



# OFF-GRID

## Experts Workshop

### **Press Release**

Augsburg, 25 September 2019

### **International OFF-GRID Experts Workshop scores at new location, with top-flight lecture program and great atmosphere**

The off-grid community gathered in Augsburg on 20 und 21 September 2019 under the motto “Get rid of the grid!”. The unique event offered a varied, interactive and entertaining programme for off-grid enthusiasts seeking contacts and knowledge as well as for newcomers to the sector. The over 450 attendees came together from all over the world, to compare notes and test innovative solutions for stand-alone power supply. The gathering was preceded by the traditional Tech Day, which is dedicated to exhibitors’ product training sessions. Whether dimensioning an off-grid system or minigrid – the approximately 100 participants were able to familiarise themselves with individual application examples and were enthusiastic about what they saw. The previous organisers of the OFF-GRID Experts Workshop, Memmingen-based Phaesun GmbH, placed the event in the hands of Messe Augsburg for the first time this year. Phaesun will continue to actively support the realisation of the OFF-GRID Experts Workshop as specialist partner.

#### **The meeting place for insiders, experts and interested parties**

In recent years, the OFF-GRID Experts Workshop has become the industry’s most important event. Off-Grid systems are energy generation plants that are not connected to the public power grids.

They are designed as stand-alone systems and work exclusively using energy storage devices. During the compact, three-day programme with its lectures by international experts, DIY workshops, discussions and networking activities, it demonstrated the different application possibilities of stand-alone solar, wind, fuel cell and hydroelectric systems. Thematic lecture blocks included photovoltaics, hybrid and small wind turbines and also mini and microgrids. The special guest speaker was Bärbel Höhn, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's Special Representative for Energy in Africa. With her "Citizens' Energy" project, the expert is committed to using decentralised renewable energy in overcoming poverty, creating jobs and added value while strengthening local entrepreneurs and economies in rural areas.

### **Innovative and entertaining**

Attendees also enjoyed an interactive and exciting supporting programme: In the Hands-On Off-Grid Workshop they were able to learn the basic principles of cabling from experienced fitters. The tried-and-trusted Business Speed Dating offered new contacts. The Friday was rounded off with an after-workshop highlight: attendees were able to show off their sporting spirit with a fun electric drift cart race over a tight course. The thrilling and heart-stopping final was won by the Italian Windkinetic team.

### **Positive reactions to relocation**

The move from Memmingen to Augsburg was well received all round. "The portfolio of our own events continues to develop in the direction of new technologies," says Thomas Schmidt-Tancredi, managing director of Messe Augsburg. "It is always impressive to see which innovations are shown by the exhibitors at the fair. The subject of independent power supply at the OFF-GRID Experts Workshop is an ideal enhancement of the environmental expertise that already exists in this economic area".

That relocating the workshop to the modern exhibition centre in Augsburg was the right decision was confirmed by Tobias Zwirner, managing director of partner firm Phaesun GmbH. "Messe Augsburg offers sufficient space to show trade visitors all the possibilities offered by self-reliant energy supply. It has even been possible to transport the informal, upbeat atmosphere, for which the workshop is known, to the new venue". His colleague and project manager at Messe Augsburg, Philip Häußler, is also delighted with the good start. "We could particularly sense the

pioneering spirit of the participants. Power supply with off-grid systems is becoming significantly more important. The industry deserves its own platform”.

Bob Hopman from Victron Energy, participating exhibitor and presenter at the Tech Day, gave an all-round positive verdict: "We're delighted. The Tech Day was very well received and the accompanying trade fair also went well for us. We will surely be here again next time".

[www.off-grid-experts.com](http://www.off-grid-experts.com)

[www.off-grid-experts.com/getting-there-stay/](http://www.off-grid-experts.com/getting-there-stay/)

### **About the OFF-GRID Experts Workshop**

The well-established workshop is regarded as the most important off-grid event in the industry. Over 450 experts from Europe, Africa, North America, Asia and New Zealand recently gathered in Augsburg. The specialist partner of Messe Augsburg is Memmingen-based Phaesun GmbH. Official partners of the event are the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) and the Federal Association of Small Wind Turbines (BVKW). The Augsburg exhibition grounds are conveniently located in the heart of southern Germany – on the A8, B300, B2 and B17 motorways, and between the Munich and Stuttgart international airports. The next OFF-GRID Experts Workshop will take place at Messe Augsburg in November 2020.

### **Press contact:**

Oliver Griesz  
Head of Marketing and Communication  
Tel.: +49 (0)821 2572 112  
[presse@messeaugzburg.de](mailto:presse@messeaugzburg.de)

Tanja Herrmann  
Project Manager Marketing and Communication  
Tel.: +49 (0)821 2572 109  
[presse@messeaugzburg.de](mailto:presse@messeaugzburg.de)