ATZ live

CONFERENCES ON VEHICLE AND POWERTRAIN DEVELOPMENT

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Electric Powertrains and Energy Systems 2026

Holistic implementation of mobility and energy

19 – 20 May 2026
Frankfurt am Main, Germany

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IN FOCUS

How is the global development changing electrification?

KEYNOTE LECTURES

German Aerospace Center (DLR) / Hirschvogel Holding GmbH / IAV GmbH / K2 Mobility GmbH / VDA / Vireo Ventures Management GmbH

Hirschvogel Group

E is the key

- STRATEGIC VIEW OF ELECTRIC POWERTRAINS
- POWERTRAIN CONCEPTS FOR BEV, REX, PHEV, AND FCEV
- BATTERY TECHNOLOGY FROM THE CELL TO THE SYSTEM
- INFRASTRUCTURE AND INTEGRATED ENERGY SYSTEMS
- THE SOFTWARE-DEFINED VEHICLE IN THE CONTEXT OF ELECTRIFICATION
- LIFE-CYCLE CONSIDERATIONS AND SUSTAINABILITY

HIGHLIGHT

Ceremony of the Sustainability Award in Automotive

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD IN AUTOMOTIVE
ATZ MTZ ARTHUR LITTLE

Dr. Lea Schwarz
Head of Development Functional Architecture,
AUDI AG

Welcome

For many years now, the automotive industry has been facing challenges that have made it almost impossible to pursue strategies aimed at specific goals. The past decade has been characterized by fast-moving legislation and the consequences of the pandemic. We are now witnessing a decoupling of the markets. This is being compounded by extreme competition from the technology sector and the Chinese market. In such an environment as this, the automotive industry must reinvent itself.

At the heart of the transformation process are electric powertrains and the software-defined vehicle. What role are electric powertrains playing and how will they help to pave the way out of this crisis? What is important here are holistic approaches to finding solutions. We no longer talk of drive systems alone, but of powertrain systems and energy storage. We no longer focus on the vehicle alone, but also on the ecosystem and the infrastructure. Sustainable solutions are achieved within the framework of life-cycle assessments.

This diversity is reflected in the program of the 20th International MTZ Conference on Future Powertrains. We look forward to an equally diverse discussion on how to shape the future. I look forward to welcoming you to the conference.

On behalf of the Scientific Advisory Board

L. Schwarz

Stay at the cutting edge!

- Highly relevant technical papers presented by renowned speakers
- Networking in the international expert community
- Innovative products and services

Electric Powertrains and Energy Systems

The current challenges facing the automotive industry and the possible solutions offered by electric drive systems are being addressed and resolved through an intensive exchange of knowledge and technical expertise between leading representatives of the automotive and energy industries and the scientific and political communities. This conference therefore focuses on topics that examine the potentials of electric vehicle powertrains and, based on holistic considerations, develops them further with technological solutions and the associated infrastructure. Discussions will concentrate on political framework conditions as well as on systemic innovations for the future and digital solutions.

Scientific Advisory Board

Our Scientific Advisory Board, which is made up of prominent experts in their respective fields, provides support during the planning phase of the conference and helps to identify suitable topics.

With its expertise the board has made a valuable contribution to the choice of themes for the lecture program.

Dr. Lea Schwarz
Head of Development Functional Architecture,
AUDI AG

Director of the Conference

Dr. Norbert Alt
FEV Group GmbH

Klaus Baumgärtner
BridgingIT GmbH

Prof. Dr. André Casal Kulzer
University of Stuttgart

Klaus Fink
Hirschvogel Holding GmbH

Dr. Helmut Gander
MAHLE International GmbH

Nico Gerhardt
Volkswagen AG

Prof. Dr. Bernhard Geringer
Austrian Society of Automotive Engineers (ÖVK)

Prof. Dr. Uwe Dieter Grebe
Vienna University of Technology

Axel Hausen
Netze BW GmbH

Dr. Alexander Heintzel
Springer Nature

Dr. Urban Keussen
NeXtWind Management GmbH

Benjamin Kleiner
e-mobil BW GmbH

Christian Lensch-Franzen
APL Automobil-Prüftechnik Landau GmbH

Gerhard Meister
AVL List GmbH

Thomas Müller
IAV GmbH

Stephan Rebhan
Schaeffler Technologies AG & Co. KG

Dr. Peter Sauermann
BP Europa SE

Dr. Otmar Scharrer
ZF Group

Dr. Michael Schlegel
BMW Group

Prof. Dr. Karsten Wilbrand
Shell Global Solutions (Deutschland) GmbH

08:30 **Welcome and opening of the conference**
Dr. Lea Schwarz, Head of Development Functional Architecture, AUDI AG, Germany;
Dr. Alexander Heintzel, Editor-in-Chief ATZ I MTZ Group, Germany

08:45 – 10:15, Plenum – HOLM_maX

KEYNOTE LECTURES I

Moderation: Dr. Lea Schwarz, AUDI AG, Germany

KEYNOTE

08:45 **Requirements for a policy of drive transition**
Andreas Rade, Managing Director Government & Society, German Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA), Germany

KEYNOTE

09:10 **Lecture to be confirmed**

KEYNOTE

09:35 **New trends and requirements in battery development – from cell chemistry to ready-for-assembly housings**
Karsten Müller, Senior Vice President Electrified Systems, IAV GmbH, Germany;
Klaus Fink, Global Product Manager & Strategic Assistant to Vice President Development E-Drive & Battery, Hirschvogel Holding GmbH, Germany

10:00 **Q&A about the keynote lectures**

10:15 Refreshment break with coffee and tea in the exhibition area

10:45 – 11:45, Plenum – HOLM_maX

LIFE CYCLE

Moderation: Prof. Dr. Uwe Dieter Grebe, Vienna University of Technology, Austria

10:45 **Electromobility from an LCA perspective – strengths and future potential in Europe until 2050**
Gregor Lischka, Project Assistant, Institute of Powertrain and Automotive Technology (IFA), Vienna University of Technology, Austria

11:15 **Sustainable product services – Schaeffler's architecture and tools for product decarbonization**
Khosrau Heidary, Director Sustainable Products, Vitesco Technologies GmbH, Germany

11:45 – 12:30, Plenum – HOLM_maX

JOINT DISCUSSION WITH A FISHBOWL CHARACTER WITH THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND THE AUDITORIUM

Moderation: Dr. Alexander Heintzel, Editor-in-Chief ATZ I MTZ Group

12:30 Plenum – HOLM_maX
Ceremony of the Sustainability Award in Automotive
A joint initiative of ATZ, MTZ and Arthur D. Little GmbH

13:15 Lunch in the exhibition area

14:30 – 16:00, Plenum – HOLM_maX

DRIVE CONCEPTS

Moderation: Gerhard Meister, AVL List GmbH, Austria

14:30 **Next-gen REEV concepts and e-components: balancing cost, performance, and time to market**
Thomas Lüdiger, Global Vice President, Electric Powertrain, FEV Group GmbH, Germany

15:00 **Range extenders with dual-rotor radial flux machines for compact, efficient hybrid architectures**
Dr. Alexander Rosen, Chief Engineer and Co-Founder, DeepDrive GmbH, Germany

15:30 **Multi-objective optimization for developing a cost-efficient, modular truck eDrive platform**
Philip Hätscher, Research Associate, Institute for Automotive Engineering Stuttgart (IFS), University of Stuttgart [in cooperation with Daimler Truck AG], Germany

16:00 Refreshment break with coffee and tea in the exhibition area

16:30 – 18:00, Plenum – HOLM_maX

ELECTRIC MOTORS

Moderation: Prof. Dr. André Casal Kulzer, University of Stuttgart, Germany

16:30 **Novel sustainable Electrically Excited Synchronous Motors (EESM)**
Dr. Philippe Farah, CEO - Founder, YEESMA Sàrl, Luxembourg

17:00 **Compact, cost-efficient, modular, and sustainable: the next-generation EDU for compact BEVs**
Wilhelm Vallant, Director Product & Business Development, Electric Drive and Transmission Systems, AVL List GmbH, Austria

17:30 **Versatility of production systems as the key to diversified development of rotor shafts for BEVs**
Klaus Fink, Global Product Manager & Strategic Assistant to Vice President Development E-Drive & Battery, Hirschvogel Holding GmbH, Germany

approx. 18:00 End of the first day of the conference

19:30 **Networking dinner at the Depot 1899 in Frankfurt am Main, a former tram depot**
Enjoy a pleasant evening and interesting conversations over dinner with colleagues and speakers.

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD IN AUTOMOTIVE

ATZ MTZ ARTHUR LITTLE

Due to their importance for the economy and society, the automotive industry and mobility providers bear special responsibility for achieving climate protection and general sustainability goals.

The Sustainability Award in Automotive, which is jointly organized by the ATZ/MTZ Group and sustainability and industry experts from the consultancy Arthur D. Little, honors outstanding examples of sustainable contributions to mobility.

The categories:

- Mobility concepts
- Technology
- Startup
- Value driver sustainability

Award Partner

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09:00 – 10:30, Plenum – HOLM_maX

KEYNOTE LECTURES II

Moderation: Dr. Otmar Scharrer, ZF Group, Germany

KEYNOTE

09:00 **Fleet electrification in heavy-duty transport: from niche to mainstream**
Felix Krause, Managing Partner, Photovoltaics, Mobility Solutions, Logistics, Vireo Ventures Management GmbH, Germany

KEYNOTE

09:30 **Integrated charge management as a prerequisite for scalable electric road logistics**
Markus Kröger, Managing Director, K2 Mobility GmbH, Germany

KEYNOTE

10:00 **Users and preferences: what really drives BEV adoption in Germany?**
Samuel Hasselwander, Research Associate, Institute of Vehicle Concepts, German Aerospace Center (DLR), Germany

10:30 Refreshment break with coffee and tea in the exhibition area

11:00 – 12:00, Plenum – HOLM_maX

FUEL CELL

Moderation: Thomas Müller, IAV GmbH, Germany

11:00 **With system know-how to improved Balance-of-Plant components for fuel cells**
Florian Mayer, Project Manager Fuel Cell System Testing, Project House Fuel Cell Systems, MAHLE International GmbH, Germany

11:30 **New FC humidification concept: water injection and cathode gas recirculation for robustness increase**
Dr. Klaus Pöhlmann, Senior Coordinator, Research Department, IAVF Antriebstechnik GmbH
[in cooperation with Bosch Engineering GmbH], Germany

12:00 Lunch in the exhibition area

13:00 – 14:30, Plenum – HOLM_maX

CHARGING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderation: Benjamin Kleiner, e-mobil BW GmbH, Germany

13:00 **Efficient management of queues and reservations for EV charging stations**
Dr. Heidrun Belzner, Specialist Energy and Sustainable Mobility, BMW AG, Germany;
Sebastian Dreier, Function Owner HV Charging Functions, Volkswagen AG, Germany

13:30 **From silos to integrated energy systems: design & co-optimization of fleets and facilities**
Dr. Andreas Braun, Product Responsible HV Systems, AVL Deutschland GmbH, Germany
[in cooperation with AVL List GmbH, Austria]

14:00 **Lecture to be confirmed**

14:30 Refreshment break with coffee and tea in the exhibition area

15:00 – 16:30, Plenum – HOLM_maX

BATTERY

Moderation: Dr. Helmut Gander, MAHLE International GmbH, Germany

15:00 **Key enablers for commercial superfast charging battery cells**
Dr. Stefan Beschnitt, Technical Specialist, Electric Powertrain, FEV Europe GmbH, Germany

15:30 **Approaches to bridging the test levels from the cell to the overall system**
Dr. Oleg Birkholz, Manager, Battery Testing, APL Automobil-Prüftechnik Landau GmbH, Germany

16:00 **Sustainable battery life cycle – challenges and chances for the automotive industry**
Dr. Panagiotis Grigoriadis, Team Leader, Sustainable Solutions, IAV GmbH, Germany

16:30 **Closing remarks**
Dr. Lea Schwarz, Head of Development Functional Architecture, AUDI AG;
Dr. Alexander Heintzel, Editor-in-Chief ATZ I MTZ Group, Germany

Eventual program changes reserved. As of 24-02-2026

Hirschvogel Holding GmbH

The Hirschvogel Group is one of the world's largest manufacturers of forged and machined components made of steel and aluminum. The independent, family-owned company with eight production sites on three continents is a development partner and manufacturing specialist, primarily for the automotive industry. Continuously open to all technologies, Hirschvogel offers innovative solutions for passenger cars and commercial vehicles, regardless of whether they are powered by combustion engines, electric batteries, or hydrogen. The product portfolio ranges from components for the powertrain, transmission, and chassis through to parts for the vehicle body and frame.

In 2024, the Group's workforce, comprising around 6,300 employees, generated total sales of approx. 1.4 billion euros. Hirschvogel Holding GmbH, headquartered in Denklingen, Upper Bavaria, Germany, is the parent company of the eight production sites and of a sales organization in the USA.

Your presentation platform

Take this opportunity to present your latest products and services to the specialist audience: as an exhibitor in our exclusive exhibition and/or as a sponsor with an attractive advertising presentation. Make use of this industry meeting place to make valuable contacts with customers.

For information on the various presentation options, please contact:

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Cooperation partner

Hirschvogel Group

www.hirschvogel.com

Media partners

ATZ MTZ ATZ elektronik NACHHALTIGE INDUSTRIE

Registration fee

€ 1,595.– plus VAT

This includes the conference documentation, the use of the digital event platform, the catering during breaks, and the evening event on 19-05-2026.

Date

19 – 20 May 2026

Venue

HOLM (House of Logistics & Mobility)
Bessie-Coleman-Str. 7
60549 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Languages used in the presentations

German and English

Hotels

Some hotels have room blocks at reduced prices for the participants. You can find more information on the events page of our website.

Further Information and Online Registration:

www.atzlive.com/powertrain

Participants

This conference is aimed at executives and engineers as well as experts in industry, authorities, NGOs, and scientific institutes who are involved in powertrain development, the generation and distribution of hydrogen and electricity, the expansion and integration of the power grid, international markets, production networks, and supply chains.

Further Information and Online Registration:

www.atzlive.com/powertrain

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19 – 20 May 2026, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Your contact partner

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Organizer

ATZlive / Spotlight on Powertrain and Vehicle Engineering

Our events are a regular fixture in the calendar for vehicle and engine developers. Here you can expect innovative specialist conferences on up-to-date subjects concerning vehicle and powertrain technology – from the viewpoints of research, development, and use.

Our close collaboration with the editorial teams of our specialist magazines ATZ and MTZ keeps us fully up-to-date on the latest topics and trends on the market.

Springer, with its automotive technology brands in the ATZ and MTZ Group, is part of Springer Nature, one of the world's leading publishing groups for scientific, educational and specialist literature.