



DC-Microgrid Application, Use Cases and Standardization in Europe

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² LEE Chair of Power Electronics

Introduction – Fraunhofer IISB

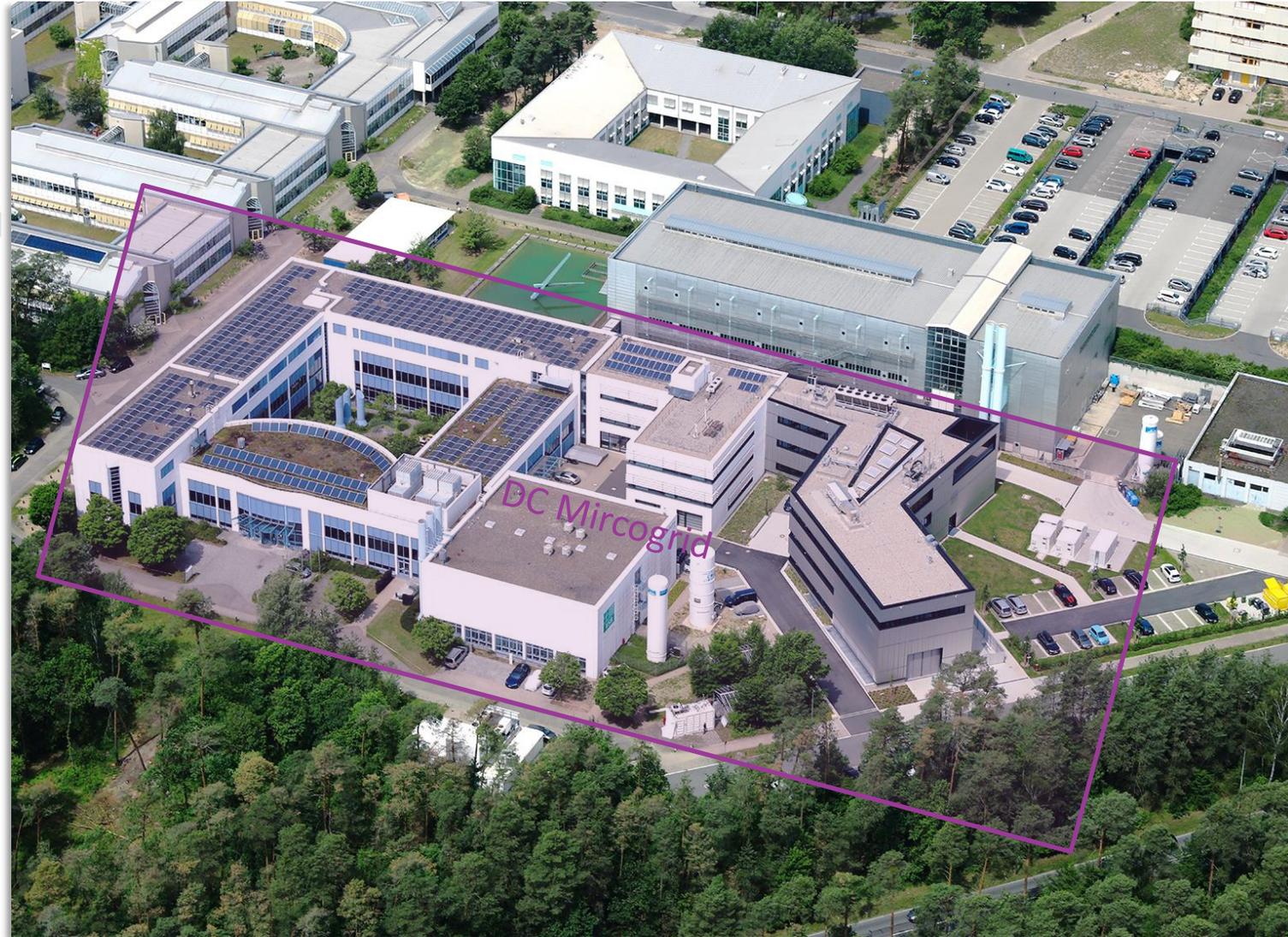
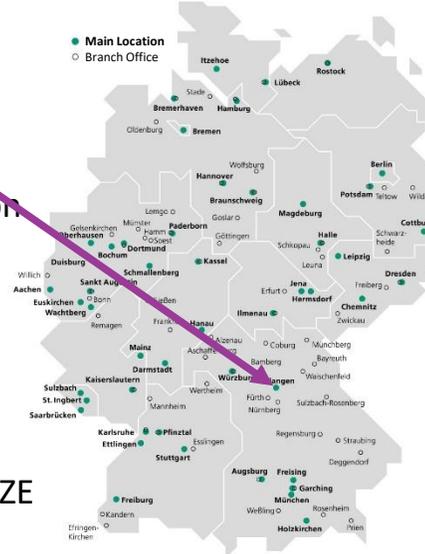
Location: Erlangen (Germany)

Fraunhofer Society

- Applied Research Organization
- Around 29 000 Employees
- 75 Research Institutes
- Annual Budget: 2.8 GEUR

Fraunhofer IISB in Erlangen

- Director: Prof. Dr. Jörg SCHULZE
- R&D Fields:
 - Semiconductor Technologies (Si & SiC)
(1000 m² clean room ISO 4/5 Class 100/1000)
 - Power Electronic Systems
- Cooperation with the Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) and with the University of Bayreuth (UBT)
- Staff: 280 Employees (210 Scientists and Engineers)
- Annual Budget: ~25 MEUR
 - 30% Public Funding + 70% Project Revenues
- Homepage: www.iisb.fraunhofer.de



Introduction – Fraunhofer IISB

Organization of the Fraunhofer IISB in 6 Research Departments



Fraunhofer IISB

Semiconductor Technology

Power Electronic Systems

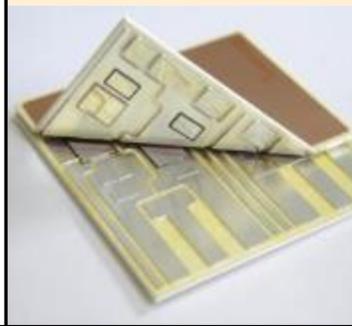
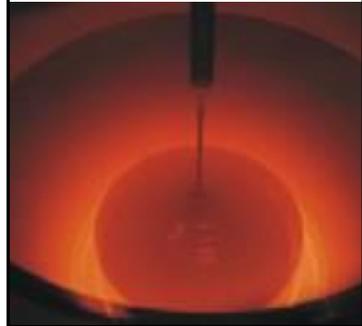
Materials

Technology and Manufacturing

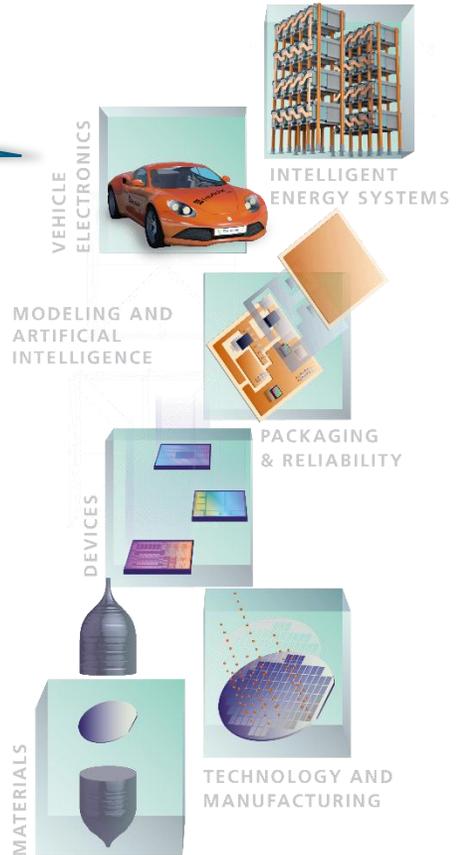
Packaging and Reliability

Vehicle Electronics

Intelligent Energy Systems



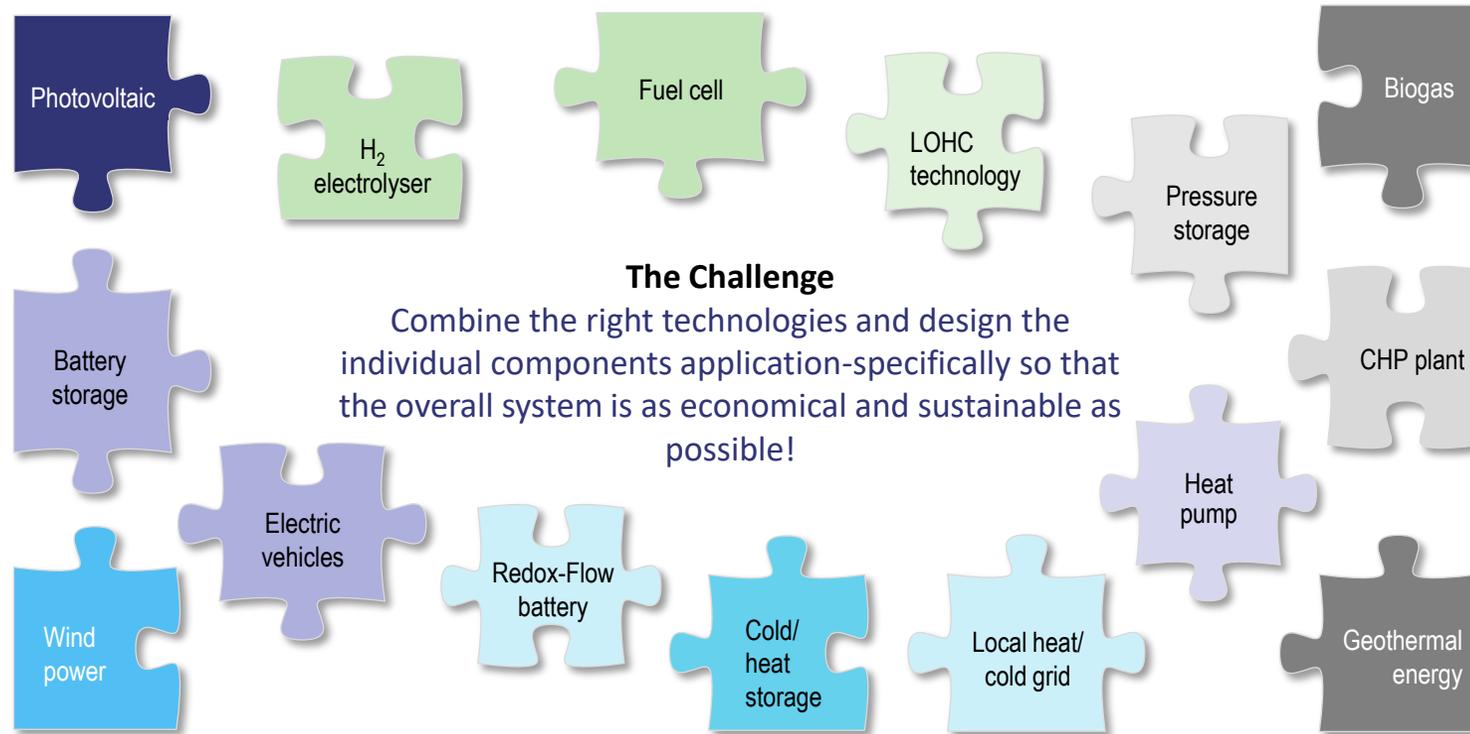
Modelling and Artificial Intelligence



Challenges and Use Cases for DC Microgrids

“Less technical, but rather normative and regulatory challenges should be addressed.”

Technology Kit for Sustainable Energy Systems Already Exists



“DC is a simple way to create complex energy systems with many different technologies. When DC standards and best practices have been established, we regain simplicity in advanced energy systems.”

What makes optimizing energy systems so difficult?

Complex energy infrastructures with close coupling of (sub)systems

Coupled energy systems with different energy sectors

- Electrical networks (AC and DC)
- Heating & Cooling (HVAC, Process Cooling)
- Gases (hydrogen, natural gas, process gases)
- Compressed air, vacuum

The energy sectors are coupled via generation plants

- Optimization of a component or subsystem does not lead to improve the overall system
- Therefore, all relationships between components and networks are considered

High number of boundary conditions, constraints, and optimization goals

Boundary conditions of the components

- Different classes of components: import/export, generation plants, energy storage and consumers
- Each component has individual boundary conditions, such as rated powers, state of charge limits, dynamic behavior...

Typical optimization goals in energy systems

- Optimizing self-sufficiency through renewable energies
- Efficiency of generation plants and energy distribution
- Peak load reduction and load shifting
- Emission reduction, cost savings

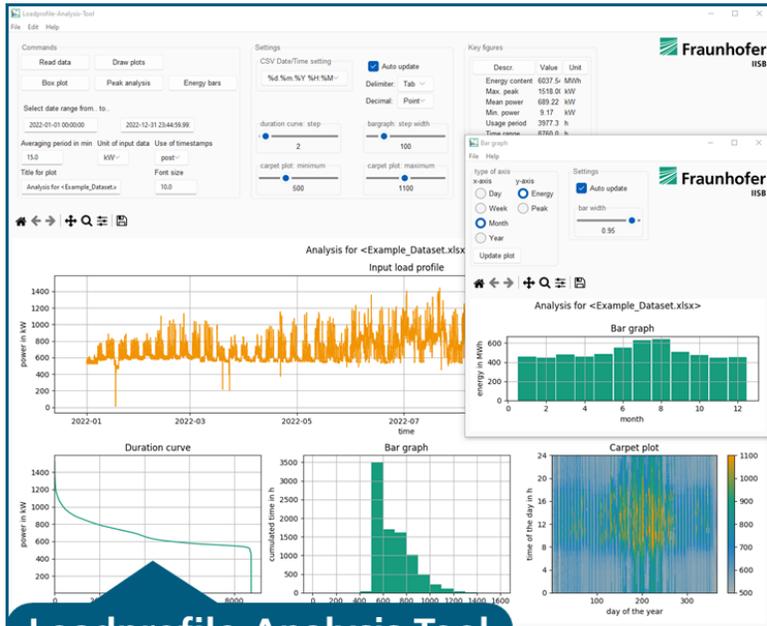
- Holistic view of the energy system of interest necessary
- High complexity requires tools for optimization

Tools for Designing, Optimization and Operation of DC Microgrids

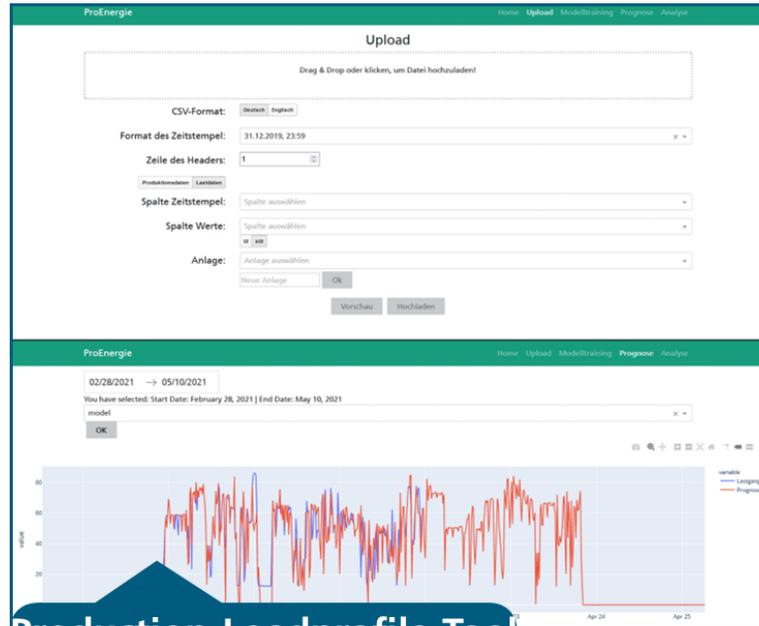


Overview of IISB software toolbox

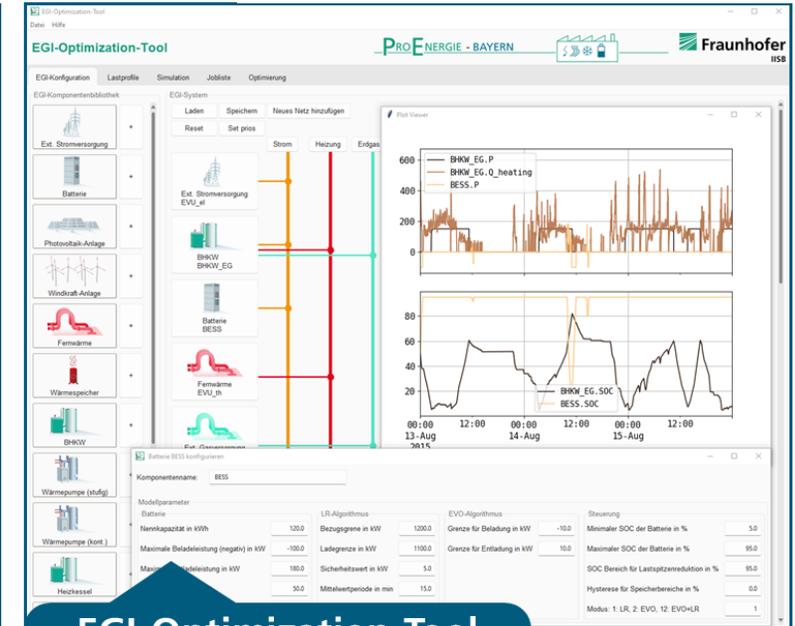
$$CPE = \text{[Icon: Square with diagonal line and tilde]} + \text{[Icon: Brain]}$$



Loadprofile-Analysis-Tool
Load profile analysis incl. useful plots und key figures



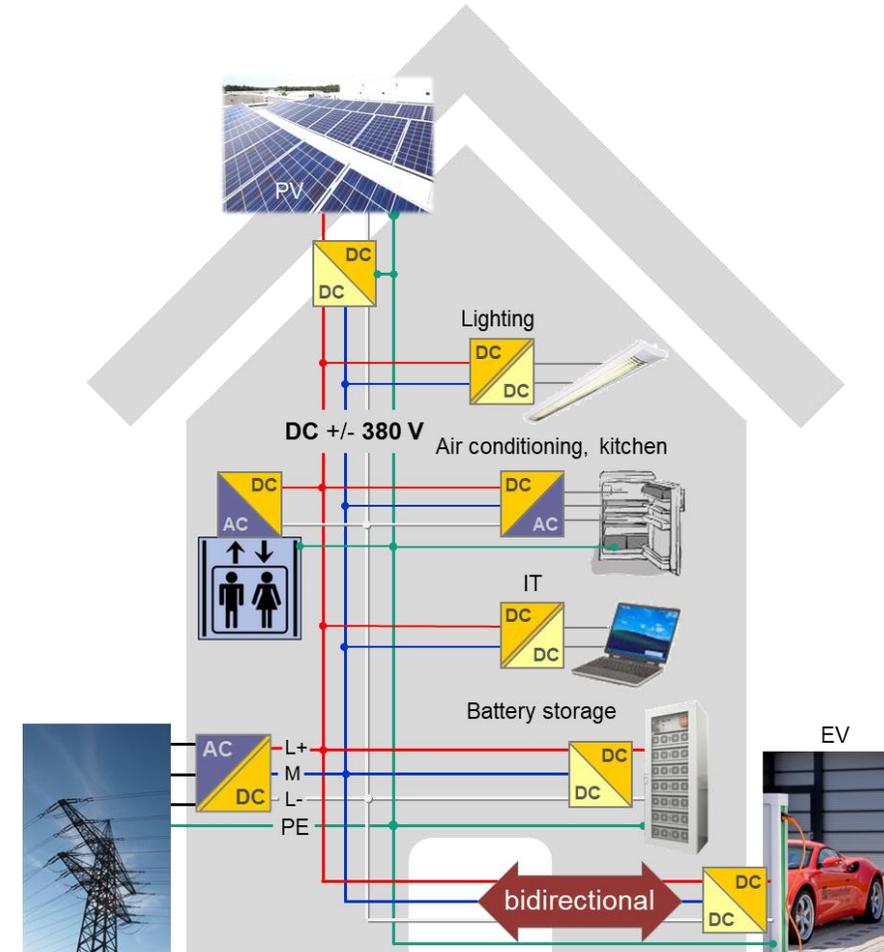
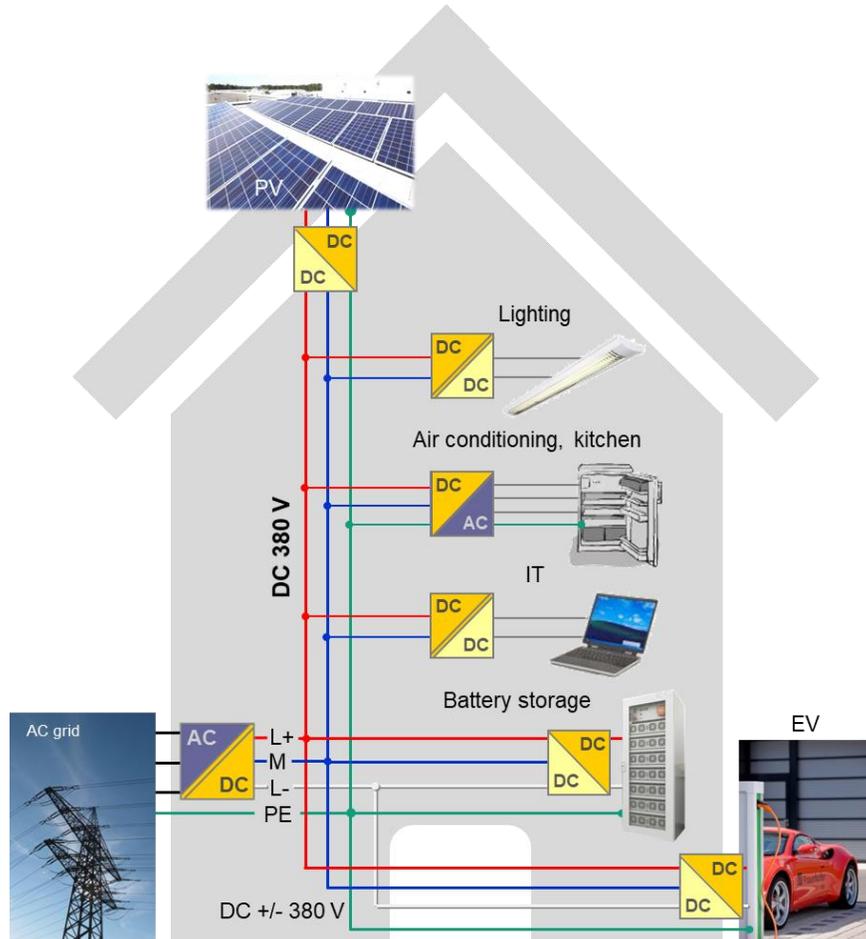
Production-Loadprofile-Tool
Load prognosis based on ML-model incl. model trainings



EGI-Optimization-Tool
Simulation and optimization of the free configurable EGI

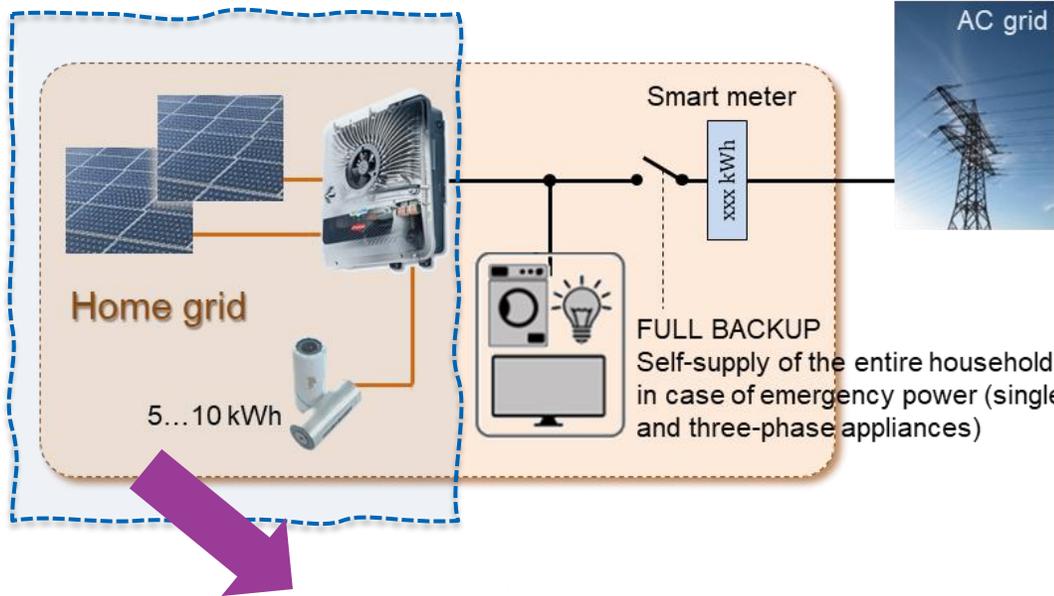
Screenshots of the ProEnergie software toolbox (<https://proenergie-bayern.de>), freely available at: <https://gitlab.cc-asp.fraunhofer.de/proenergie>

Use Case DC Homes / Commercial Buildings



USE Case: Decentral Home Energy System

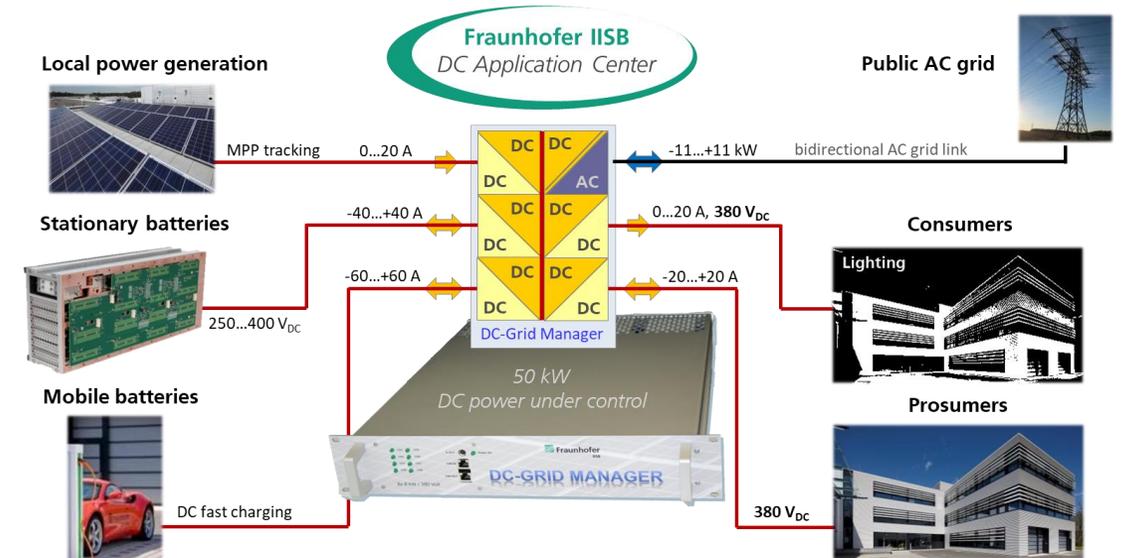
typical DC coupled PV/Battery installation with AC backup are easy to install



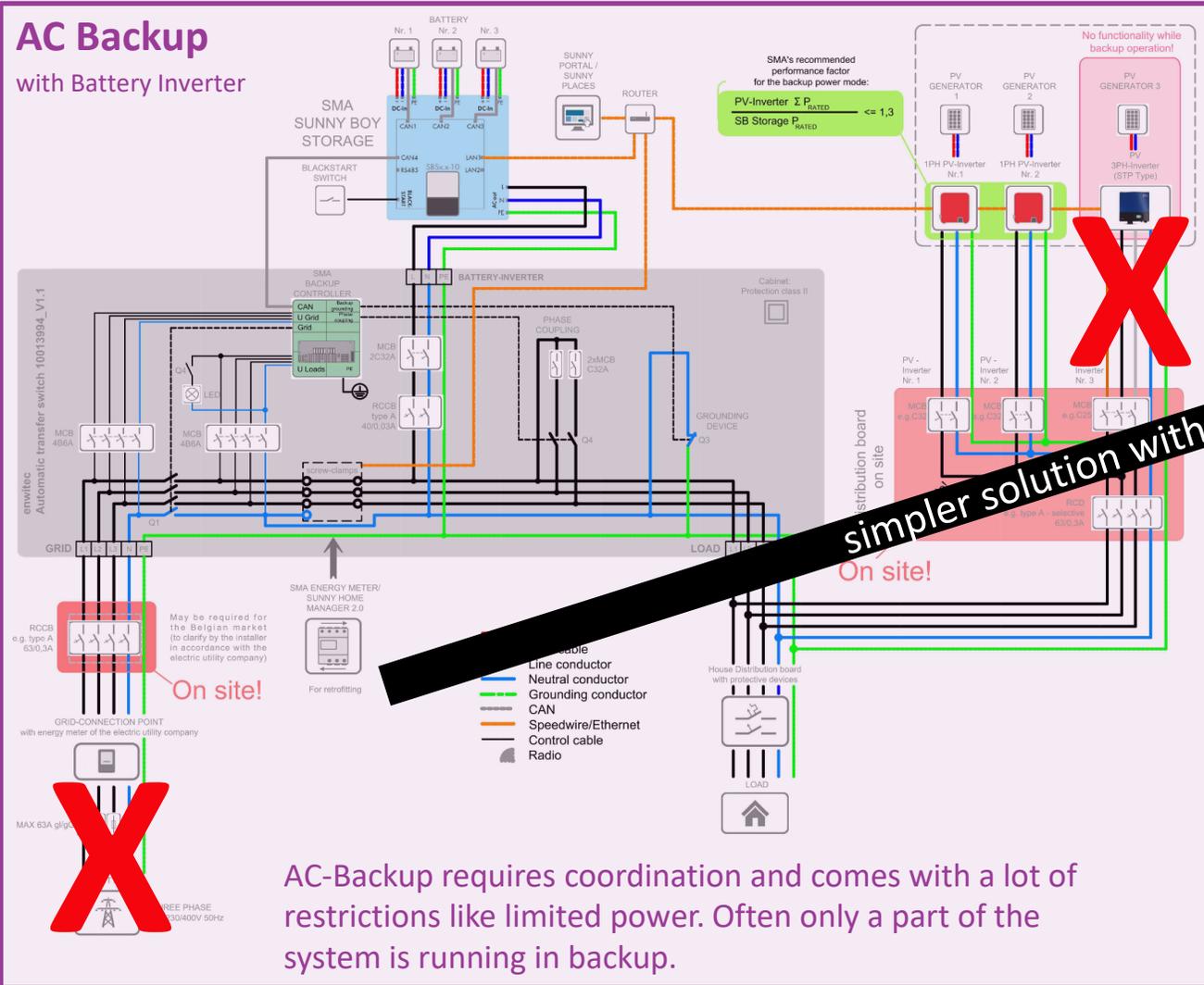
DC Side in homes is growing:

- DC coupled DC charging
- Coupling of DC link in Heat pumps
- More and more Battery powered tools
- Most small equipment uses USB-C

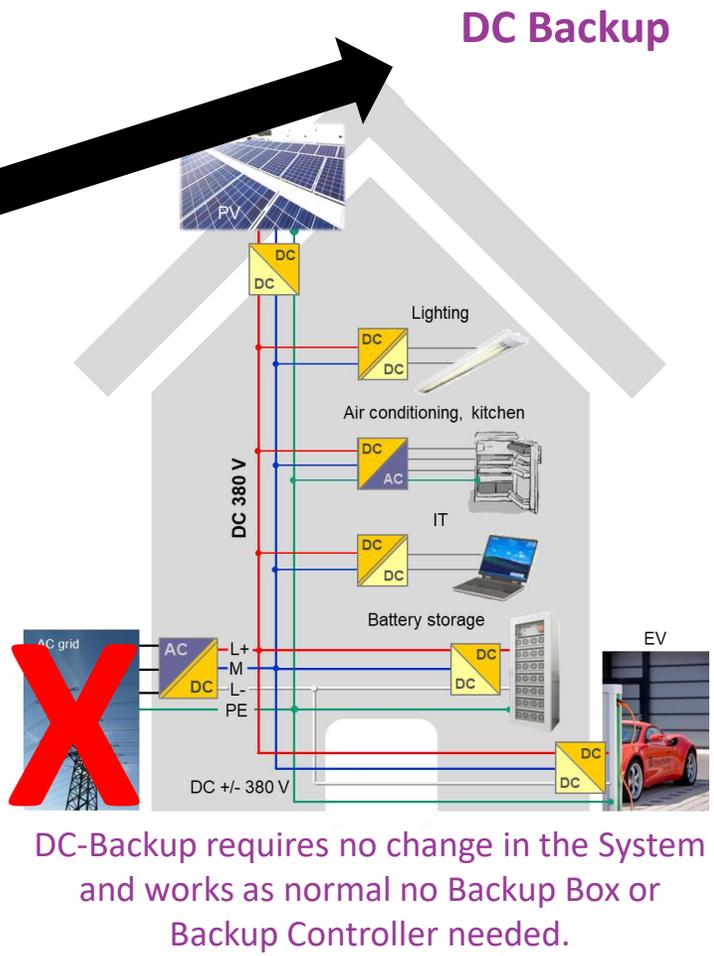
DC Microgrid in a converter system for DC grids for small DC Microgrids, e.g. residential buildings, all in one Device solutions are very easy to install.



USE Case: Decentral Home Energy System - Backup

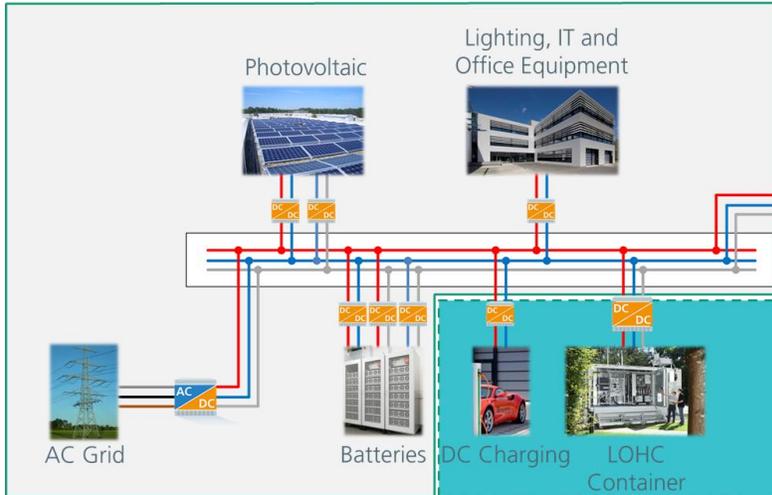


simples solution with less restrictions

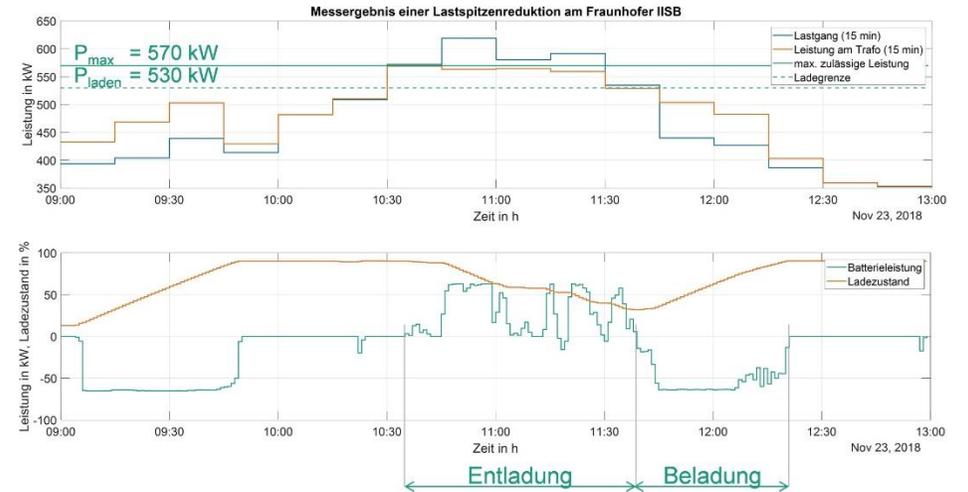
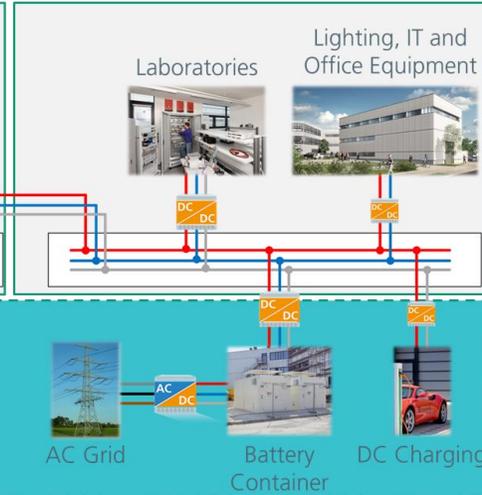


Use Case DC-Microgrid in Commercial Buildings

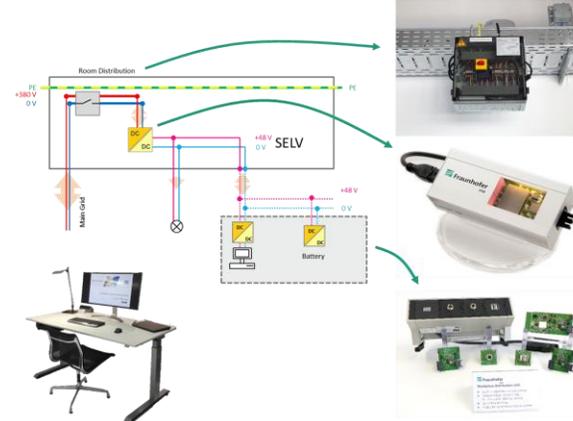
Building A



Building B

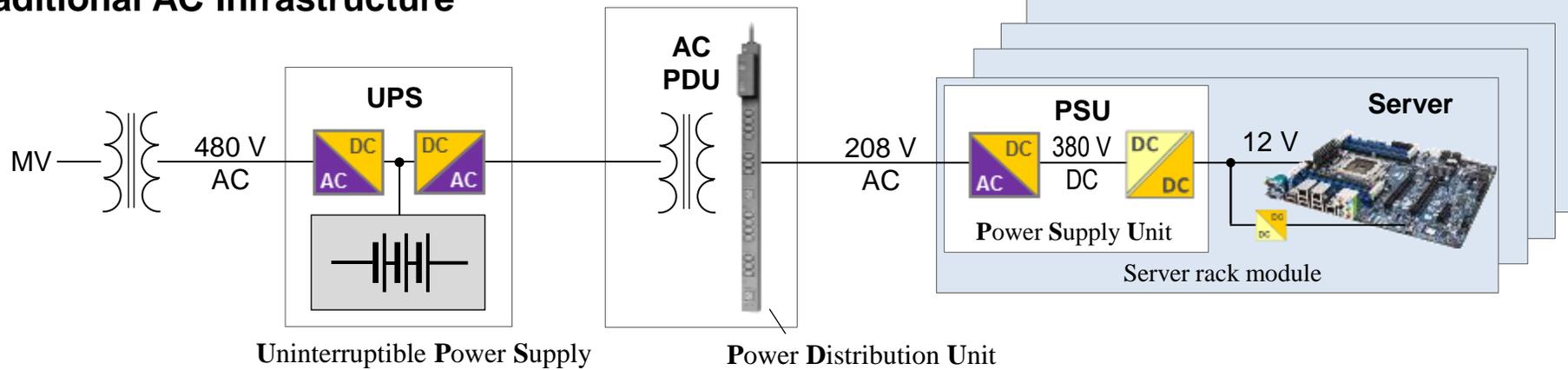


Outdoor Installations

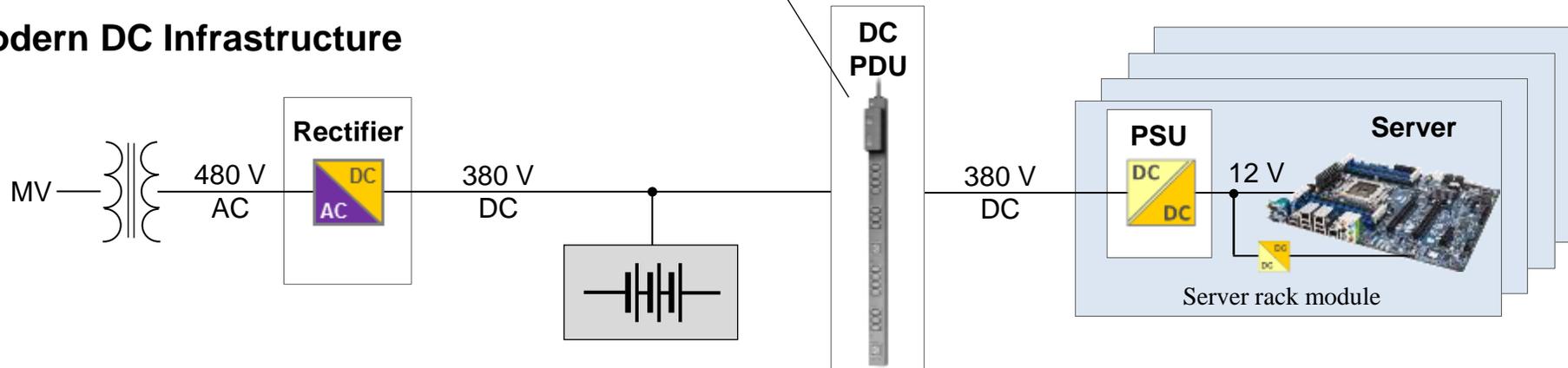


USE Case: Direct Current Data Center

Traditional AC Infrastructure



Modern DC Infrastructure

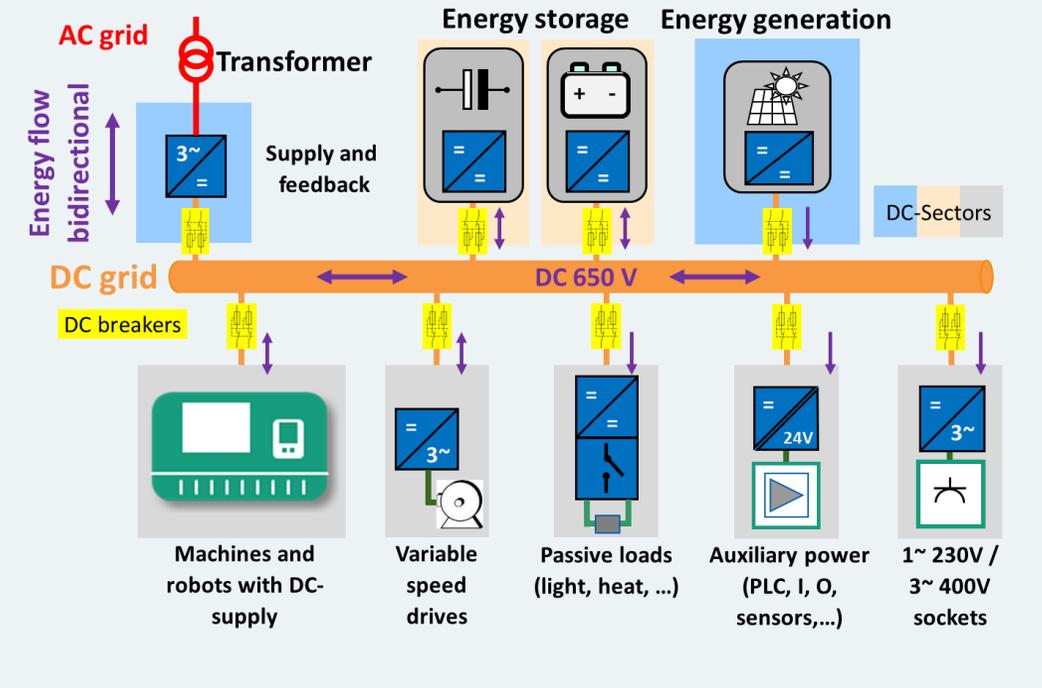


↳ Less investment costs, higher energy efficiency, lower space requirements, significantly higher security of supply

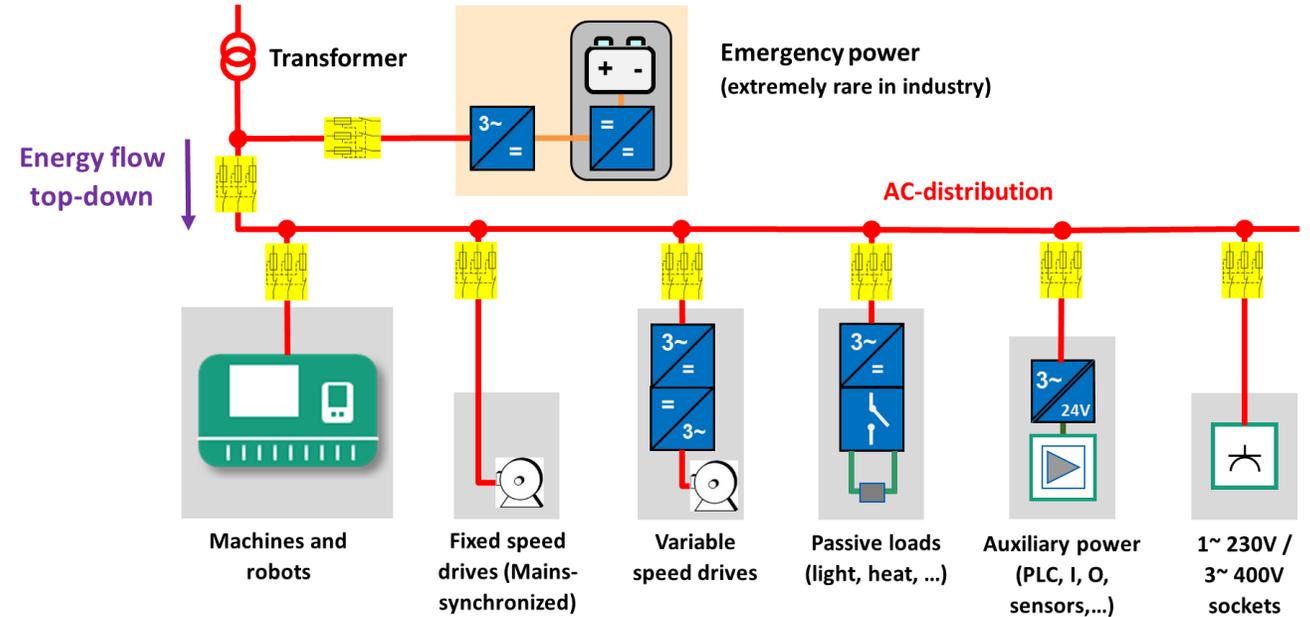
Use Case DC Microgrids in Industry

Overview

DC-Industrie 2:

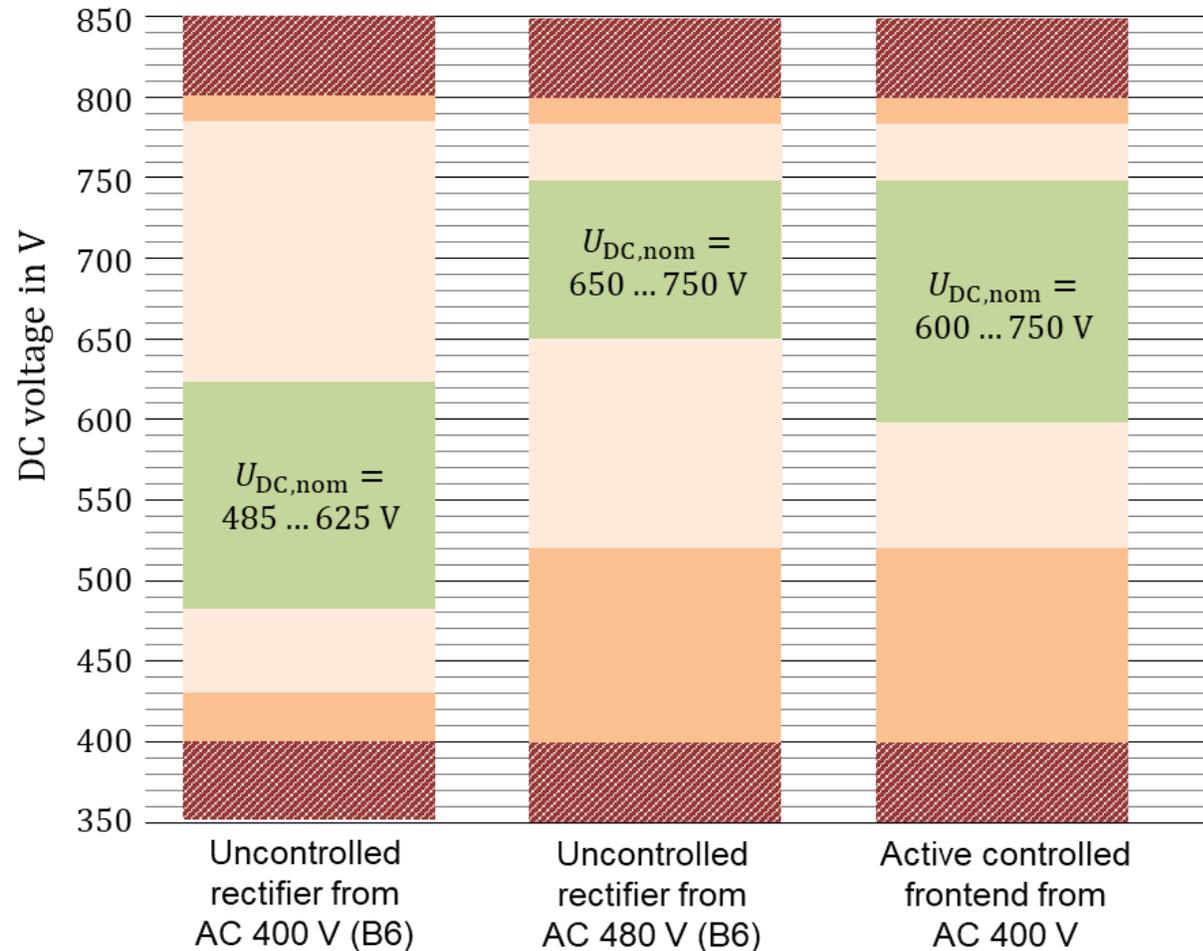


Status quo:



Use Case DC Microgrids in Industry

Voltage Specifications in Industrial Environments



Nominal operation

- fully functional

Stationary over-/undervoltage

- continuous operation permitted
- derating permitted
- active grid participants counteract the voltage deviation

Transient over-/undervoltage

- voltage may be in this range only for a limited time
- functional restrictions are permissible, but must disappear when the nominal voltage range is returned

Shutdown areas

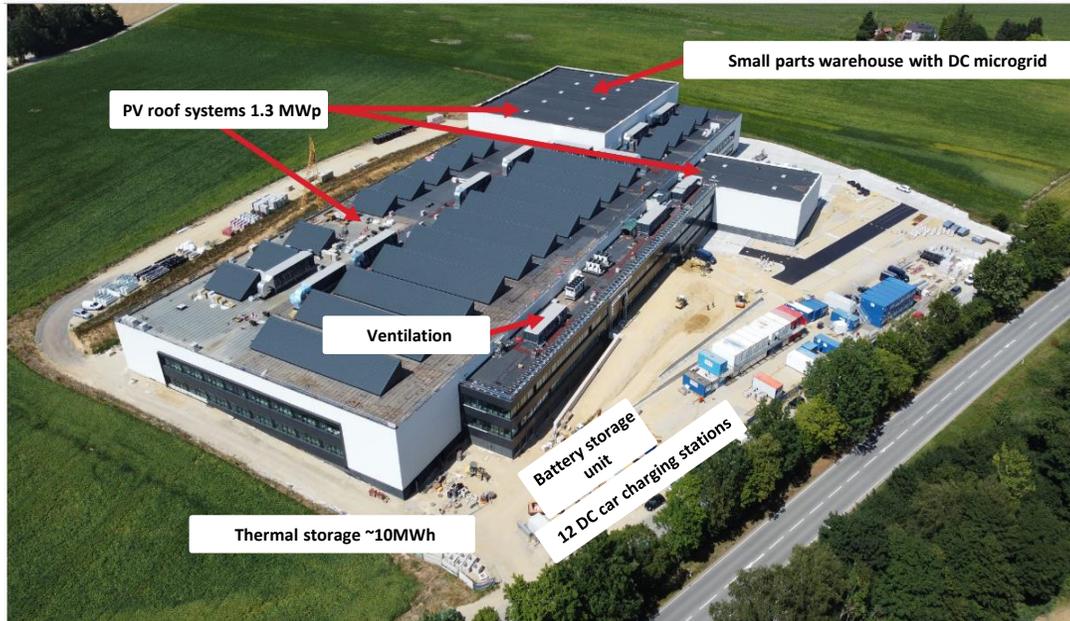
- loss of function, devices switch off permanently for self-protection

ODCA
direct current by zvei

according to a proposal of the ODCA consortium

Use Case DC Microgrids in Industry

Example Schaltbau

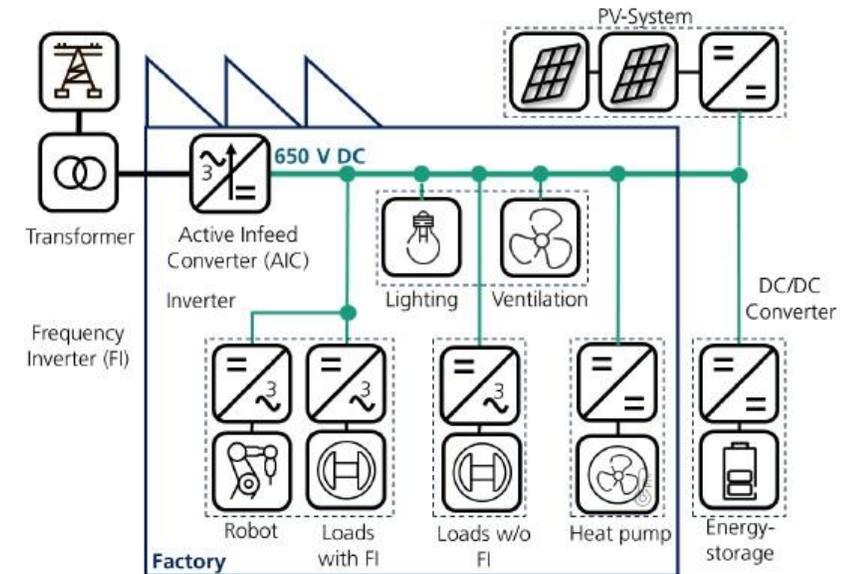


Source: Schaltbau

- Warehouse, production, laboratory, development
- **85% lower peak load of the high-bay warehouse compared to AC**
- Reduced stress on the supply network

Properties	Value	Unit	Properties	Value	Unit
Overall efficiency AC	81.88 %		Total output of the factory	5	MW
Overall efficiency DC	88.37 %		Total energy of the factory per year	18 750	MWh/a
Efficiency increase	6.49 %		Factory size	15 000	m ²
Total need AC with PV	17 263.04 MWh/a		Energy price	0.20	€/kWh
Total need DC with PV	15 110.24 MWh/a		CO ₂ -emissions	354	gCO ₂ eq/kWh
Comparison of total need	87.53 %		Output of the production loads	3 925	kW
Energy saved	2 152.80 MWh/a		Heat pump output	530	kW
Cost savings vs. AC	430 559.99 €/a		Power of the ventilation system	395	kW
CO ₂ savings	762.09 tCO ₂ eq/a		Power of the lighting system	150	kW
Additional investment for DC	1 513 681.22 €		Output of the PV system	530	kWp
Amortisation period	3.52 years		Utilisation of the PV system	Self-consumption optimisation in combination with battery storage	

Source: Schaltbau



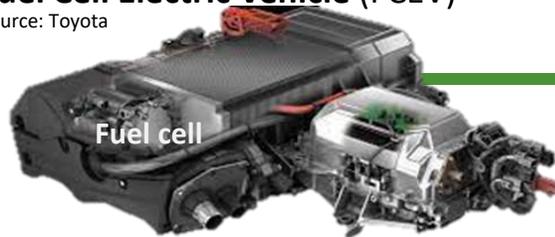
Source: Schaltbau

Use Case Electric Vehicle

the driver for DC solutions with a high quantity market

Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV)

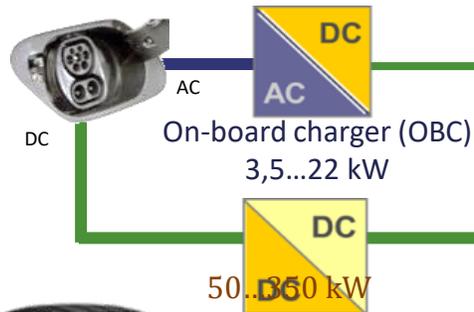
Source: Toyota



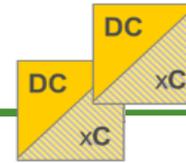
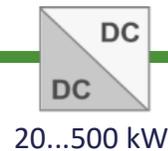
Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)



DC fast charging
50...350 kW

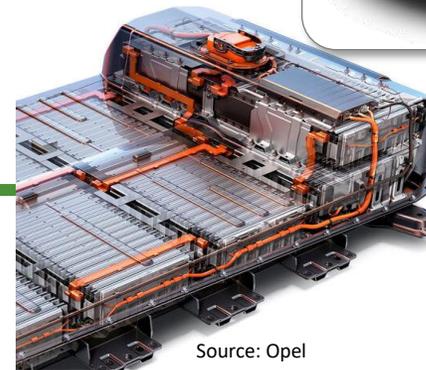
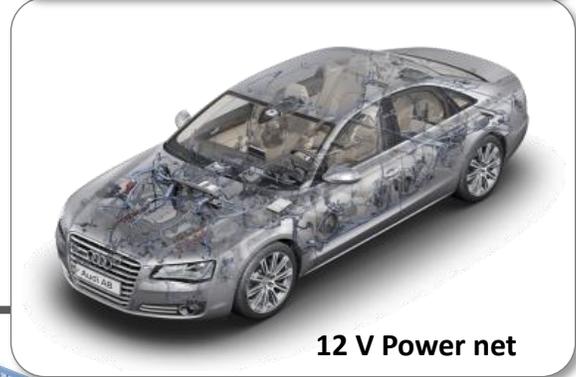


„High voltage“
DC power net
120...850 V



- High power consumer**
- x-by-wire, active suspension
 - aircon compressor, heater
 - auxiliary units (commercial vehicles)
 - mild hybrid drives

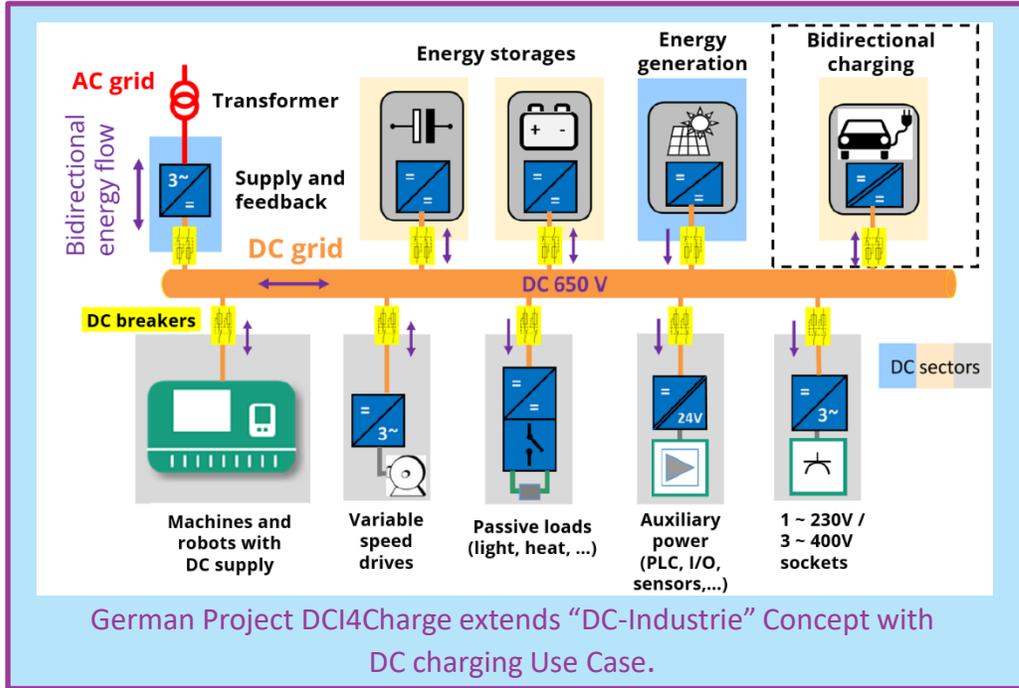
48 V Power net



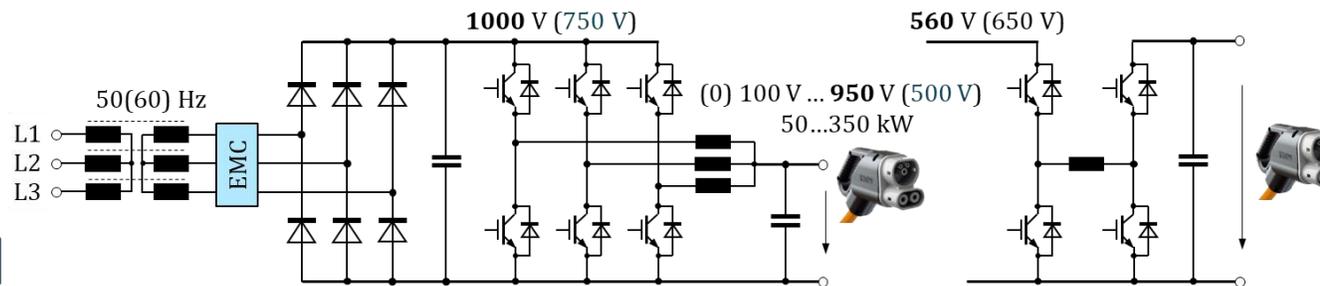
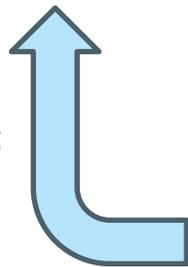
Traction battery
15...100 kWh
120...850 V

Source: Opel

Use Case DC Charging from a DC Microgrid



DCI4Charge specify DC Charging from a 650V DC-Microgrid



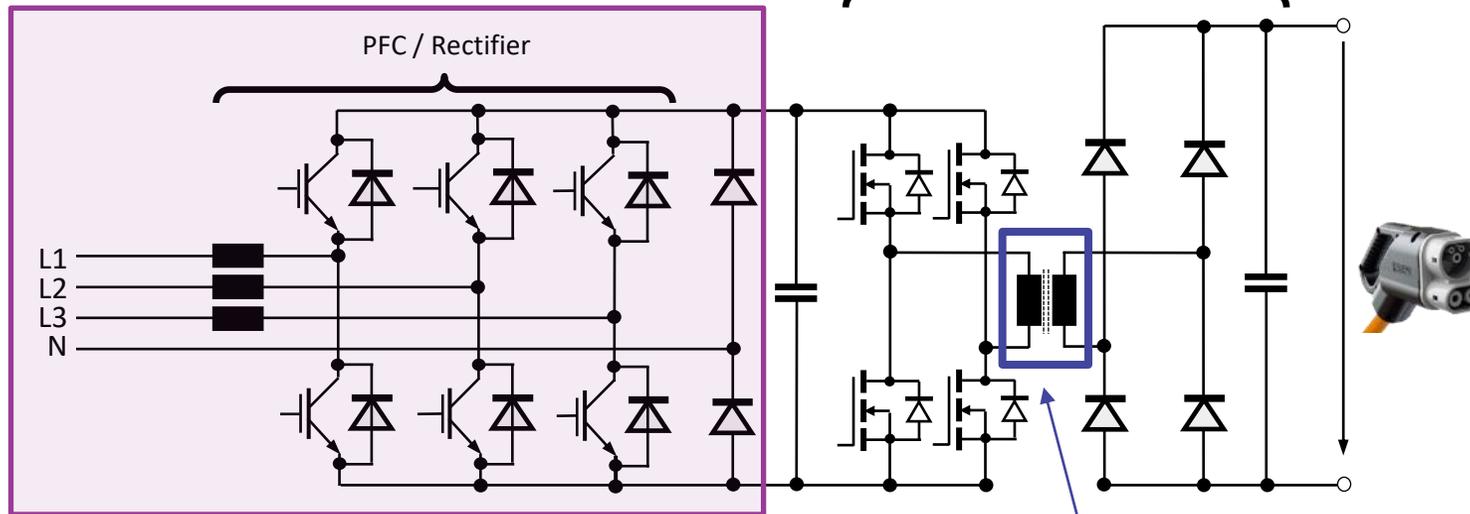
Classic DC fast charging architecture: galvanic isolation done on grid side and 1000V DC-Bus inside of the charging station. This concept only enables one fast DC charger behind the transformer (according to IEC 61851-23).

Use Case DC Charging from a DC Microgrid

DC fast charging: galvanic isolation done inside the converter

No PFC / Rectifier needed due to a DC Microgrid

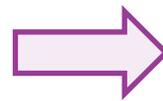
DC/DC-Converter



Medium Frequency transformer

- 😊 Compact size and reduced weight
- 😞 Reduced efficiency and reliability due to additional semiconductors

Isolating stage
Medium frequency transformer

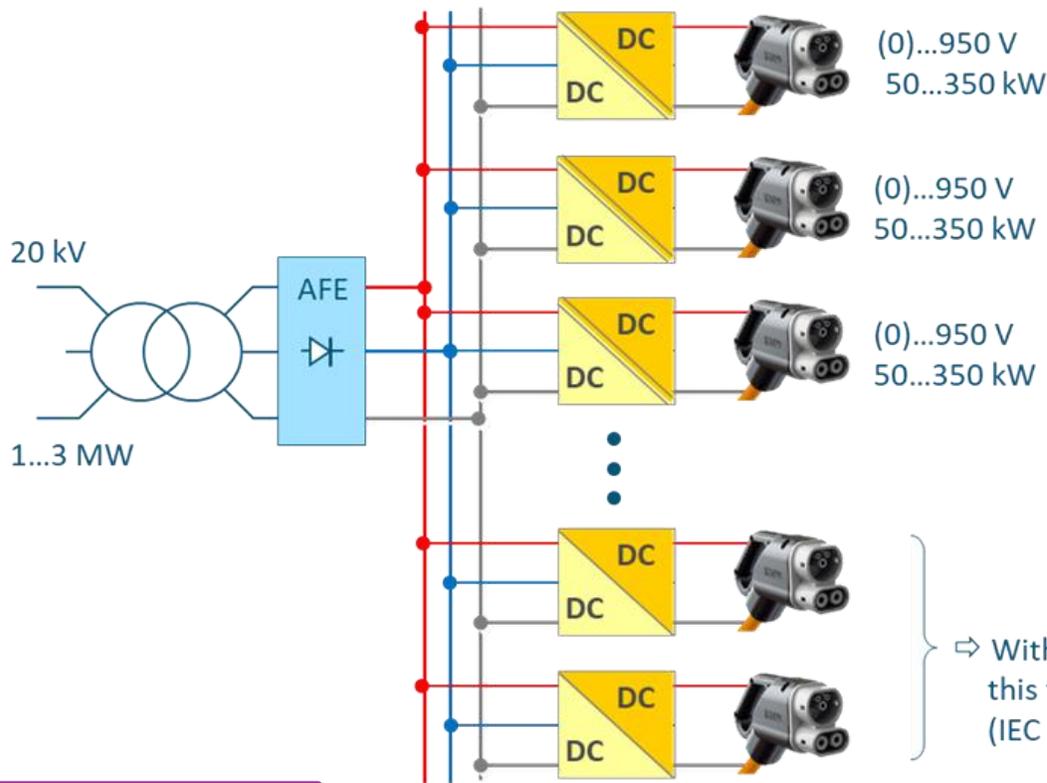


Cost savings through fewer power electronic components, more efficient installation, and lower connection costs

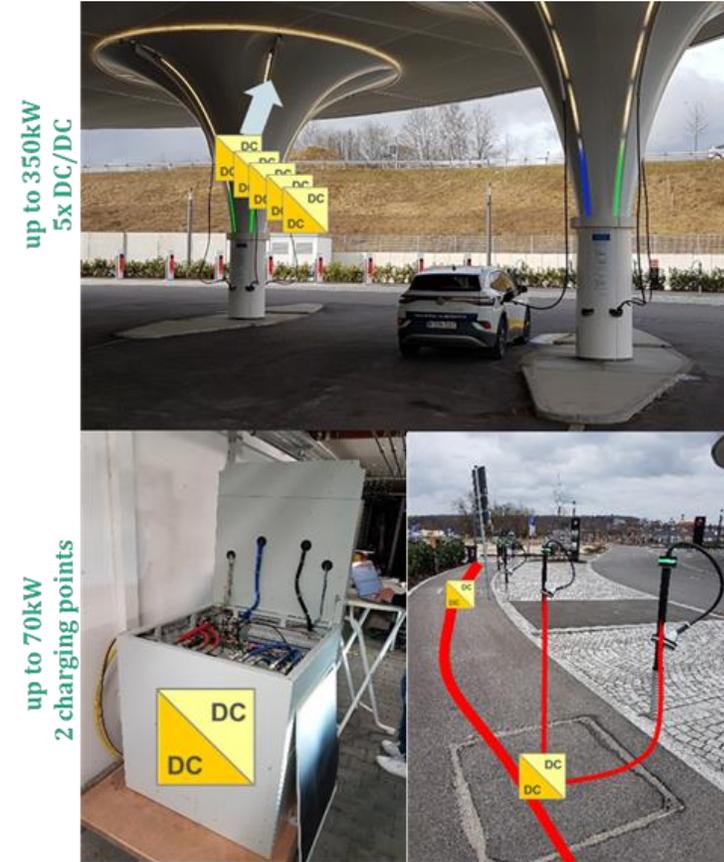
Use Case DC fast Charging park with a DC Microgrid

many charging points connected to a single DC-link

Example: Sortimo Innovationspark in Zusmarshausen, Germany
 144 charging options, 120 DC fast chargers
 1000 V DC Microgrid



⇒ Without galvanic isolation between the charging points, this topology is normatively not authorized (IEC 61851-23 ED2 FDIS 2022)



Source: Bernd Wunder

Use Cases for bidirectional charging

Overview

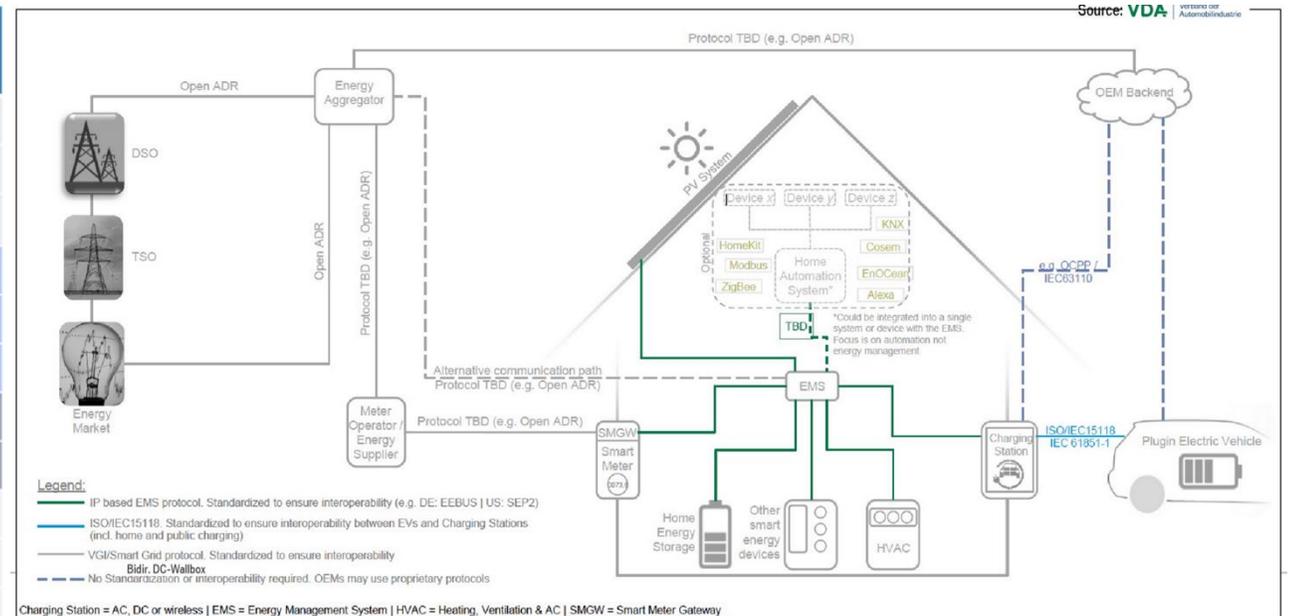
Many Use Cases for bidirectional charging:

- Standardization needed for broad adoption of bidirectional charging
- Complex Interfaces between all stakeholders

DKE

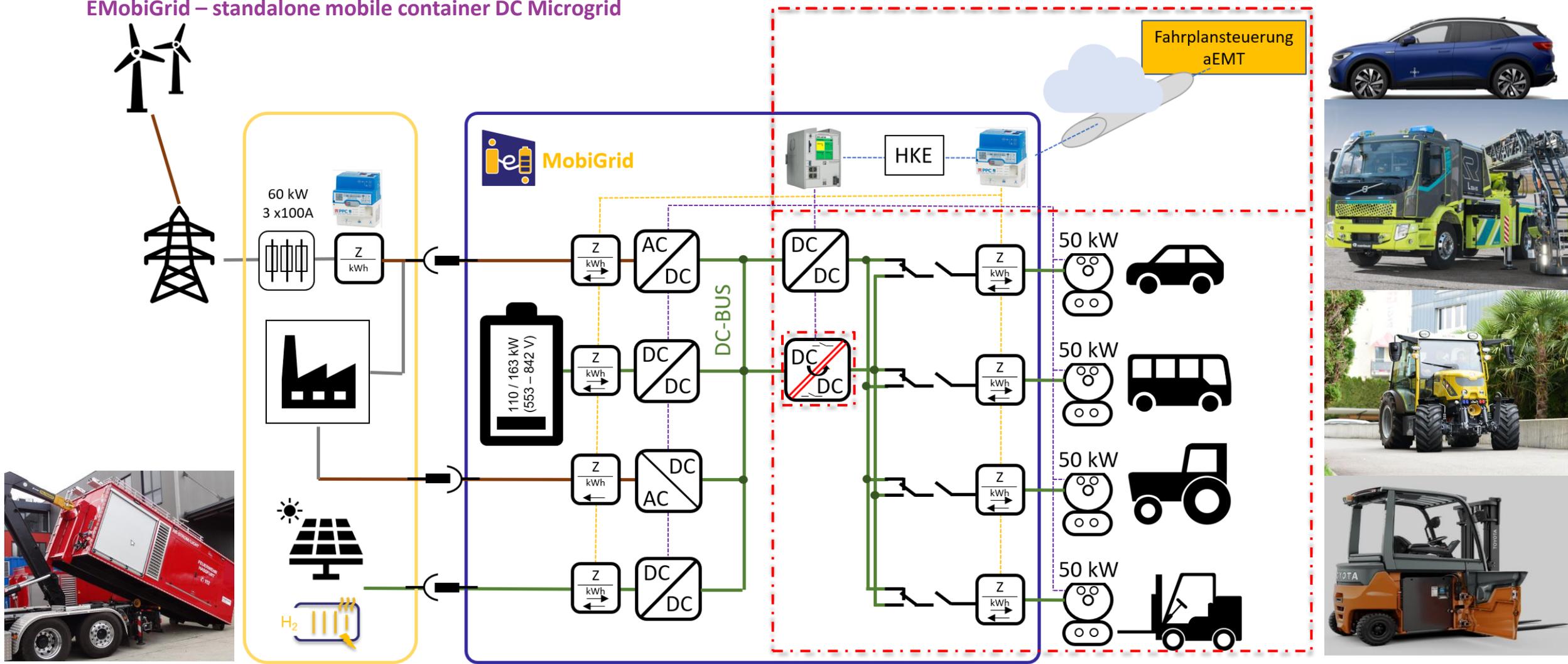
National Committee DKE 353.0.401B wrote a report about bidirectional charging Use Cases.

Gruppe	Use Case	Erlös-Ort	Kunden-gruppe	Regelung
V2H	Eigenverbrauchserhöhung	🏠	🏠	Lokal
V2H	Tarifoptimiertes Laden/Entladen	🏠	🏠	Lokal
V2H	Notstromversorgung	🏠	🏠	Lokal
V2G	Intraday-Handel	⚡	🏠🏭	Zentral
V2G	Primärregelleistung (PRL)	⚡	🏠🏭	Lokal
V2G	Redispatch	⚡	🏠🏭	Zentral
V2B	Spitzenlastkappung (Peak Shaving)	🏭	🏭	Lokal
V2B	Flottenmanagement	🏭	🏭	Lokal
Mobil	Mobile Powerbox	-	🏠🏭	Lokal
V2X	CO2 optimiertes Laden	⚡	🏠🏭	Lokal
V2V	Vehicle-to-vehicle charging	-	🏠	Lokal
Systembild – Customer Energy Management System – System Integration - Deutschland				



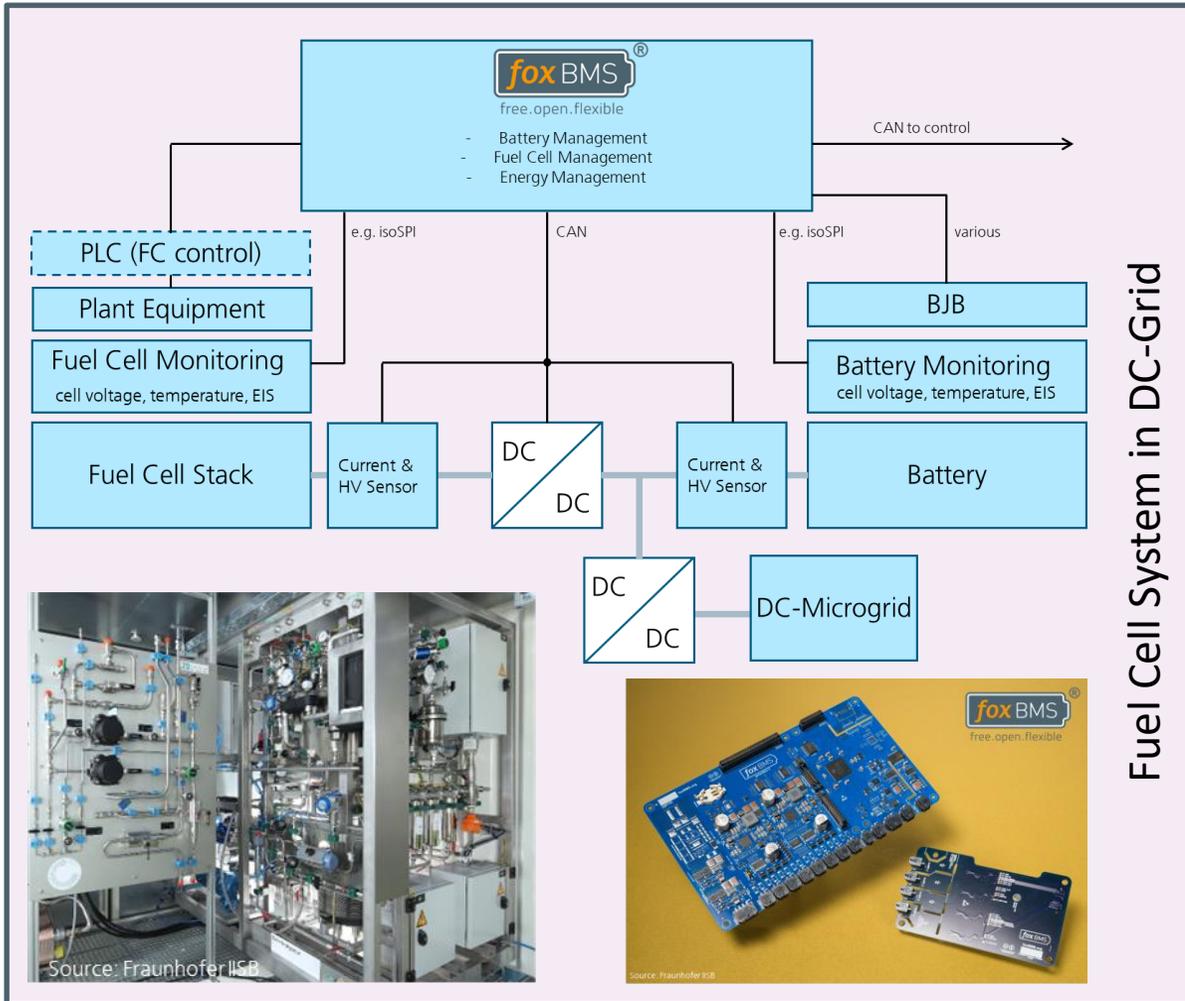
Use Cases for bidirectional charging

EMobiGrid – standalone mobile container DC Microgrid



Use Case with Fuel Cell System or Redox Flow Battery

direct coupled storage systems



Fuel Cell System in DC-Grid



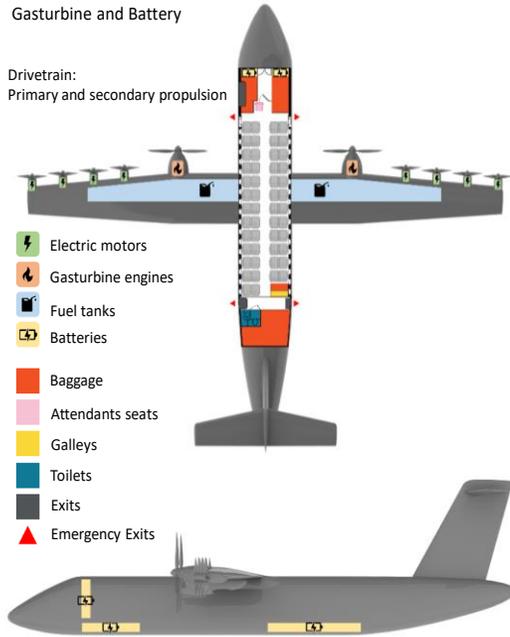
Redox Flow Battery in DC-Grid

Use Case Electric Aviation

Gasturbine and Battery

Drivetrain:
Primary and secondary propulsion

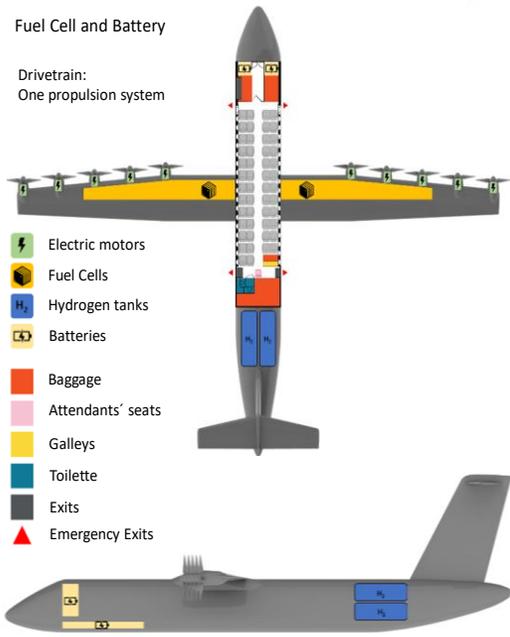
- Electric motors
- Gasturbine engines
- Fuel tanks
- Batteries
- Baggage
- Attendants' seats
- Galleys
- Toilets
- Exits
- Emergency Exits



Fuel Cell and Battery

Drivetrain:
One propulsion system

- Electric motors
- Fuel Cells
- Hydrogen tanks
- Batteries
- Baggage
- Attendants' seats
- Galleys
- Toilette
- Exits
- Emergency Exits

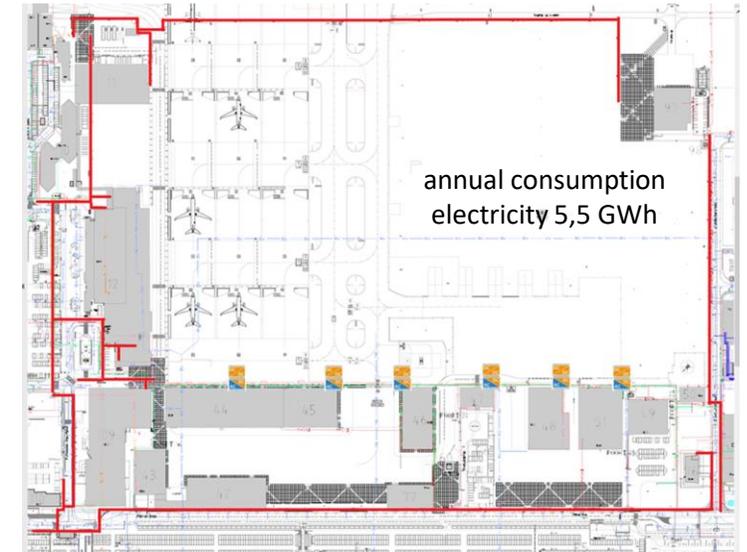


Typ:
Regional hybrid-electric (ATR-42)

Passengers:
50 PAX

Distance:
600 NM (nmi)
~1112 km

Cruise altitude:
6100 m
20,000 ft

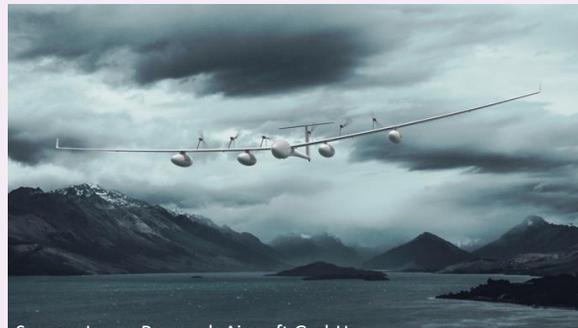


Concept for DC Microgrid at Airport Rotterdam
Source: Project GENESIS



Source: SCEYE INC

High altitude air ship



Source: Lange Research Aircraft GmbH

Hydrogen powered UAV



Source: E-sling

Electrified Sling TS1

IISB Technology inside



free.open.flexible

Use Case Electric Ships



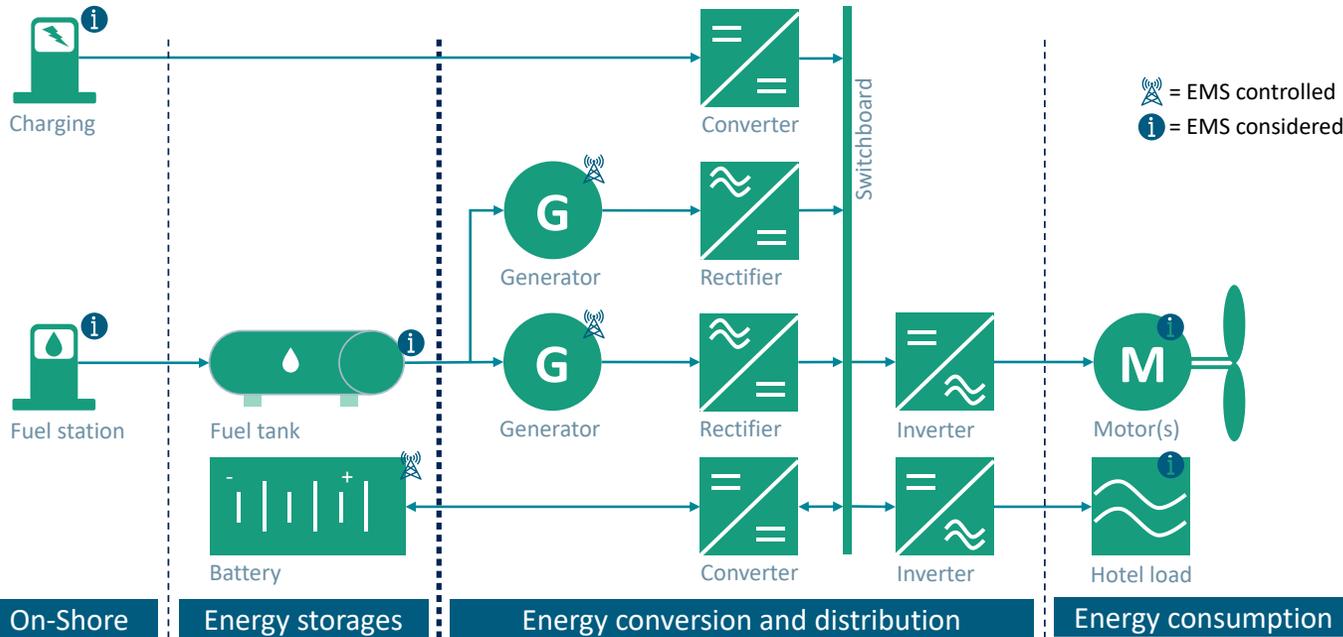
Flexible and modular large battery systems for safe on-board integration and operation of electric power, demonstrated in multiple type of ships

FLEXSHIP



FLEXSHIP has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement № 101095863.

Schematic representation of a energy supply system of a hybrid electric vessel



Source: <https://www.flexship-project.eu/>

DEMO-1: R/V Gunnerus
(Photo: Fredrik Skoglund, [R/V Gunnerus - Research vessel - NTNU](#))

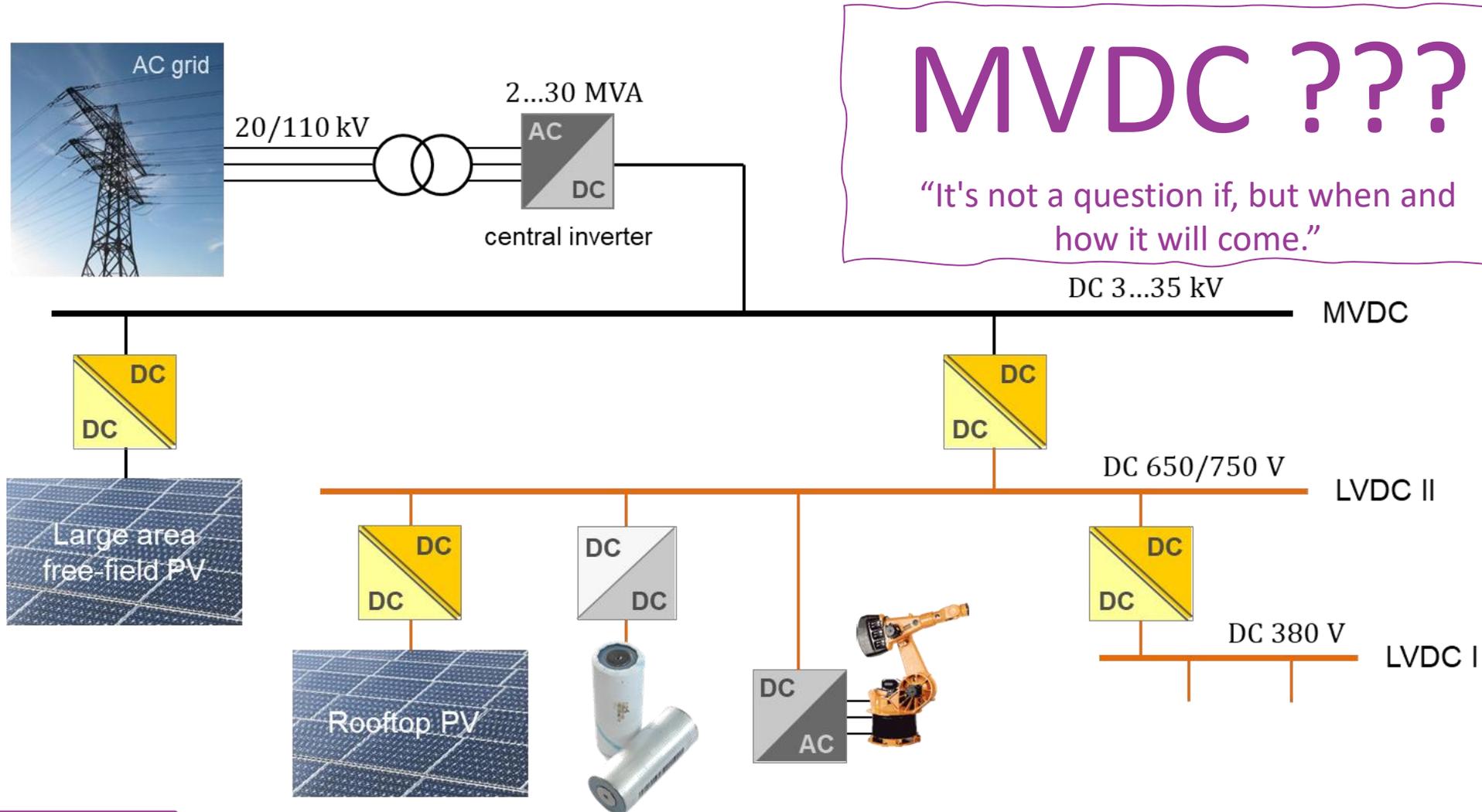


DEMO-2: Atatürk
(Photo: Oguz Eroglu, [ATATURK, Passenger vessel, IMO 8619900](#))



Use Case: Local MVDC Industrial Plant

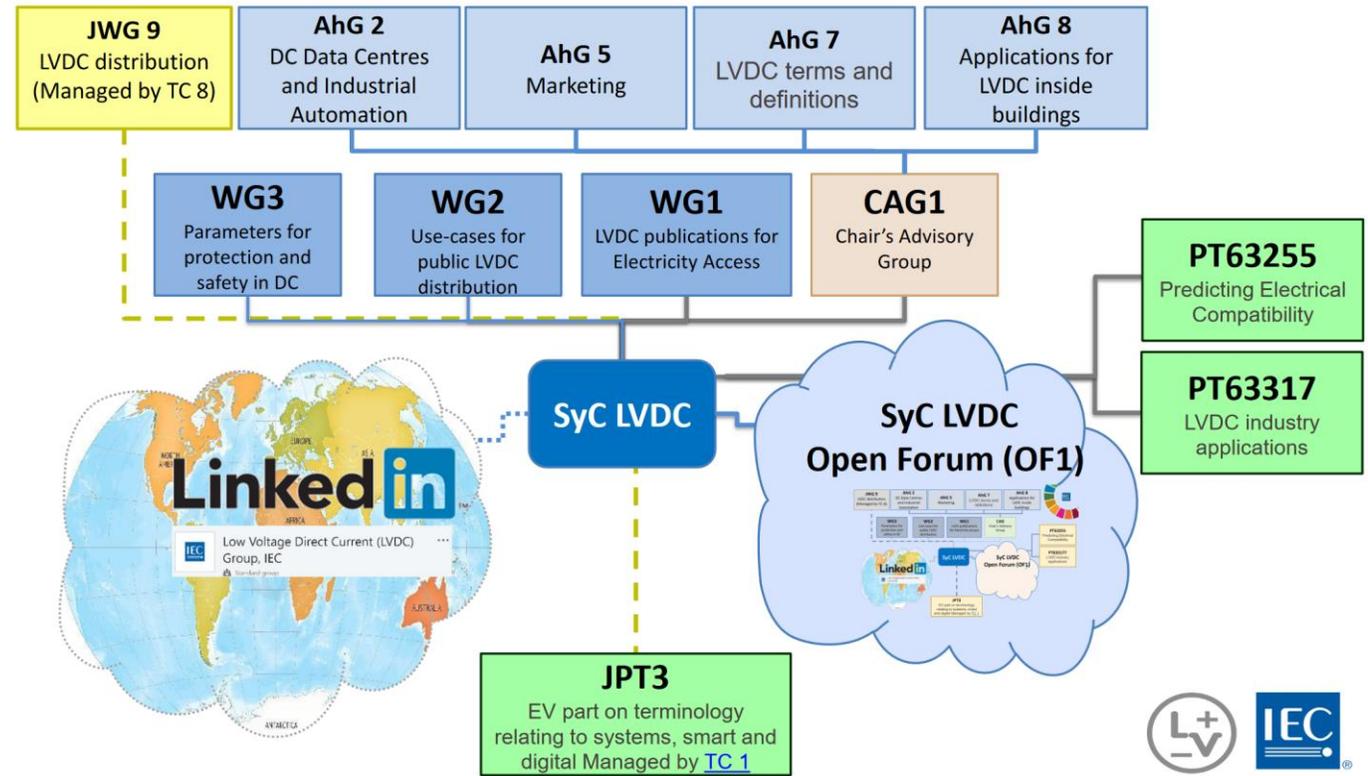
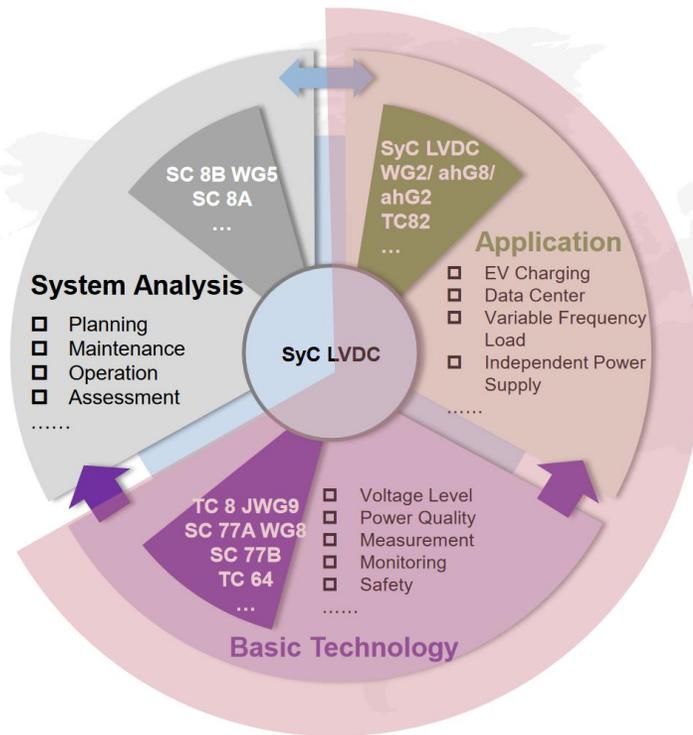
Continuously increasing power demand in various use cases will sooner or later also require MVDC Grids



Standardization for DC Microgrids

“Many standards are indeed applicable to both AC up to 1000 V and DC up to 1500 V, but they are often written with AC in mind. However, many relevant standards are currently being revised. Often, this is done by AC experts with only a few DC experts in the technical committees.”

IEC SyC LVDC - Low Voltage Direct Current and Low Voltage Direct Current for Electricity Access



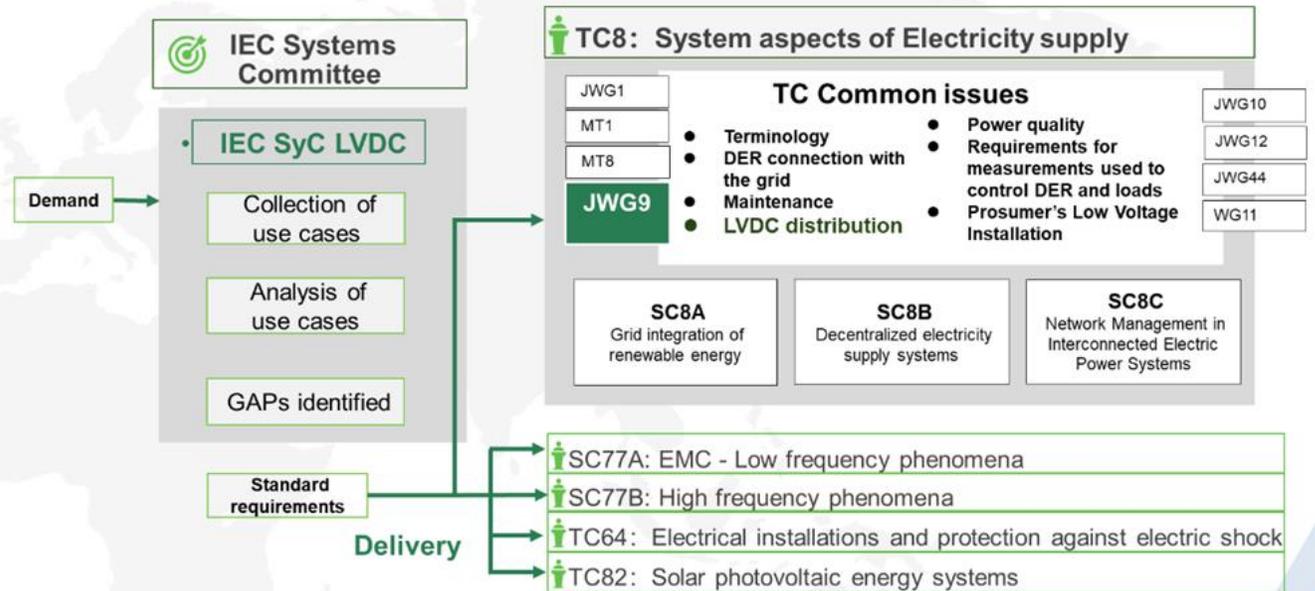
Title: LVDC distribution

Task:

To prepare IEC TR 63282: Assessment of standard voltages and power quality requirements for LVDC distribution.

The objective being to provide input for future normative works, as an example, a first list of the interested entities is:

- TC8 MT1 (voltages)
- TC8 WG11 (PQ requirements)
- SC77A WG8 (EMC-LF/Compatibility Levels)
- SC77A WG9 (EMC-LF/Measurement Methods)



IEC TR 63282 Ed. 2 defines the concept of Voltage Bands for DC

Voltage bands and voltage limits for equipment [from DC-INDUSTRIE2, based on IEC Technical Report TR63282 Ed. 2 2023]

Operating status as a function of voltage and time

Upper voltage limit U_x in DC grid for nominal voltage 540 V / 650 V	Voltage band	S1:	S2:	S3a:	S3b:	S4:
		$t < 50 \mu\text{s}$	$50 \mu\text{s} \leq t \leq 1 \text{ms}$	$1 \text{ms} \leq t \leq 5 \text{s}$	$5 \text{s} \leq t \leq 60 \text{s}$	$t > 60 \text{s}$
U6: 2000 V	B7	A7				
	B6	A6	A7			
U5: 880 V	B5	A4	A5	A5	A7	A7
	B4	A3	A3	A3	A4	A5
U4: 800 V	B3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3
	B2	A4	A4	A2	A2	A2
U3: 750 V	B1	A4	A2	A1	A1	
	B1	A4	A2	A1	A1	

Band	Nominal voltage: 540 V	Nominal voltage: 650 V
Forbidden band		
B7	- Damage of devices is very likely	
U6: 2000 V		
Overvoltage protection band		
B6	- Switching operations can cause this voltage range - Surge protection devices (SPDs) operate and try to protect devices	
U5: 880 V		
Temporary overvoltage band		
B5	- Surge protection devices (SPD) are not active - Breakers disconnect in this band - Insulation and components shall withstand this for up to 5 s - Devices may lose functionality in order to protect themselves	
U4: 800 V		
Overvoltage band		
B4	- Devices may reduce their power - This shall not last longer than 60s - Measures to reduce the voltage must be taken (e.g. charge storage, switch-on power resistors)	
U3: 750 V		
Nominal band		
B3	- Normal operating range - Devices shall be operated permanently - Devices perform with their rated power	
U2: 485 V 620 V		
Emergency band		
B2	- Overload condition - Loads have to be reduced - AIC must only be operated for a few milliseconds	
U1: 400 V		
Blackout Band		
B1	- Smart Breakers disconnect - Band will be used during pre-charging - Occurs briefly during short-circuit conditions	

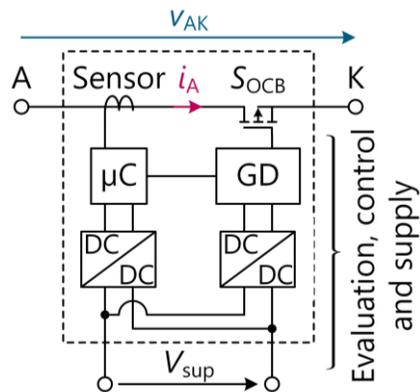
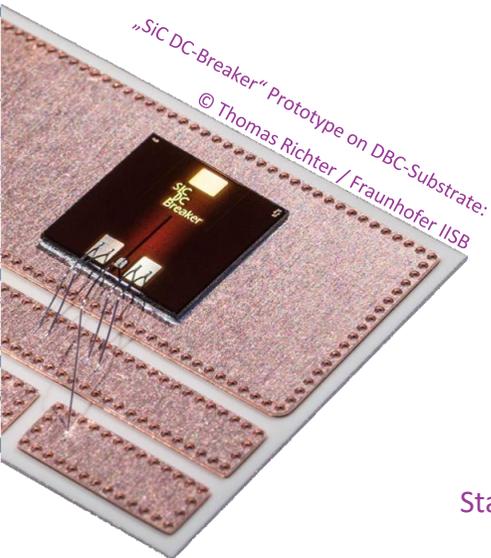
Semiconductor Circuit-Breakers

IEC 60947-10 ED1 – First Circuit-Breaker standard with Semiconductor

IEC 60947-10 ED1

Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 10: Semiconductor Circuit-Breakers

Scope: “This part of IEC 60947 series applies to semiconductor circuit-breakers for protection, isolation and switching intended to be connected to circuits, the rated voltage of which does not exceed 1 000 V AC or 1 500 V DC.” Quelle: [IEC 121A/489/CD](https://www.iec.ch/standards-search/iec-60947-10-ed1)



State-of-the-art semiconductor-based OCB: solution on system level

SC 121A Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear

Scope Structure **Projects / Publications** Documents Votes Meetings Collaboration Platform

Work programme > [Project: IEC 60947-10 ED1](#)

Detail

Committee	Working Groups	Project Leader	Current Status	Frst Pub Date	Stability Date
SC 121A	PT 60947-10	Mr Andreas Bäumler	CDM	2025-06	

History

Stage	Document	Downloads	Voting Result	Decision Date	Target Date
prePNW				2020-08-25	
PNW	121A/381/NP	1411 kB	APPROVED	2020-08-28	
PRVN				2020-11-20	2020-11
ACD	121A/401/RVN	657 kB 909 kB		2020-11-28	2021-10
ACD	121A/401A/RVN	661 kB 963 kB		2020-11-28	2021-10
ACD	121A/401B/RVN	1147 kB 1587 kB		2020-11-28	2021-10
CD	121A/489/CD	4658 kB		2022-04-15	2021-10
PCC				2022-08-05	2022-08
CDM	121A/517/CC	1003 kB 549 kB		2022-08-12	2022-08
A2CD	121A/517A/CC	2696 kB 984 kB		2023-06-23	2023-06
2CD	121A/565/CD	4255 kB		2023-06-30	2023-06
PCC				2023-09-22	2023-09
CDM	121A/575/CC	632 kB 222 kB		2023-09-29	2023-10

Project

IEC 60947-10 ED1
Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 10: Semiconductor Circuit-Breakers

Related documents:
SMB/7813B/INF
812 kB

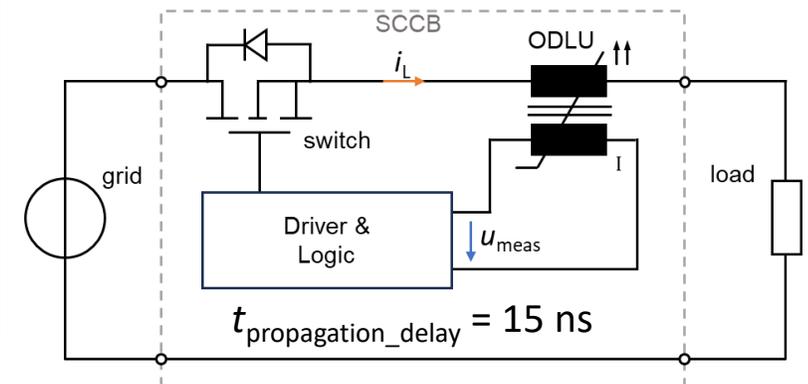
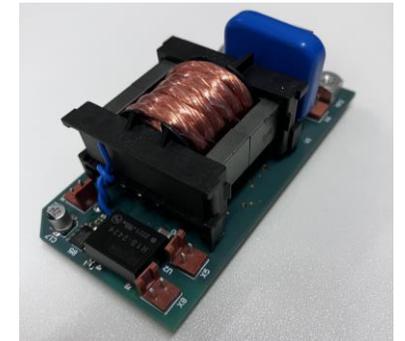
Initial Project Plan

Committee	Enquiry	Approval	Publication
2021-10-31	2022-11-30	2023-09-29	2024-01-31

Up-to-date Project Plan

Committee	Enquiry	Approval	Publication
2023-06-30	2023-11-30	2024-09-29	2025-01-31

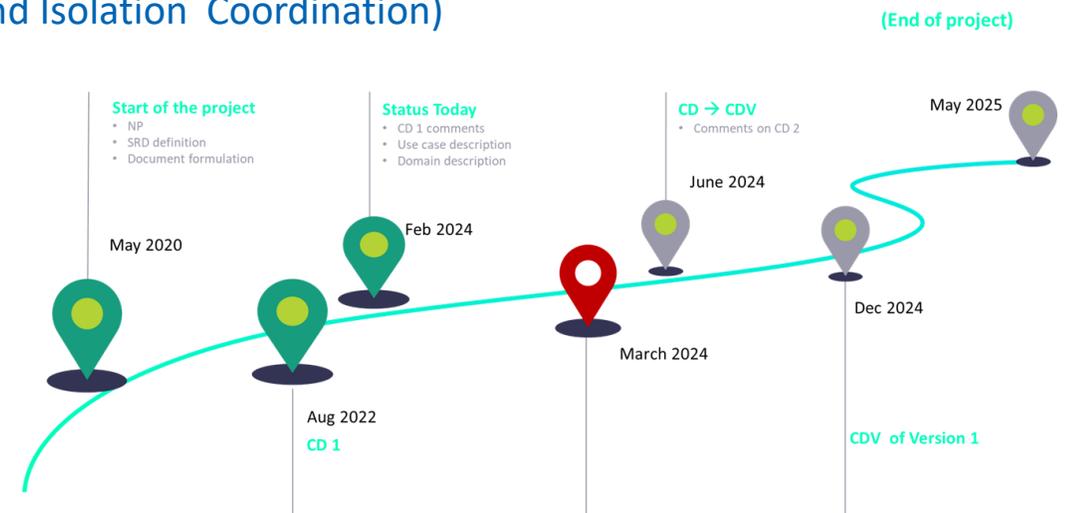
Ultra fast Overcurrent
Detection and Limitation
Unit ODLU



IEC 63317 – DC Industry Applications

- Goal:** To describe certain aspects of standardization of LVDC in Industry applications
- Deliverable:** SRD document
- Current Status:** Finalizing SRD to Circulate CD2 by 28th March 2024
- Scope:** Motivation, Domain description, Gap analysis
System description: The Aspects of DC grids for Industrial usage
(preconditions to connect to DC grids, Grid topologies, System voltage, stability, network configuration, Fault protection, and Isolation Coordination)

Use Case description – Recuperate Energy

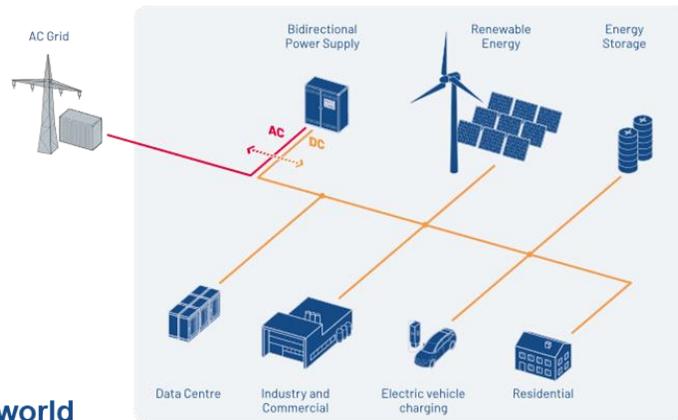


Open Direct Current Alliance

rapidly growing European association for the promotion, standardization and market preparation of DC



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Mission and objectives

Vision

- DC contributes to a sustainable world

Mission

- Establish an international DC ecosystem

Objectives

- **Ecosystem:** Close cooperation between users, planners, manufacturers, suppliers, research institutions and associations
- **Dissemination:** International dissemination of knowledge and solutions on DC grids. Conformity label for investment security for manufacturers and users.
- **Technology, research and standardisation:** implementation of requirements. Platform for the design of further research projects. Target group-relevant standardization
- **Politics and regulation:** Direct current is an important building block for the energy transition. Support in the development of the necessary framework conditions.

Target groups

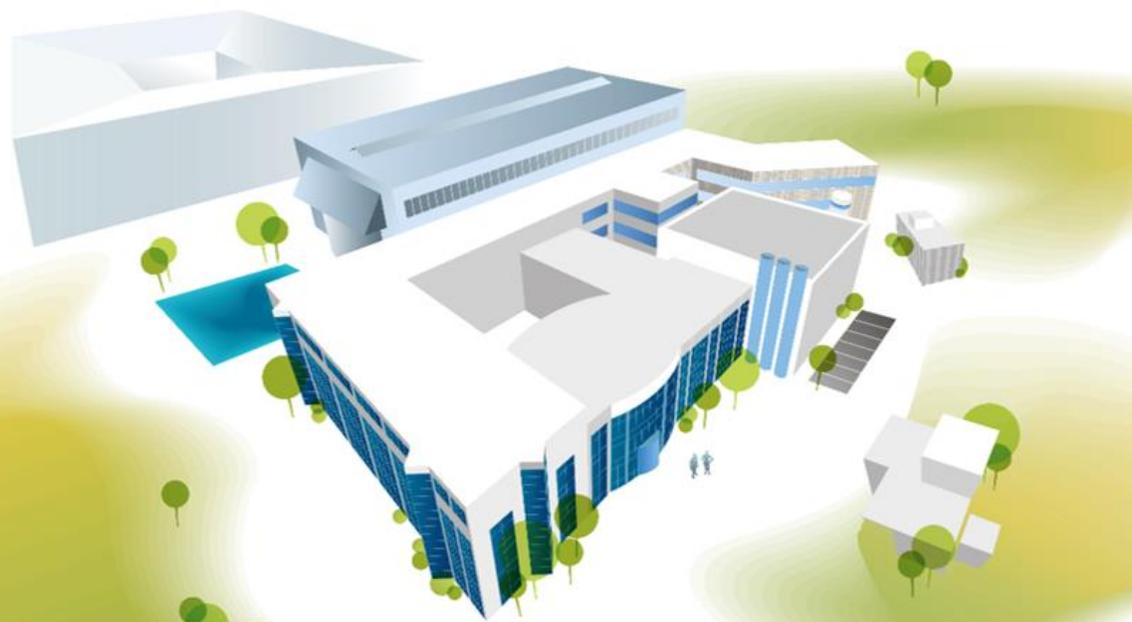
- Manufacturer | Supplier | Users | Grid operator | Planner | Installer | Industry associations | Science | Standardization | Politics and Society



<https://openDCalliance.org>



Thank you for your attention



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