Rittal, Eplan, Cideon and GEC at SPS

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New venue: Hall 3C, Booth 301

From 14 to 16 November 2023 in Nuremberg, Germany

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From saving electricity to the energy transition

The “All Electric Society” is making huge strides, leading to significant changes in the power grids and the entire energy system. Will industry have enough affordable electricity available? This is a decisive question for the future of companies and the business location. At the SPS trade fair, Rittal, Eplan, Cideon and German Edge Cloud will show how the industry can become an enabler in several critical areas through combined competencies, standardised processes and connected data spaces – from power generation and storage to sector coupling and power distribution to the management of energy flows in their businesses and factories.

Herborn/Monheim/Graefelfing/Limburg, 9 November 2023 – The affiliated companies will be talking with trade fair visitors about which concrete opportunities the transformation can create for panel builders and switchgear manufacturers, as well as for the energy industry and factory operators. “The overarching principle of action is to industrialise entire process chains with consistent data and coordinated software and hardware,” says Raphael Görner, Head of Rittal’s Energy & Power Solutions Business Unit. This is reflected, for example, in energy grids. Regardless of a scarcity of skilled workers, speed is required when building new infrastructure. Rittal and Eplan will discuss the role of digital twins in the [“Energy Flash online talk”](https://www.rittal.com/com-en/Solutions/Energy-Solutions/Energy-Flash). “We need high data quality right from the start so that the digital workflow can unfold its full effect,” says Jan Oliver Kammesheidt, Vertical Market Manager Energy at Eplan: “Our experience with the high degree of industrialisation in mechanical engineering shows this potential. We want to make these systemic benefits, including automated engineering, even more accessible to the energy sector.“

Pioneering solutions for network infrastructure

Visitors to the trade fair will see concrete implementation based on the example of a transformer station. Grid operators need large numbers of transformer and substations to distribute electricity to end consumers efficiently. The idea is that Eplan offers a complete standard-compliant industrial project as a default, including a list of equipment typical for the industry. It only needs to be customised if required. This creates more speed through standardisation, starting as early as the engineering stage.

The data record also contains all the information needed for modular Rittal system technology and for processing with machines from Rittal Automation Systems and Ehrt in further processes. The result: greatly reduced time and costs, standard-compliant execution and a digital twin for operations. “With Eplan and Rittal as pacemakers, we are expanding this standardisation principle for ever more applications,” Mr. Görner explains.

Energy efficiency transition for industry

However, not only do the grids and energy systems need to be expanded to achieve the energy transition. Manufacturing industry companies must also initiate an energy efficiency transition. These consume almost 45% of Germany’s electricity. This will call for high consistency in using energy-saving technologies and, secondly, the reorganisation of manufacturing processes as smart production so that they can be managed according to energy aspects.

“When it comes to infrastructure, we want to support our customers, particularly in the area of climate control for enclosures, machines, IT solutions and energy storage systems so that we can tap into the major potentials for optimisation,” says Lars Platzhoff, Head of Rittal’s Cooling Solutions Business Unit: “Market-leading energy-saving cooling technology is the foundation, but we must also simplify planning, configuration, replacement and operation for our customers to broaden the range of technologies.” As a result, Rittal focuses on expanding Rittal Blue e+ cooling technology with energy savings of up to 75% for ever more applications and offers customers comprehensive advice and services like efficiency analyses and ROI calculations.

The latest trade fair innovation is the RiTherm application. The tool, which has now been set up in the Eplan Cloud, supports customers in planning the climate control of control and switchgear systems, including the heat dissipation certificate and carbon footprint. Rittal is now making even seemingly simple technology intelligent: The new Blue e+ fan-and-filter units supply data via the Rittal IoT interface and issue temperature alarms.

“We also see a great potential for development in IT cooling. Given the increasing power density in data centres, direct liquid cooling will play an increasingly important role, in part because it makes heat recovery easier,” Mr. Platzhoff adds.

From saving energy to management via smart production

In factories, the transformation must cover more than just the pure energy efficiency of the systems. “If we no longer have enough cheap electricity available all the time, factory operators will have to manage their production according to the availability and price of energy,” explains Dieter Meuser, CEO of Digital Solutions at German Edge Cloud: “The basis for this is the flexibility of a universal digital platform such as the ONCITE Digital Production System, which integrates energy monitoring data into the transparency of smart production.” To do so, it must be linked to the data rooms relating to products and automation. This is where the sister companies contribute their expertise: Eplan and Rittal for the automation twin and Cideon for the product twin.

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**Caption(s)**

Image 1: Industrialising entire process chains with consistent data and coordinated software and hardware as a overarching principle of action for establishing the energy transition infrastructure.

Image 2: Seemingly simple technology made smart: The new Blue e+ fan-and-filter units transmit data via the Rittal IoT interface and issue temperature alarms and filter replacement predictions.

Image 3: In the future, factory operators will also have to manage their production based on the availability and price of energy. The basis will be a universal digital platform, such as the ONCITE Digital Production System for the transparency of smart production.

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**Rittal**

Rittal is a leading global supplier of enclosure systems, automation and infrastructure to the industrial, IT, energy and power, cooling and service sectors. Rittal products and solutions are used in over 90% of global industries – standardised, customised, and always of the very best quality.

Our approach and methodology: Rittal, Rittal Software Systems (Eplan, Cideon and German Edge Cloud) and Rittal Automation Systems (RAS, Ehrt, Alfra) combine their hardware and software expertise to streamline, optimise and digitalise processes across the entire value chain for our customers including their IT infrastructure – from control and switchgear construction, machine building to factory operators or the energy sector.

Our promise: Rittal standard products are delivered within 24 hours in Germany, and within 48 hours worldwide.

Fully focused on our customers

Improving efficiency and increasing productivity through automation and digitalisation is one of the biggest challenges for our customers. This requires in-depth knowledge and expertise, the combination of hardware and software, and cross-sector networking. We are convinced that creating and connecting data spaces is crucial to the success of industrial transformation. And that is exactly our speciality and field of competence.

Eplan and Rittal are driving the development of the digital twins of equipment and systems and are making the data more accessible and operationally useable. Cideon is improving digital continuity and data consistency in relation to digital product twin context with its CAD/CAM, PDM/PLM and product configuration expertise. German Edge Cloud’s ONCITE Digital Production System (DPS) makes the data from the manufacturing processes transparent and thus optimisable – right up to energy management via the digital production twin.

Sustainability

Environmental and climate protection, social commitment and ethical corporate management are a given for Rittal. We take our responsibility for a sustainable future seriously. Our approach to resource management and conservation involves continuous improvement of our production processes and ensuring that our products and solutions have the lowest possible Product Carbon Footprint. This supports our customers in achieving their climate targets.

Family business and global player

Founded in 1961, Rittal is the largest company in the owner-operated Friedhelm Loh Group. The group operates worldwide, with more than 12 production sites and over 95 international subsidiaries. It had more than 12,000 employees and posted revenues of 3 billion euros in fiscal 2022. In 2023, the Friedhelm Loh Group was named “Best Place to Learn” and “Employer of the Future”. Rittal was awarded the Top 100 Seal as one of Germany’s most innovative medium-sized companies.

For more information, visit [www.rittal.com](http://www.rittal.com) and [www.friedhelm-loh-group.de](http://www.friedhelm-loh-group.de).

**EPLAN**

EPLAN provides software and service solutions in the fields of electrical, automation and mechatronics engineering. The company develops one of the world’s leading design software solutions for machine and panel builders. EPLAN is also the ideal partner to streamline challenging engineering processes.

Both standardised, as well as customised interfaces to ERP and PLM/PDM systems, ensure data consistency along the whole value chain. Working with EPLAN means borderless communication across all engineering disciplines. No matter whether small or large enterprises: Customers can use their expertise more efficiently. Together with its customers and partners, EPLAN intends to continue growing and actively advancing the integration and automation in engineering. Worldwide, EPLAN supports 68,000 customers. “Efficient engineering” is the focus.

EPLAN was founded in 1984 and is part of the owner-operated Friedhelm Loh Group. The family-owned business maintains a worldwide presence, with over 12 production sites and more than 95 subsidiaries. Managed by founder Professor Friedhelm Loh himself, the group employed over 12,000 people and generated revenues of approximately €3 billion in 2022. In 2023, the Friedhelm Loh Group was named “Best Place to Learn” and “Employer of the Future”.

**CIDEON**

CIDEON advises and supports companies in optimizing their product development processes – from designing through engineering to production and service. As a system integrator and process consultant, CIDEON knows and understands the challenges faced by companies when it comes to digital transformation. With unique solutions, CIDEON ensures a consistent flow of data along the process chains, making data available company-wide and in an economically usable way. This means that CIDEON customers can exploit the full potential of digitisation for themselves and their customers. CIDEON uses the latest software solutions from the CAD/CAM and PDM/PLM sectors, along with software developed in-house. CIDEON is an Autodesk Platinum Partner in German-speaking Europe, an SAP Platinum Build Partner, as well as a software partner of Dassault Systèmes and PROCAD. CIDEON, which has over 300 employees at 13 locations in Germany and Austria, is also part of the Friedhelm Loh Group. The family-owned business maintains a worldwide presence, with over 12 production sites and more than 95 subsidiaries.

For more information, visit [www.cideon.de](http://www.cideon.com) and [www.friedhelm-loh-group.com](http://www.friedhelm-loh-group.com).

**German Edge Cloud**

German Edge Cloud (GEC), a member of the Friedhelm Loh Group, specialises in innovative edge and cloud solutions. GEC solutions enable the rapid, simple and secure availability of data in connected environments. They support process optimisation, for instance in manufacturing, by empowering analytics, and guaranteeing customers complete control over their data when using public or private clouds.

GEC is a developer and service integrator for turnkey solutions, offering both its own and sector-specific systems. The company already deploys its solutions at the Industry 4.0 factory of sister company Rittal in Haiger.

GEC integrates and operates hybrid private edge cloud infrastructures from Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) to Platform as a Service (PaaS) and industry-specific applications in the Software as a Service (SaaS) model. It is a co-founder of GAIA-X and a member of the Catena-X automotive initiative.

GEC is a member of the owner-operated Friedhelm Loh Group. It has more than 12,000 employees and posted revenues of € 3 billion in fiscal 2022.   
  
**More information:** [www.gec.io](http://www.gec.io) and [www.friedhelm-loh-group.com](http://www.friedhelm-loh-group.com)