

Information for the Media

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Light + Building 2018 focusing on digitalisation

Electrical-engineering trade comprises specialists for smart solutions

The electrical-engineering and information-technology trades are coming to Light + Building in an optimistic mood. As Lothar Hellmann emphasises, the world's leading trade fair for lighting and modern building-services technology is the most important event on the calendar of the electrical-engineering trade every alternate year. The ZVEH President says, "Many of the jobs undertaken by our members have a close link to digitalisation and smart solutions in buildings. Light + Building is the perfect venue to exchange information about the latest trends in the sector and to make new contacts.

With the new 'Smart Living in the E-House' special show, the German Central Association of Electrical and Information Technology Contractors (ZVEH) provides an excellent example of how modern, intelligent connectivity can improve the level of safety, security, convenience and energy efficiency of both residential and commercial buildings. The 100 square meter E-House, which ZVEH is presenting in cooperation with the Hesse / Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland associations, has not only achieved an even higher level in technical terms – it has also been completely redesigned and now houses the products of 60 different manufacturers, all fully interconnected and fully functional.

The focus is on the highest standards of safety and security, comfortable living and smart control options by voice, tablet PC and smart watch. Efficient energy management, innovative lighting technology and age-based assistance systems also play a key role. Hellmann: "The profile of the electrical-engineering trade has changed massively in recent years and is no longer simply a matter of traditional installation work. Rather, our skilled craftspeople work with their customers to produce custom-made smart solutions for the home and commercial buildings." To take due account of rising expectations, particular attention must be paid to training.

At the same time, it is important that all partners of the electrical-engineering sector along the value chain improve their strengths, says Hellmann. Only then will it be possible to offer customers a perfect service. The tried and tested collaboration between the industry, wholesale trade and the installation trade is facing new challenges as the process of digitalisation forges ahead.

Light + Building offers an excellent setting to discuss the forthcoming challenges with partners from the electrical-engineering sector in a variety of forums, panel discussions and meetings. Above all, however, Hellmann sees the fair as an important source of fresh impulses for the electrical-engineering trade: "Nowhere else can our companies find more innovations in this quality and concentration."

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ZVEH: the German Central Association of Electrical and Information Technology Contractors (*Zentralverband der Deutschen Elektro- und Informationstechnischen Handwerke – ZVEH*) represents the interests of 53,755 companies from three trades: electrical engineering, information technology and electrical electro-mechanical engineering. With 491,542 employees, over 40,00 of them trainees, the companies generated a turnover of around € 57.6 billion in 2017. 12 State associations with around 330 guilds belong to the ZVEH.

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