

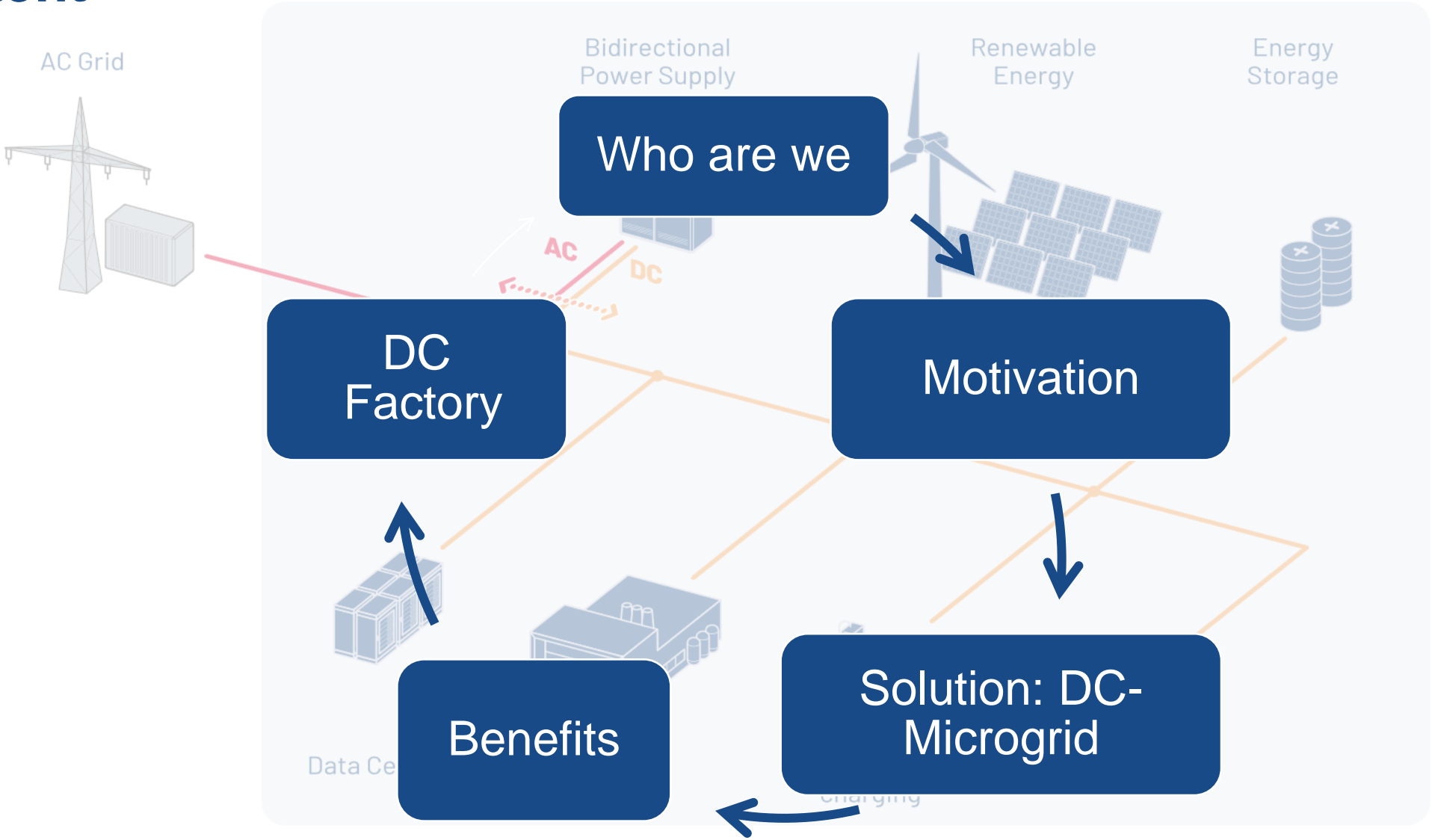


Die Gleichstromfabrik: Warum die Fabrik der Zukunft mit Gleichstrom läuft

Jahresveranstaltung Initiative Energieeffizienz- und Klimaschutz-Netzwerke

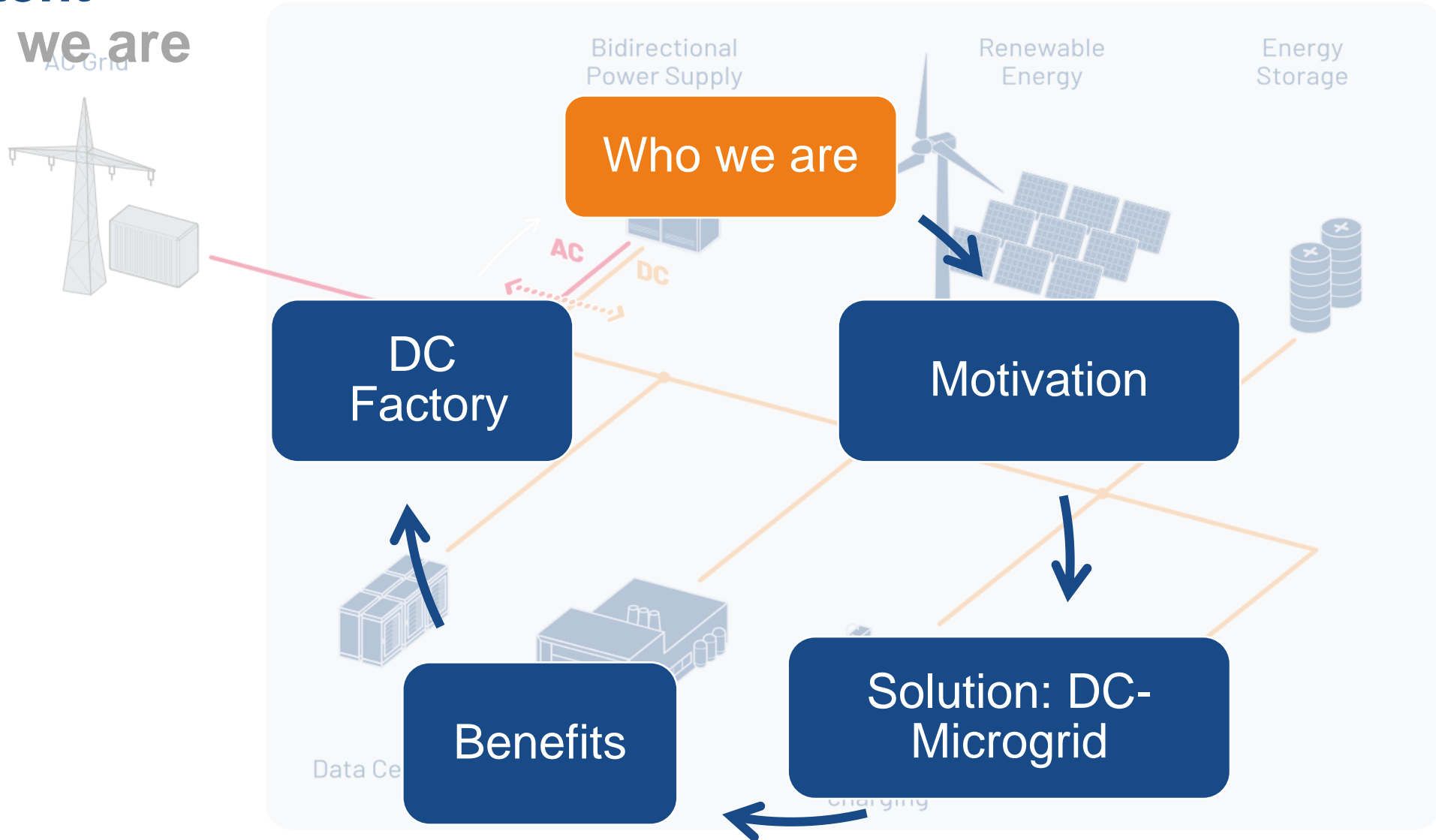
Dominik Maihöfner & Dr. Hartwig Stammberger

Content



Content

Who we are



Industry Background

From DC-INDUSTRIE to Open DC Alliance



2019 Model application
@ Daimler: 50 kVA welding

2013-16 AREUS

- Production cell
- 10 Partners
- Fundamentally confirmed functionality

2016-19 DC-INDUSTRIE

- 26 partners
- 4 applications
- Circuit breaker, drives, converters, system simulation, relay, cables, plugs
- DC Industrie System concept 1.0
- [DC-Industrie \(zvei.org\)](http://DC-Industrie (zvei.org))

2019-23 DC-INDUSTRIE2

- 39 partners
- 6 Pilot plants: Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Audi, Homag, Transfercenter OWL, FhG IISB
- Updated DC Industrie Systemconcept

Nov. 2022 ODCA

- 33 founding members

Nov. 2024 ODCA

- 72 members
- 11 countries
- 5 active Working Groups
- Full industrial DC System description: [Updated system concept for DC-INDUSTRIE2 published \(zvei.org\)](#)



Plenary @ Zumtobel Oct. 2024

Benefits of ODCA



Network: Connect with experts and peers in a trustful network.



Exchange of Experience: Share insights, learn from others' experiences and get access to pioneering projects.



Best Practices: Gain access to design and integration expertise to reduce planning and installation efforts.



Standardization: Influence standardization committees and profit from a guideline for an innovative architecture.



Regulatory Support: Helping you navigate regulatory hurdles.



Knowledge Building: Learn the fundamentals of DC and explore various DC applications.



Public System Description for Low Voltage DC Grids

VDE SPEC

AC Grid, Bidirectional Power Supply, Renewable Energy, Energy Storage, Data Centre, Industry and Commercial, Electric vehicle charging, Residential

**System Description
DC-INDUSTRIE**

VDE SPEC 90037 V1.0 (en)

VDE



- **System description**
 - Openly available
 - Broad and deep expertise
 - 7 years
 - 100+ experts
- **Free download as German pre-standard**
 - VDE SPEC 90037

Fairs and Conferences

Overview of last and upcoming Events

Hanover Fair '23

- Moving DC warehouse
- Several presentations on Energy Stage



Hanover Fair '24

- ODCA experience
- Several presentations on All-Electric-Society Stage and Energy Stage



IAS '24 - Shanghai

- ODCA experience
- Expert Presentation: "DC Advantages and Use Cases"



Upcoming

- SPS '24
- S-Dialogue
- ICDCM '25
- DC=IN '25



SPS '23 - Nuremberg

- Expert Presentation: "How low-voltage direct current supports the energy transition"
- Good Morning Automation Interview



ICDCM '24 - Columbia, SC

- Gold Sponsor
- Keynote: „DC-Microgrid Application, Use Cases and Standardization in Europe“



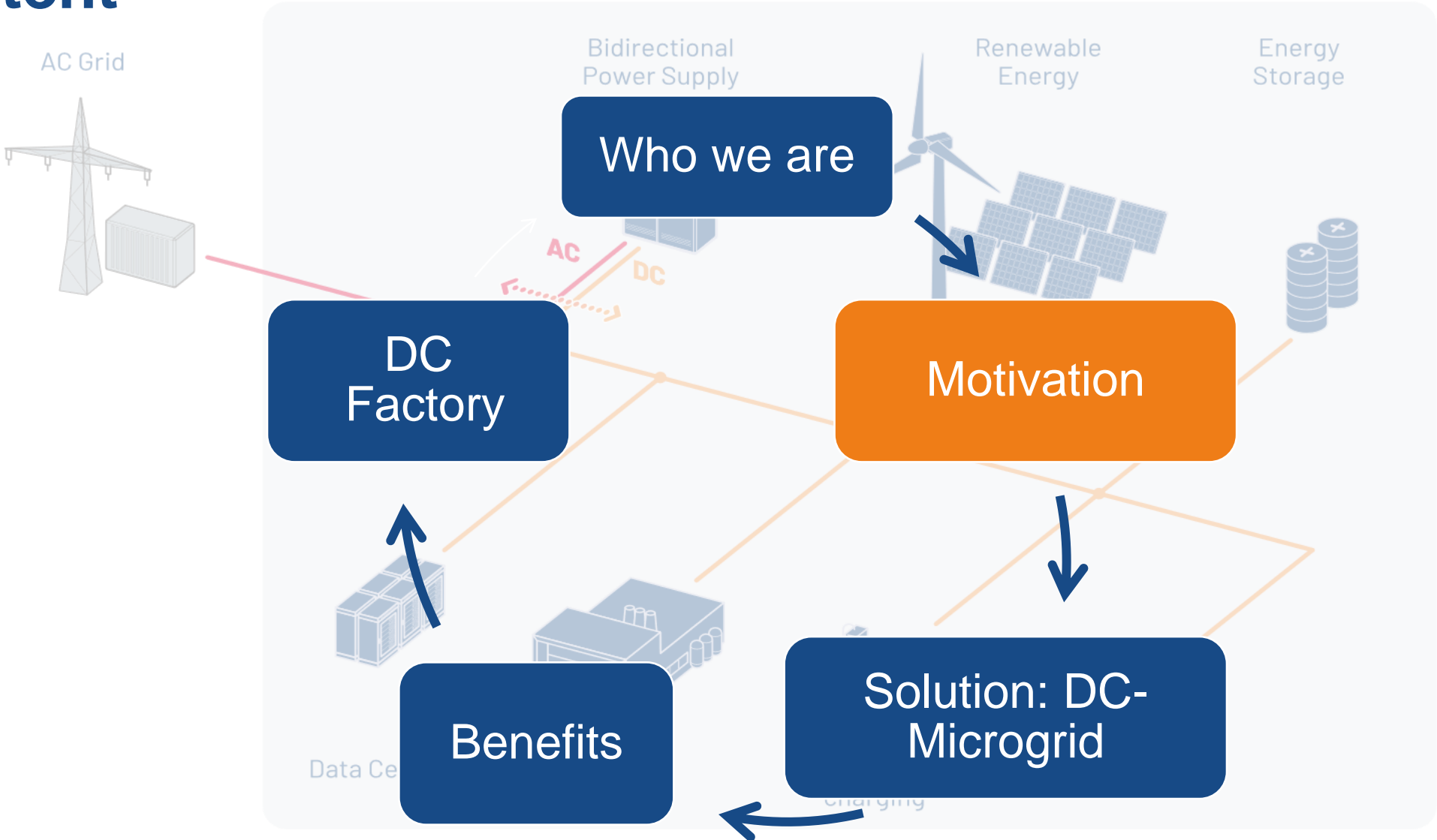
WEKA DC Conference '24 - Munich

- Supported by ODCA
- Panel discussion, Keynotes and Presentations from/with ODCA
- Additional Poster session

ODCA Members as of Nov. 2024



Content

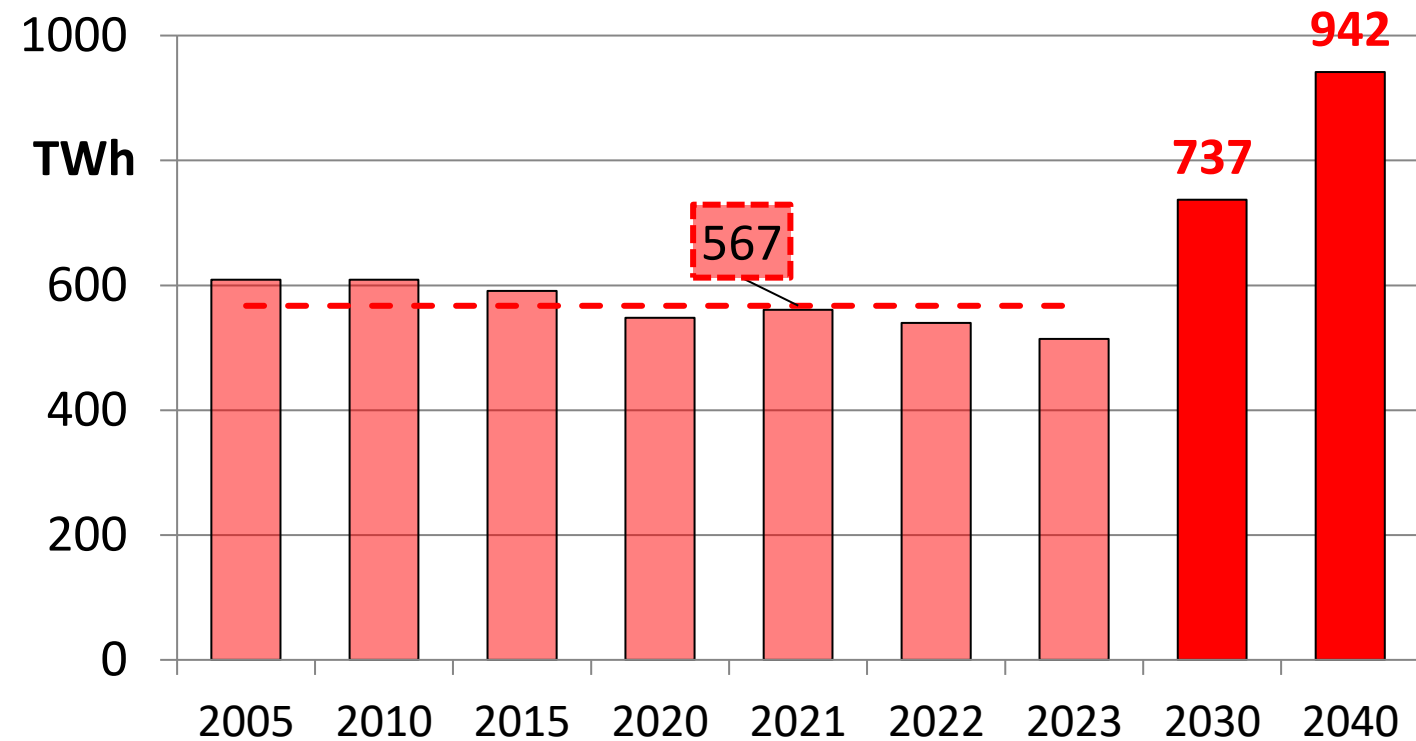


Motivation

Rising Electricity Demand

- **Electricity demand is rising**
 - Fossil to electric
 - +30% until 2030
- **Grid reaches / exceeds limitations**
- **New solutions needed**

Electricity demand Germany

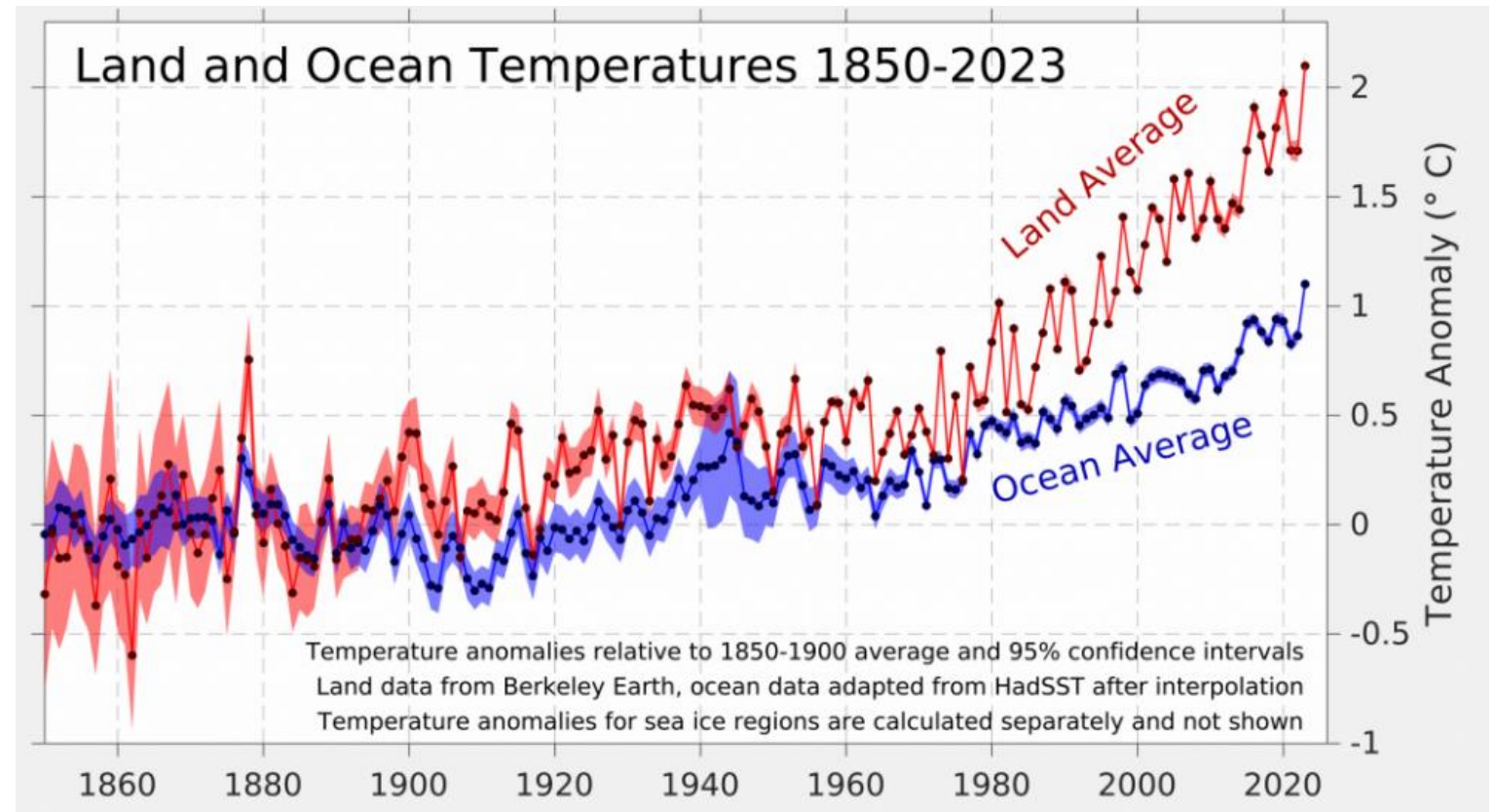


Sources: <https://ourworldindata.org/energy> (actuals)
https://e-vc.org/wp-content/uploads/e.venture_Point_of_View_Strommarkt_2040.pdf (forecast)

Motivation

Global temperature rise

- Last 9 years have been the 9 warmest years on record (> 100 000 years)
- Land mass warms faster than oceans
- CO₂ emissions are root cause



Source: <https://berkeleyearth.org/global-temperature-report-for-2023/>

One Solution

Energy efficiency

• IPCC report 2023

- Power generation, buildings, industry, and transport are responsible for close to 80% of global emissions
- One key solution is investment in clean energy & efficiency (2.)

• DC is part of the solution

10 key solutions needed to mitigate climate change

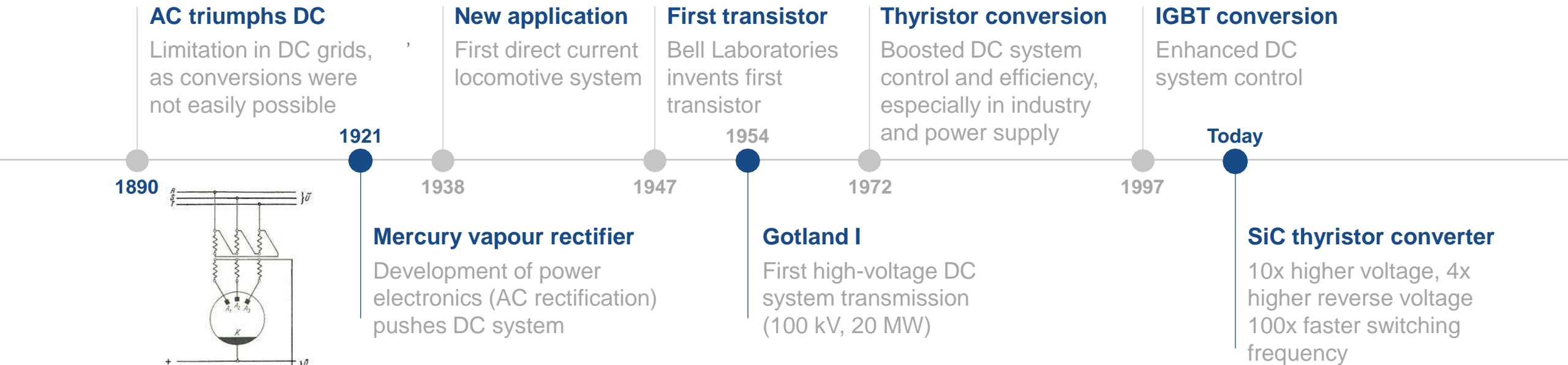
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1.  RETIRE coal plants | 6.  INCREASE public transport, biking and walking |
| 2.  INVEST in clean energy & efficiency | 7.  DECARBONIZE aviation and shipping |
| 3.  RETROFIT and DECARBONIZE buildings | 8.  HALT deforestation & RESTORE degraded lands |
| 4.  DECARBONIZE cement, steel & plastics | 9.  REDUCE food loss and waste and IMPROVE agricultural practices |
| 5.  SHIFT to electric vehicles | 10.  EAT more plants & less meat |

Source: IPCC AR6.
23/03/25

 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Source: <https://www.wri.org/insights/2023-ipcc-ar6-synthesis-report-climate-change-findings> and <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/>

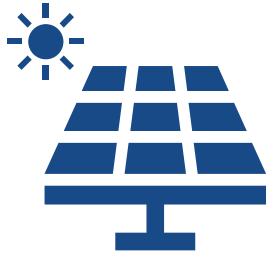
DC Technology Development since 1890



Source: Wikipedia / Lapp

DC is Nothing New

Existing DC applications



Photovoltaics



Battery storage



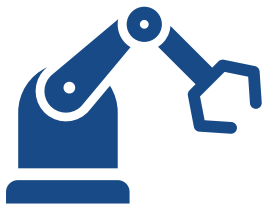
Wind energy



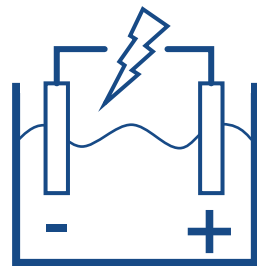
Rail



E-cars



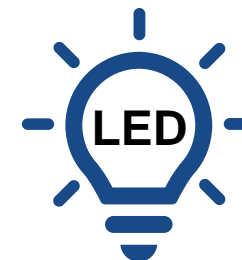
Industry



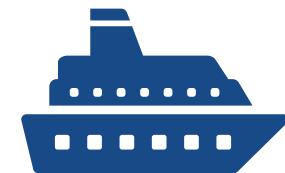
H₂ Electrolyser



Data & IT

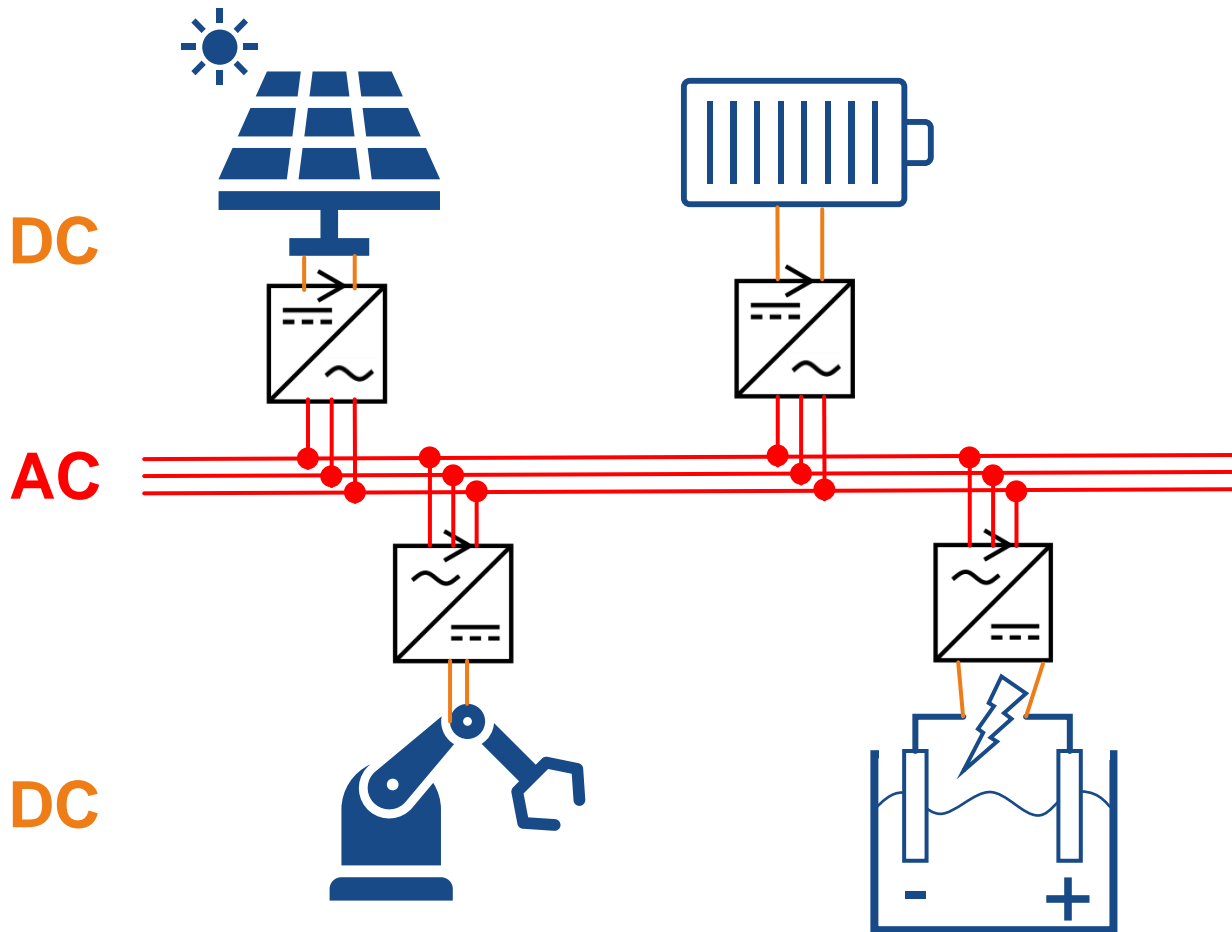


Lighting



Marine

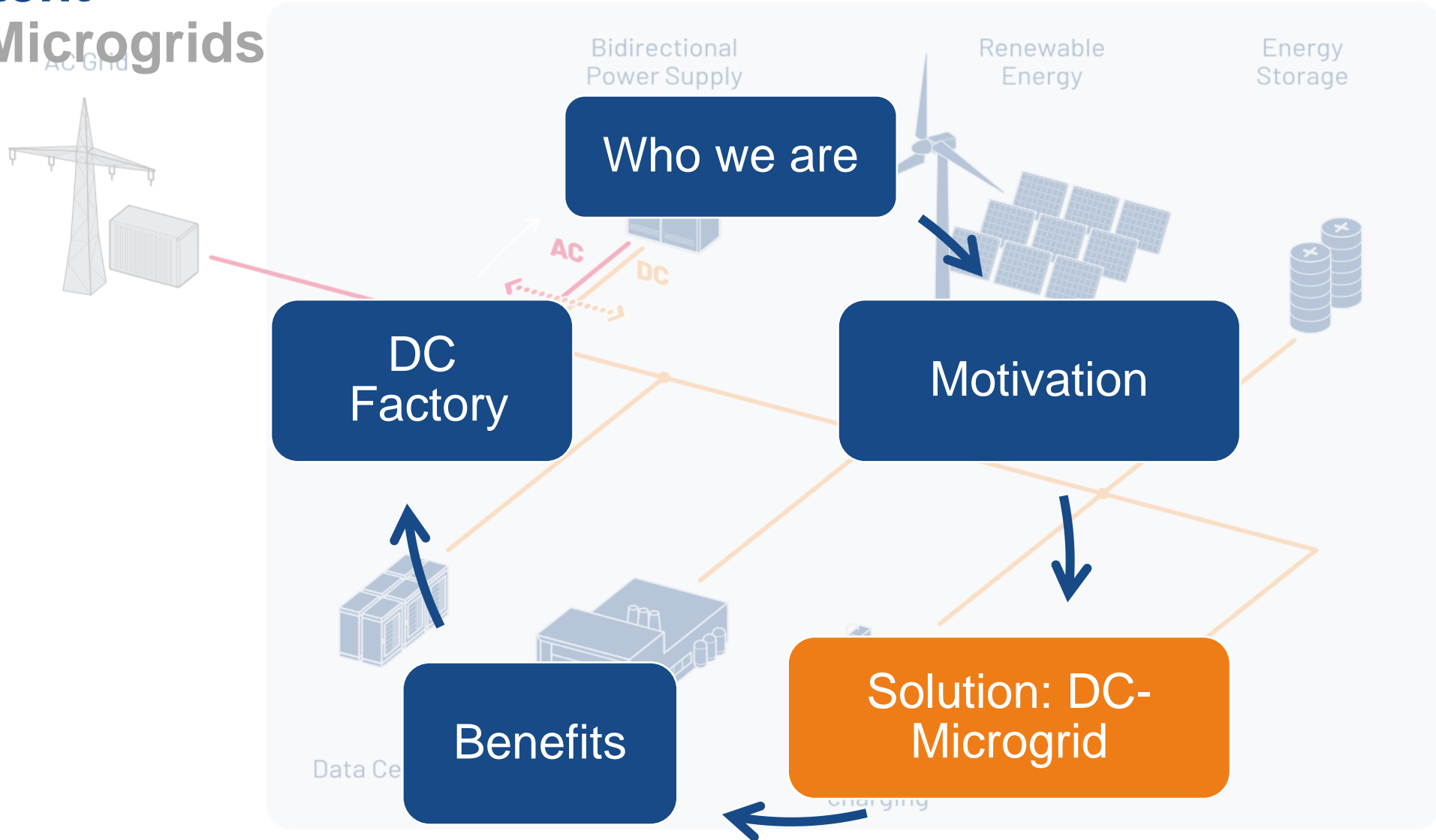
Actual Problem



- Multiple conversions from direct current **DC** to alternating current **AC** and vice-versa
 - Many devices
 - Many resources
 - A lot of wiring
 - Maintenance
 - Power loss
- In one word: Waste

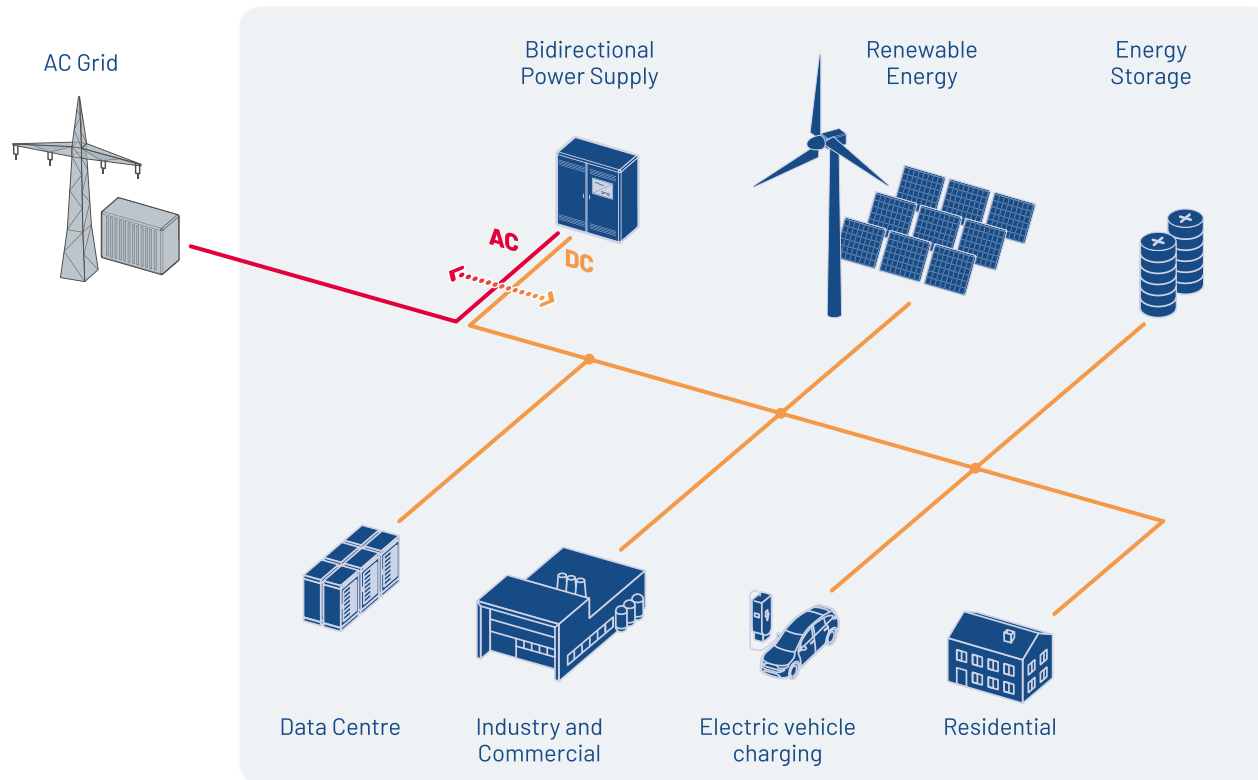
Content

DC-Microgrids



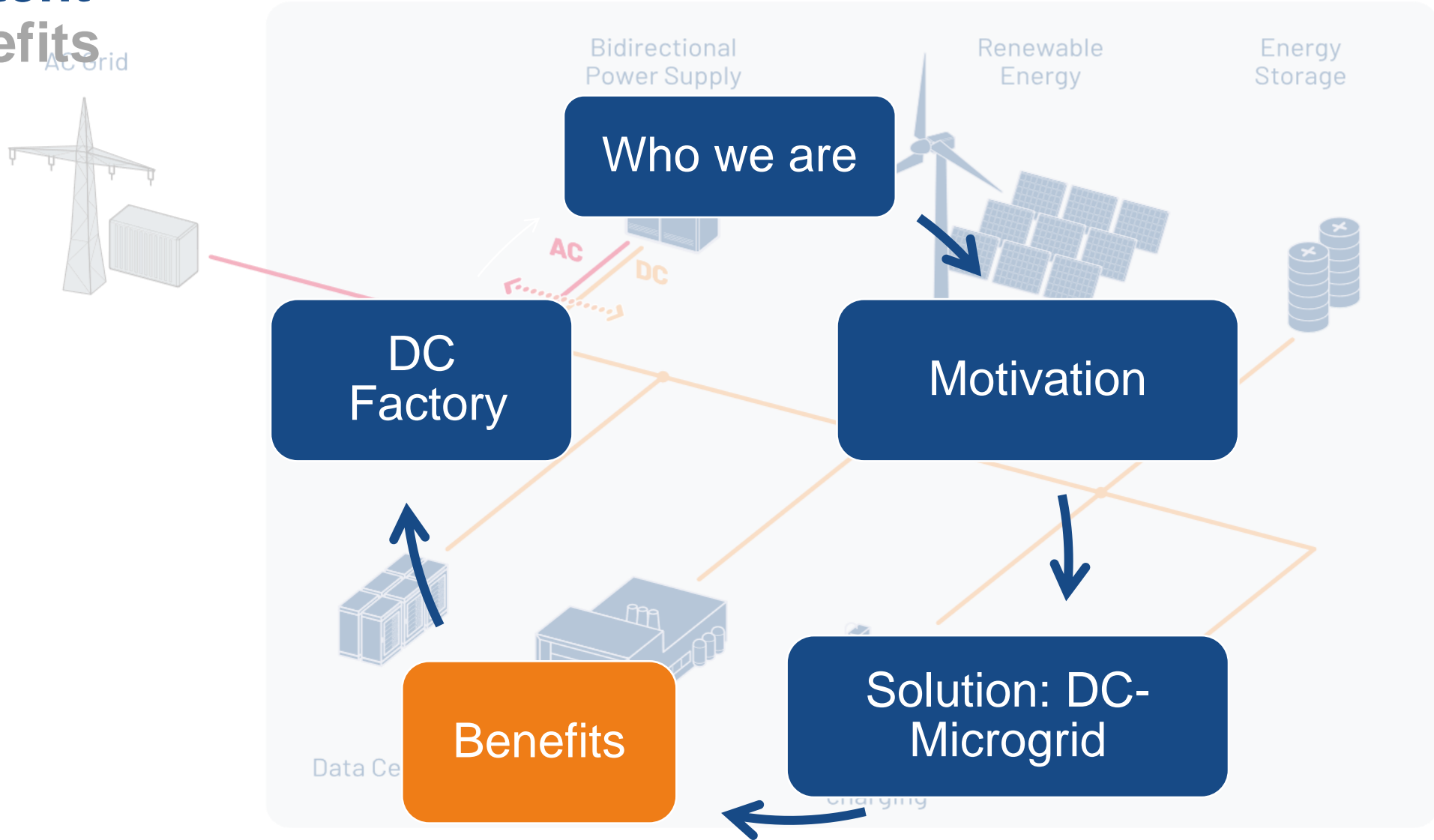
Solution

DC Microgrids



- **Simply connect “all things DC” with each other**
- **Fewer conversion steps (AC→DC, DC→AC)**
 - Fewer losses
 - Less maintenance
 - Fewer resources
- **Central connection to supply grid**

Content Benefits

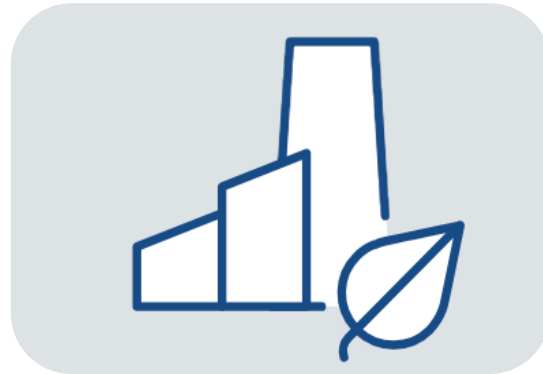


Benefits of DC

In Low Voltage Industry Grids



Peak Power
reduction



Resource efficient



Energy efficient



Resilient

Peak Power Reduction

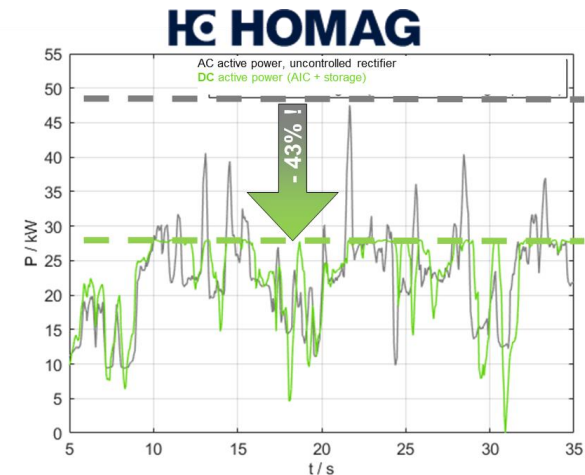
Wood Working Example



Peak Power
reduction

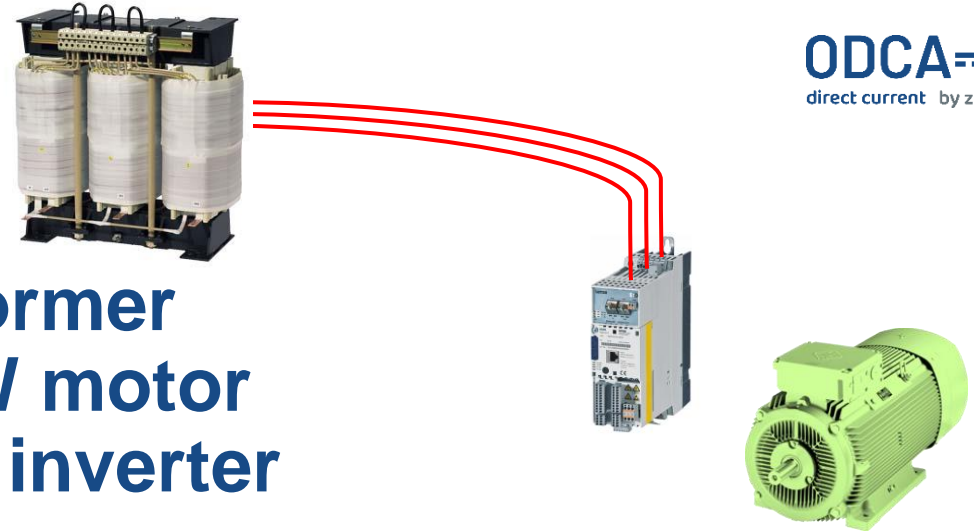
Wood working example

- ✓ Lower peak power rates
- ✓ Smaller transformer
- ✓ Smaller bus bars and cable cross sections

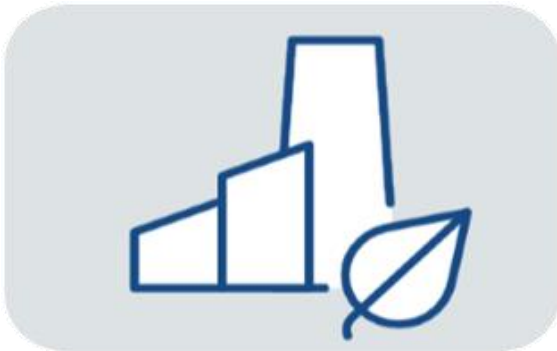


Source: <https://odca.zvei.org/resources/publications/updated-system-concept-for-dc-industrie2-published>

Resource Efficient Cabling



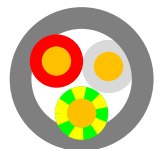
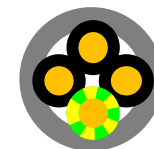
Cabling from transformer to inverter for 7.5 kW motor driven by frequency inverter



Resource efficient

- ✓ 50 % less copper
- ✓ 50 % lower power loss
- ✓ 2500 € / year savings
 - Per km of cable for 2 shift operation
 - @ 10 ct / kWh

	400 V AC	650 V DC
Current	20 A	14 A
Cable cross section	2.5 mm ²	1.5 mm ²
Total copper	10 mm ²	4.5 mm ²
Power loss	8.6 W/m	4.3 W/m



Source: <https://odca.zvei.org/resources/publications/dc-industrie2-project-presentation>

Energy Efficient Braking Energy



Energy
efficient

Recovery of braking energy

- ✓ Not wasted in braking resistors
- ✓ No extra cooling needed



Resilient Storage and Components



Resilient

Energy storage

- ✓ Complete the production cycle in case of power outages
- ✓ Continue operation in island mode

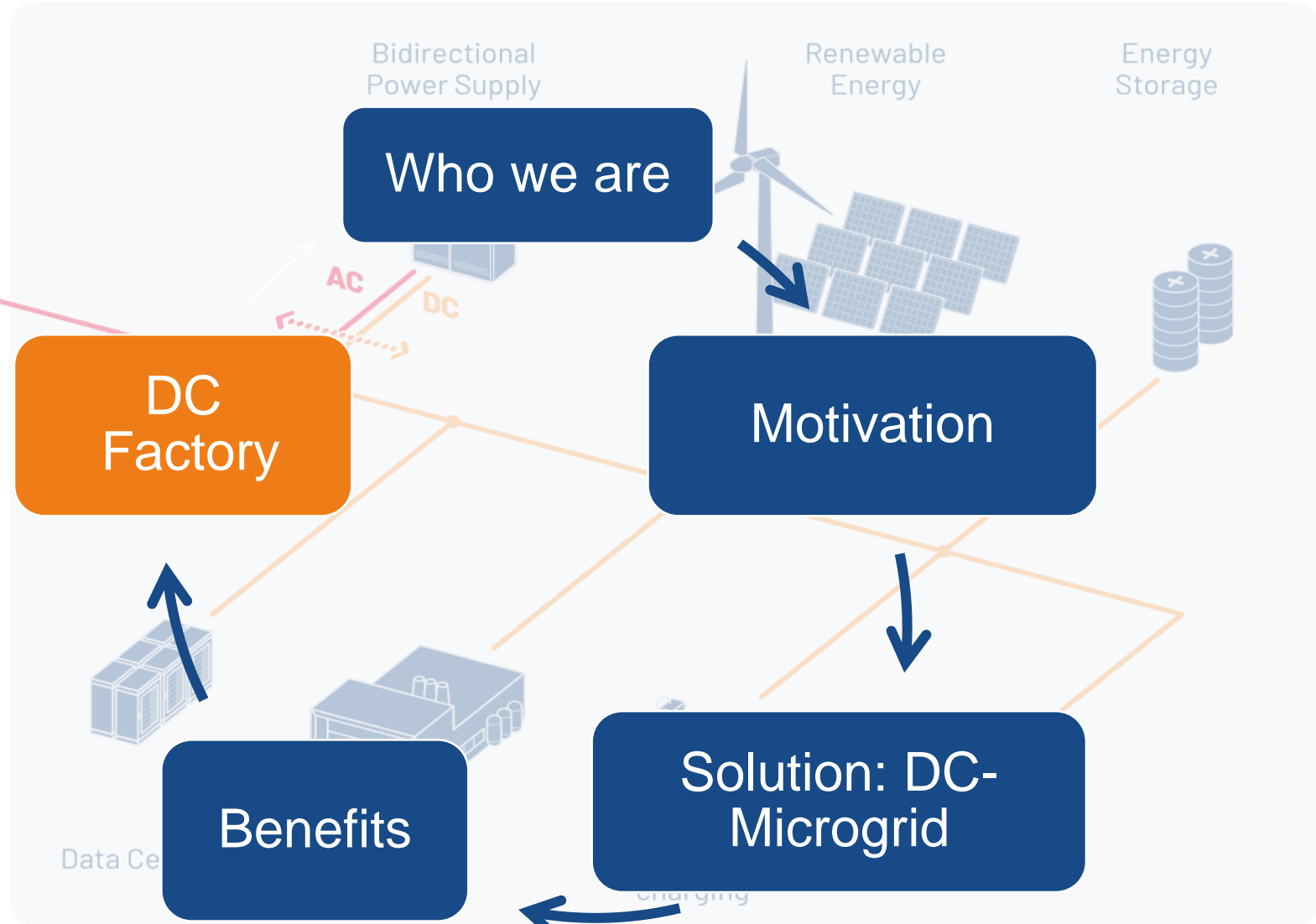
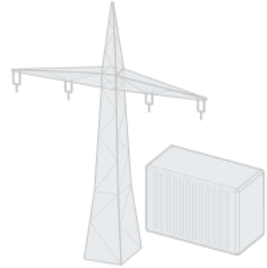


Fewer components

- ✓ Less maintenance, longer lifetime (e.g. LED lighting)

Content

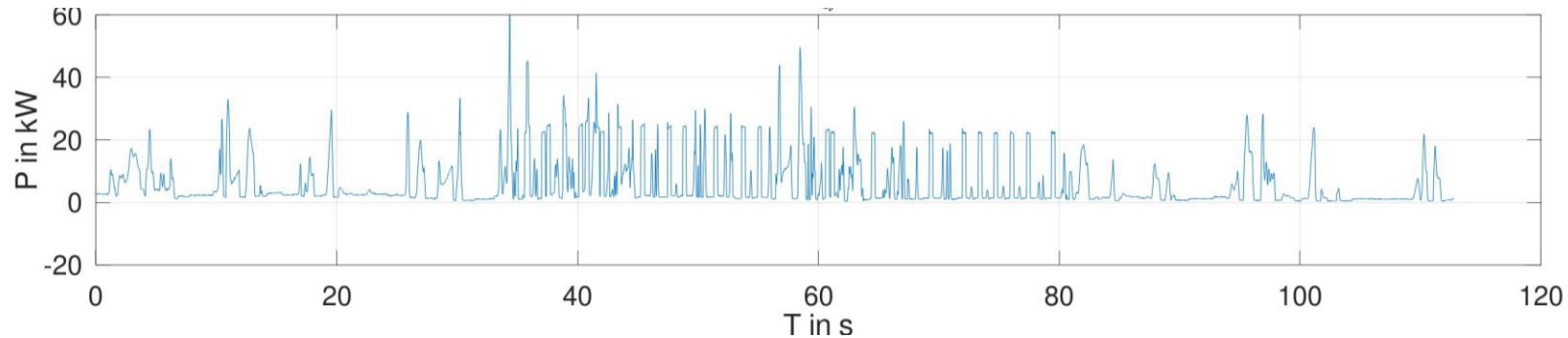
DC Factory



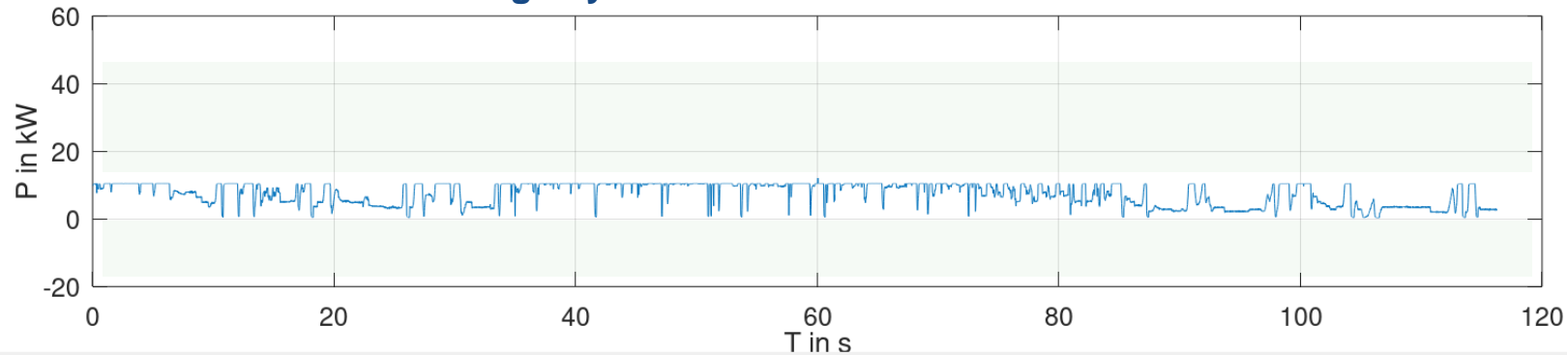
Application

KUKA - Comparison Measurement

AC Production Cell



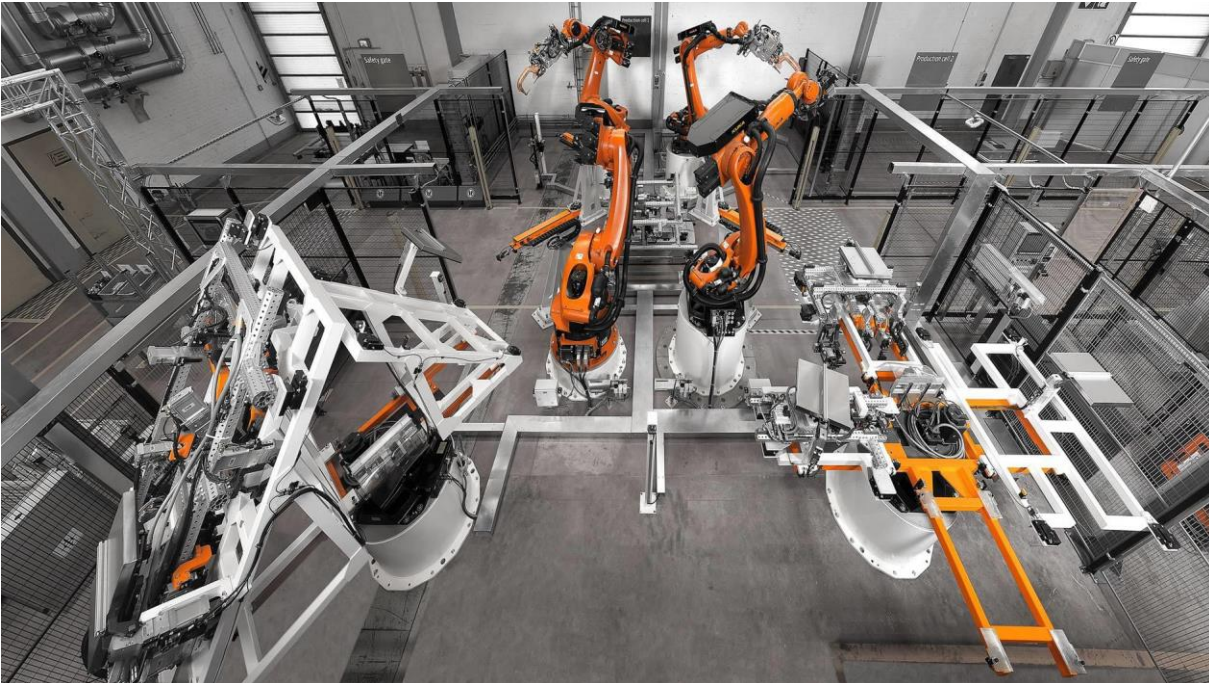
DC Production Cell with Storage System



Source: DC Grids in Automation | Christoph Steinherr | Feb 2023 | www.kuka.com

Application

KUKA - Results



- **Active Infeed Converter**
 - Reduction of the AC grid disturbances
- **Storage**
 - 80 % peak power reduction
- **Robots**
 - 7.2% energy savings
 - Depending on the application, up to 20 % energy savings can be achieved
 - No limitation of dynamic movements by braking resistors

Source: DC Grids in Automation | Christoph Steinherr | Feb 2023 | www.kuka.com

Application

Mercedes-Benz Factory 56



- Large distances & power
- 222.000 m² production area
- 2 MW DC grid for hall infrastructure
- Heating & Air condition
- Load shifting with utility

Source: <https://odca.zvei.org/resources/publications/dc-industrie2-project-presentation>

Application

Schaltbau NExT Factory



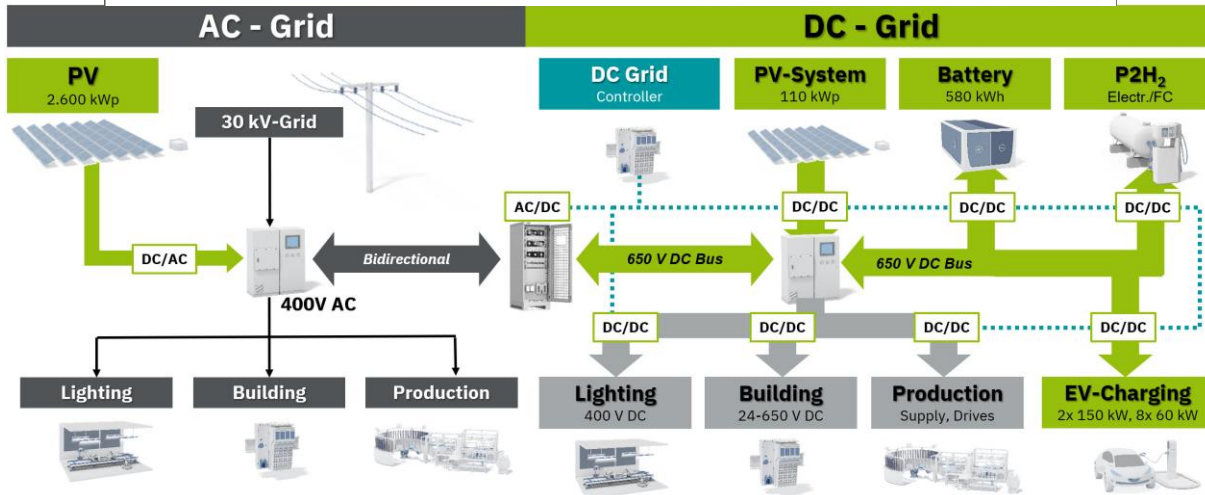
- **Opened Sep. 2023**
- **1.3 MWp PV**
 - >70 % self-consumption
- **Peak infeed-power reduction**
 - 30% overall
 - 85% lower in fully automated high-bay warehouse
- **35% lower energy cost**
- **System description as base for approval**

Application

Phoenix Contact – G60



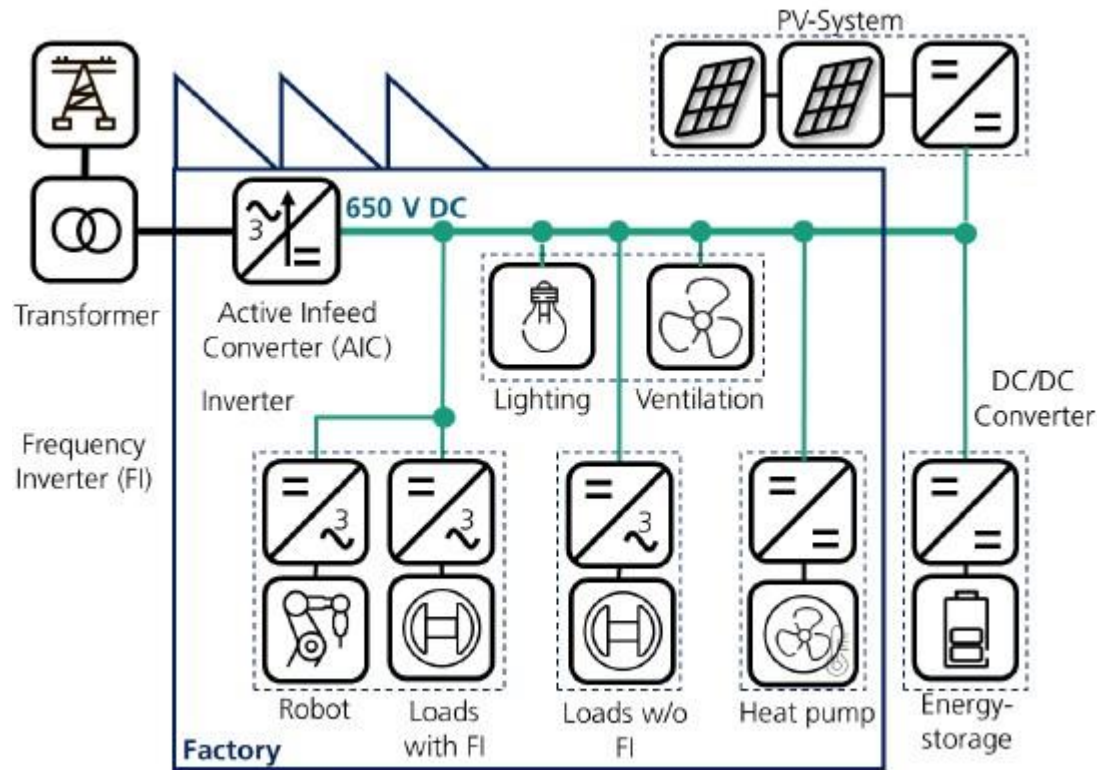
- Sector coupling
- Thermal (ice-)storage
- Power to H2 planned
- 2.5 MWp PV
- 300 kWh battery storage



© Phoenix Contact: Possil-Doelken, CEN/CENELEC, Dec. 2023:
https://www.cencenelec.eu/media/CEN-CENELEC/Events/Events/2023/AES/aes_presentation_possel-doelken_2023-12-04.pdf

Example Calculation ROI

Open Direct Current Alliance (zvei.org)

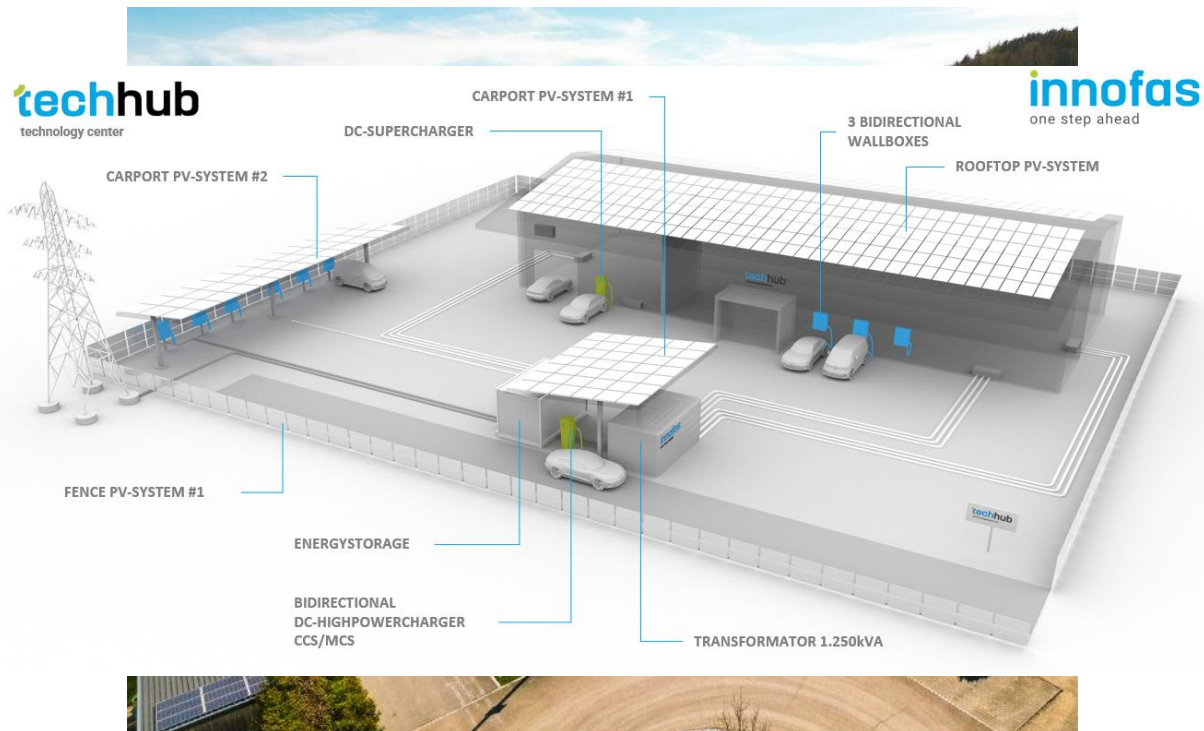


Properties	Value	Unit
Overall efficiency AC	81.88 %	
Overall efficiency DC	88.37 %	
Efficiency increase	6.49 %	
Total need AC with PV	17 263.04 MWh/a	
Total need DC with PV	15 110.24 MWh/a	
Comparison of total need	87.53 %	
Energy saved	2 152.80 MWh/a	
Cost savings vs. AC	430 559.99 €/a	
CO ₂ savings	762.09 tCO ₂ eq/a	
Additional investment for DC	1 513 681.22 €	
Amortisation period	3.52 years	

Properties	Value	Unit
Total output of the factory	5	MW
Total energy of the factory per year	18 750	MWh/a
Factory size	15 000	m ²
Energy price	0.20	€/kWh
CO ₂ -emissions	354	gCO ₂ eq/kWh
Output of the production loads	3 925	kW
Heat pump output	530	kW
Power of the ventilation system	395	kW
Power of the lighting system	150	kW
Output of the PV system	530	kWp
Utilisation of the PV system	Self-consumption optimisation in combination with battery storage	

Application other than Industry

innofas TechHub Dollnstein



- PV (rooftop and carports)
- Energy storage with automotive second life modules
- Charging infrastructure (AC and DC)
 - Galvanic isolated DC/DC coupled bidirectional 350kW EV charging with CCS and MCS Plug
 - Voltage range: 200V – 1300V, direct coupled to the storage system without DC/DC converter

Next steps:

- Solar fence
- DC lighting in building

Source: <https://www.innofas.de/techhub>

Contact info

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Lyoner Straße 9
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Follow and visit us

 
LinkedIn Website



WE CAN DO BETTER – WITH DC!



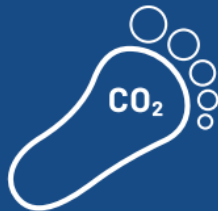
Cost-
efficient



Energy-
efficient



Material-
efficient



CO₂-
efficient

Scan for more
information:



ODCA 

direct current by zvei