum standards for organic foodstuffs. For example, the farm keeps the largest herd of aurochs-derived cattle in North Rhine-Westphalia on a 120-hectare nature reserve. At the foot of Isenberg hill with its ruined castle, the animals graze on lush meadows which are the exact habitat they need to thrive.

The farm uses only regional fruit and vegetables and seasonal availability is a major criterion in the preparation of its products. “For example, we don’t use strawberries in winter. Instead, our dishes are based on kale, pumpkin and beetroot. This enables us to avoid unnecessary transport,” explains Christina Schulte-Stade from the Schultenhof team. Responsible meat consumption is also important to the catering expert. “Demand from exhibitors and visitors for meatless meals has increased substantially in recent years. Vegan and vegetarian meals are no longer alternatives but an integral part of our offering,” says Ms Schulte-Stade.

In order to meet the growing demand for sustainably produced foodstuffs and support the regional econ-

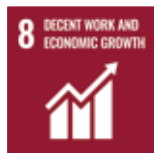


omy, Schultenhof has been cooperating with another nearby Bioland-certified farm, Klosterberghof, since 2019. Located in a rural idyll on the outskirts of Essen, Klosterberghof raises beef cattle and grows 35 different types of fruit and vegetables on 30 hectares. If anything is left over that is still suitable for consumption, Schultenhof coordinates donations to organisations such as those that promote food sharing.



Our catering partner also thinks outside the box when it comes to finding alternatives for disposable tableware which is required for safety reasons at concerts in the Grugahalle. For example, Schultenhof purchases cups, plates and cutlery from Greenbox, a specialist supplier of sustainable and environmentally friendly packaging for the catering industry. Oh, and no one is left clutching at straws – because they are no longer used at all.

We work with catering company Aramark as well as with Schultenhof. Under the motto “Be Well. Do Well”, Aramark is committed to sustainability and, like MESSE ESSEN, has aligned its activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Its stated aims include offering more plant-based dishes, promoting the responsible consumption of meat, using sustainable packaging and reducing food waste.



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

BENEFITS WE

Alongside ecological and economic aspects, social aspects also play a major role in sustainability. Compliance with labour legislation, social standards and occupational health regulations are essential factors of fair cooperation. A respectful and value-based corporate culture also fosters employee satisfaction and engagement. In 2022, MESSE ESSEN was again ranked as a top SME employer by the job portal Yourfirm.de for its commitment.

We have formulated our Management and Collaboration Guidelines as the framework for the way we work together. Mutual respect and openness are central aspects. As well as profiting from this good working environment, our employees also enjoy the following benefits:

PART-TIME AND MOBILE WORKING

Ensuring the compatibility of a career and family life is high on the list of priorities for many working people. At MESSE ESSEN, individualised part-time working helps our employees achieve their personal work-life balance. Where operational requirements allow it, mobile working provides even greater flexibility.

COMPANY PENSION SCHEME

Our employer-financed company pension scheme builds an additional pension provision for our employees. We also offer them the option of voluntary deferred compensation. The advantage of this is that employees use part of their gross salary to build their pension provi-



OFFER AS AN EMPLOYER

sion. Upon payout, this compensation is not subject to either tax or social security charges.

PRIVATE TOP-UP HEALTH INSURANCE

Our employees can take out private top-up health insurance at preferential conditions.

REINTEGRATION SYSTEM

If an employee is unable to work for more than six consecutive weeks or on repeated occasions, they are given support on their return to the workplace. The company reintegration system helps them to get back to work at the right pace, thus avoiding a recurrence of the incapacity to work.

TRAINING

A wide range of training measures supports our employees in their personal and professional development. So that our employees do not have to travel long distances, MESSE ESSEN seeks to provide training courses close to the workplace or within Essen's municipal corporation network. One of our partners is the city's Municipal Administration Institute.

DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

We make no distinction between our employees on the grounds of gender, ethnic origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion. To ensure this, and that all employees are deployed to make the best possible use of their skills, we have implemented our own diversity management concept. We actively foster the equality of

all our employees. Women make up 50% of our workforce.

INCLUSION

MESSE ESSEN gives special consideration to employees with disabilities. For example, physically disabled employees can participate in vocational preparation measures and in professional training. They are also not required to work overtime and receive five extra days of holiday each year. We practice active inclusion through our cooperation with Franz Sales Werkstätten, which provides staff for our catering services.

MODERN WORKPLACE

Our air-conditioned, ergonomic and state-of-the-art offices satisfy the highest workplace standards and have been awarded the "Safe Workplace" quality seal by the North Rhine-Westphalian accident insurance fund (Unfallkasse).

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Our employees enjoy the leisure benefits offered by the City of Essen, with evening and weekend highlights ranging from discounted prices for various leisure facilities across the region to exclusive concert tickets.

HEALTH MANAGEMENT

From sporting events such as the company fun run, company medical services such as free eye tests and products to meet a baby's first needs, our employees have access to a broad healthcare offering.



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

HOW WE EXPERIENCE MESSE ESSEN

Sustainability has many facets and is perceived and practised differently by our employees. We asked what MESSE ESSEN and sustainability mean to them.

Tom Kraayvanger, Team Leader Press



"The media landscape is changing. Print circulation is declining while digital reach is increasing. This is also reflected in our press activities. The year 2020 was the first year that more than half of all publications about MESSE ESSEN appeared online. In order to simplify journalists' work, we now print less on paper and have stopped using USB sticks altogether. Instead, we supply a QR code which directs the user to images, texts and videos. Accreditation and invitation management for our press events has now also moved online. This reduces the work involved, cuts costs and protects the environment."

Christina Kleinpaß, Project Manager



"I integrate sustainability in my workday every morning when I leave my car at home and cycle to the office. With a journey of 17 kilometres, I'm not only helping the environment but also doing something for my personal fitness. I really appreciate having a safe place to park and charge my bike while I'm at work. And I value the expert help I get from our workshop if a minor repair is necessary."

Gero Haude, Coordinator Procurement



"Instead of the reams of paper requisitions we used to fill out and circulate for signatures, we now use an entirely digital order and invoice system. This is resource-friendly and has greatly accelerated our procurement processes. To me, avoiding the use of paper is therefore the one measure which tangibly represents active climate protection by MESSE ESSEN."

Marion Janssen, Corporate Development Consultant



"As a member of various AUMA working groups, I experience sustainability above all as a mission that we as an industry must address together on the basis of joint strategies. I am inspired by the opportunity to share my experience of resource-friendly event management with colleagues from across the industry and to learn from each other. It is the best motivation to try new ideas and make the trade fair industry fit for the future."

SUSTAINABILITY AT

Christina Grewe, *Head of Congress Center
Essen and Guest Events*



"Climate-neutral event management is now expected by virtually all our congress clients and guest event organisers. As a result, we are seeing awareness in our industry grow each day, along with a sense of how important it is to be able to answer the questions that may be asked in connection with running resource-friendly events. The professional report sheets we receive from many of our clients before a contract is signed are evidence that sustainability is now just as important as the right exhibition space concept. These are the factors used to gauge where we stand in terms of climate neutrality."

Dennis Willuhn, *Coordinator Sales*



"As a sales specialist, I experience the growing significance of sustainability in my daily interaction with our clients. For most of them, sustainability has long since been about more than just reducing the environmental impact of their own stand. Today, a sustainable trade fair stand means that the assets or consumer goods presented must also satisfy ecological quality criteria. It is quite simply fascinating to offer innovative companies a platform that allows them to showcase their products in the best light."

Klaus Bujok, *Coordinator Facility Management*

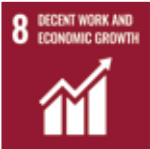


"My entire working day is basically about sustainability because waste disposal has a major impact on the ecological footprint of an event. Continuing to reduce waste volumes and recycle waste properly is a fascinating challenge, not only for me but also for everyone involved with a trade fair."

Joyce Franke, *Coordinator Digital Media/
Social Media*



"When I was studying for my bachelor's degree, alternating between my university in Ravensburg and my practice phase at MESSE ESSEN was the best possible preparation for professional life. That was why I welcomed the opportunity to continue working here when I finished my degree. In my view, being able to transition smoothly from studying to working is also a form of sustainability."



HYDROGEN: THE ENERGY SOURCE OF THE FUTURE

MESSE ESSEN IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE H₂ ADVISORY COUNCIL

As Europe's energy capital, Essen is home to leading companies and research institutes representing the entire hydrogen ecosystem. In 2021, the city initiated the H₂ Advisory Council as a forum for these companies and MESSE ESSEN is a founding member. The common goal is to pool forces at the highest level, jointly developing and actively implementing projects.

Other founding members are Brenntag AG, con|energy AG, Evonik Industries AG, Gas- und Wärme-Institut Essen e.V., Open Grid Europe GmbH, RAG-Stiftung, Ruhrbahn GmbH, RWE AG, Stadtwerke Essen AG, thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions AG, TRIMET ALUMINIUM SE and Westenergie AG.

In Essen, the city council, companies and research institutes are working hand in hand to develop the energy sources of the future, one of which is hydrogen. The special feature of Essen is the high density of well-known energy industry players, making the city a German and European leader in the sector. This, coupled with the large number of universities and research institutes throughout the Ruhr region, provides the ideal framework for developing hydrogen as an energy source.

On the initiative of Thomas Kufen, Lord Mayor of the City of Essen, and André Boschem, Managing Director of the Essen Economic Development Agency (EWG), the H₂ Advisory Council meets regularly to promote the strategic development of the hydrogen economy and implement specific projects – for the city and the region but with a national and international perspective as well. Additional expertise is provided by Grüne Hauptstadt Agentur (GHA), established to implement Essen's environmental goals when the city became European Green Capital in 2017.

NEW TRADE FAIR FROM 2023: HYDROGEN TECH

Hydrogen is playing a growing role in MESSE ESSEN's programme of events. As part of our focus on highly specialised trade fairs, we recently added H₂ to our portfolio. The first Hydrogen Tech will take place in April 2023, concentrating on technologies for the production, processing, transport and storage of hydrogen as a key energy of the future. The trade fair organiser, Germany's KCI Media Group, chose Essen as the venue because of the city's industry and research network.



TRADE FAIRS AND CONGRESSES

FUTURE TOPICS ADDRESSED BY OUR EVENTS

The future topics of environmental protection, energy transition and climate change are having a tangible impact on our calendar of trade fairs and congresses. Listed below are examples of events at MESSE ESSEN which offer stakeholders from industry, research and politics a platform to discuss these topics.



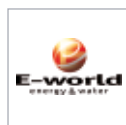
CABLE CAR WORLD

Essen is host to the world's first trade fair for urban cable cars which are considered to be a very climate-friendly means of transport. At the premiere in June 2022, around 30 exhibitors demonstrated how cable cars can be incorporated into the urban mobility mix. More than 20 national and international experts attended the integrated congress to discuss new opportunities and options for using cable cars in cities.



DCONEX

The DCONex Congress is the national forum for professional hazardous substance management for existing buildings. At the parallel trade fair, exhibitors present technical solutions and examples of best practice for building remediation and renovation. The programme focuses on issues such as recycling material specifications, improved occupational safety and construction materials with a low pollutant content.



E-WORLD ENERGY & WATER

As the energy capital of Europe, Essen is not only home to many companies in the sector but also hosts E-world energy & water, Europe's leading energy industry trade fair. The offering increasingly focuses on digital solutions for the energy transition as well as products and services for diversified energy generation, storage solutions and e-mobility.



FAHRRAD ESSEN

Fahrrad Essen has convinced many beginners to get on their bikes. This is little wonder since the annual trade fair not only showcases the latest bicycles and accessories but also provides plenty of space to try them out. The focus of Fahrrad Essen is on e-bikes and urban biking. As part of the supporting programme, experts discuss current issues such as the RS1 express cycle route.



GREEN STEEL WORLD/ HYDROGEN TECH WORLD

Green Steel World and Hydrogen Tech World will both launch in Essen in 2023. Green Steel World will focus on the decarbonisation of the global steel industry while Hydrogen Tech World concentrates on the hydrogen production process chain. Both trade fairs are being organised by KCI Media Group based in Kleve, Germany.



INFRATECH

The challenges facing the infrastructure sector are enormous but it harbours great opportunities at the same time. Infratech addresses the issues involved in civil engineering, road construction, hydraulic engineering, supply and disposal, the design of public spaces and mobility. In particular, it highlights the aspects of digitalisation, sustainability, the energy transition, and renovation and replacement.



IPM ESSEN

Green, great, gorgeous – that is IPM Essen, the international trade fair for plants. What is now the world's leading trade fair for horticulture grew from small beginnings in the 1980s. Climate change and sustainability are defining themes of the exhibits and programme. The annual trade fair in Essen showcases its impressive innovative power with environmentally friendly packaging, climate-tolerant new varieties and insect-friendly plants to foster biodiversity.



METPACK

Once almost consigned to history, drinks cans have celebrated an impressive comeback and it is now hard to imagine them disappearing (again) from supermarket shelves. And rightly so because, with recycling rates in Germany of more than 99%, this consumer packaging has a convincing environmental track record. To ensure that this continues or improves,

the international metal packaging industry meets at METPACK in Essen every three years. The key issues are highly energy-efficient and environmentally friendly machinery and packaging.



NRW – DAS BESTE AUS DER REGION

Think global, eat local: Regional foodstuffs have become a megatrend. NRW – Das Beste aus der Region is an annual public exhibition at which producers, farm shops, protective associations and marketing organisations from all parts of North Rhine-Westphalia showcase their high-quality food products. In collaboration with Ernährung-NRW, an umbrella organisation for the state's food industry stakeholders, the trade fair aims to increase consumer awareness for regional products.



SHK ESSEN

SHK ESSEN is one of the most important forums for professionals from the craft, installation, planning and consulting industries, focusing on sanitary, heating, air conditioning and digital building management. The main topics include technical solutions for the energy transition, indoor hygiene, drinking water and digital bathrooms.

NEWS

REUSABLE DELIVERY SOLUTIONS

Boxes, adhesive tape and wrapping paper are normally used in the delivery of office materials, resulting in a lot of paper waste. However, our office materials supplier has proved that there is a smarter solution. Kohlsmann delivers our office materials unpackaged in reusable boxes provided in a deposit system. Once the products have been distributed to our storerooms and offices, the boxes are collected and used for our next delivery.

ALL ABOUT BIKES

We provide secure bike parks with charging points and many other services to our employees who cycle to work. For example, they can freshen up in our lockable shower rooms. They can also have their bikes repaired. Our own workshop can deal with minor problems while our nearby service partner helps with any more serious damage. MESSE ESSEN provides an interest-free loan to help its employees purchase the bike of their dreams.

COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABILITY

“fairpflichtet” is the sustainability code of the German-speaking event industry. Its members are industry stakeholders that are committed to environmental, social and economic sustainability and demonstrate this commitment in a transparent way through the right and fair code. MESSE ESSEN and CONGRESS CENTER ESSEN have adopted this code.

PARTICIPATION

To ensure a high level of participation, we employ sign language interpreters at selected events and press conferences for our public trade fairs. In addition, the entire site is barrier-free and we loan wheelchairs for a deposit at several entrances. People accompanying severely disabled visitors pay no entry charge. Information about these and other services is provided in a special brochure available in both digital and print formats.

A TOP SME EMPLOYER

In 2022, MESSE ESSEN was again ranked as a top SME employer by Yourfirm.de, the leading online job portal for SMEs in German-speaking countries. MESSE ESSEN also works with the platform to actively support forest protection measures. Every time it advertises a vacancy, partner PRIMAKLIMA plants a tree on land farmed by smallholders in Nicaragua.

SUSTAINABLY TASTY: OUR THANK-YOU BOX

Our small gestures are not only appreciated by our clients but also benefit the environment. Made from high-quality recycled and unbleached paper, our Thank-You Box contains tasty organic treats. The boxes are produced and filled by hand by regional suppliers, mostly inclusive workshops such as WFAA in Düsseldorf. Tied with satin ribbon certified to the OEKO-TEX 100® standard, the boxes are sent using the climate-friendly DHL GoGreen service.



FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

SUSTAINABLE AND DIGITAL

www.messe-essen.de

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