



# **OFF-GRID**

## Expo + Conference

### **Press Release**

26 August 2020

### **OFF-GRID Expo + Conference weathers the crisis**

#### **International event for self-sufficient power supply will take place in December**

Augsburg. The specific industry platform OFF-GRID Expo + Conference has been firmly scheduled by exhibitors for 3 and 4 December. The TechDay on 2 December will provide deeper insights, offering visitors exclusive product and service training sessions.

#### **OFF-GRID Conference: From small wind turbines to energy storage systems**

COVID-19 will also be a topic in the conference programme: At the first session on 3 December, off-grid experts will hold a panel discussion on the current status of electrification in regions far from the grid and how to proceed after the pandemic. One of the panellists is Michael Schmidt, from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). “The projects that are being initiated in Augsburg contribute directly to achieving the UN sustainability goals,” says Schmidt. The second session on the same day will focus on how small businesses in low-income communities can be provided with energy services and thus improve their own services.

On day two, the Federal Association of Small Wind Turbines will give practical tips on how to plan small wind turbines in challenging locations. The fourth session will deal with the technological details of energy storage systems and their significance for decentralised energy supply in rural regions.

#### **ARE is the official conference partner**

The international business association Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) is the official partner of the conference this year. ARE is the world's largest and leading

association in the field of self-sufficient power generation with over 150 international members from around 50 countries; it aims to ensure that everyone in the world has access to secure, affordable and clean energy by 2030. It promotes a sustainable and decentralized energy industry and creates local jobs. To this end, it conducts studies, among others, on the topic of off-grid energy. The Messe Augsburg is a member of the association. This partnership clearly shows the way forward for the off-grid industry – Augsburg as a trade fairground will establish itself as Europe's leading trade fair location for this topic.

### **Safe exhibition days for visitors and exhibitors**

The Messe Augsburg's hygiene plan fulfils all safety and hygiene standards set by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy.

Visitors will use a mobile phone ticket to enter the trade fair without having to make contact. As the exhibition grounds offer sufficient space, participants can easily maintain the minimum distance of 1.5 metres to each other. To prevent them from getting too close at the entrance and junctions, the fair has set up a route guidance system. Masks are compulsory for all participants.

"Thanks to our comprehensive hygiene plan, we can guarantee the safety of all participants and our employees. It is important to set an example even in these difficult times and to create an international meeting place for the industry to exchange ideas and communicate," says Lorenz A. Rau, Managing Director of Messe Augsburg.

The trade fair provides information about the measures on its website:

<https://www.messeaugzburg.de/en/company/about-us/responsibility>

### **About the OFF-GRID Expo + Conference:**

The OFF-GRID Expo + Conference is considered to be the most important off-grid event in the industry. More than 500 experts from Europe, Africa, North America, Asia and New Zealand met in Augsburg last year. The official partner of the event is the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE). The Augsburg exhibition grounds are conveniently located in the heart of Southern Germany – on the A8, B300, B2 and B17 motorways and between the international airports of Munich and Stuttgart.

Further information, please see: [www.off-grid-expo.com](http://www.off-grid-expo.com)

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