

# 380V DC in Commercial Buildings and Offices

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## Content

- Basic Information about Fraunhofer and Germany
- Installation and Appliance Technology Today
- History of Electrification
- DC Grid Technologies
- Useful DC Projects
- Summary

# Fraunhofer and Fraunhofer IISB in Germany

## Key Figures of Fraunhofer in Germany:

Legal status: Non-profit association (e.V.)

Mission: Application-oriented R&D

Staff: 19.000

Institutes: 66

Budget: ca. 1.900 Mio. €/a



ZKLM / Nuremberg



Energy Campus / Nuremberg



### DC Microgrid Location



THM / Freiberg

## R&D Focus of Fraunhofer IISB



## Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Systems and Device Technology (IISE)

Director: Prof. Lothar Frey (deputy: Prof. Martin März)

Staff: ca. 200 (plus 50... 70 students)

[www.iisb.fraunhofer.de](http://www.iisb.fraunhofer.de)

# Global Irradiation in Brazil and Germany



## Installed PV

### Power:

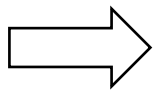
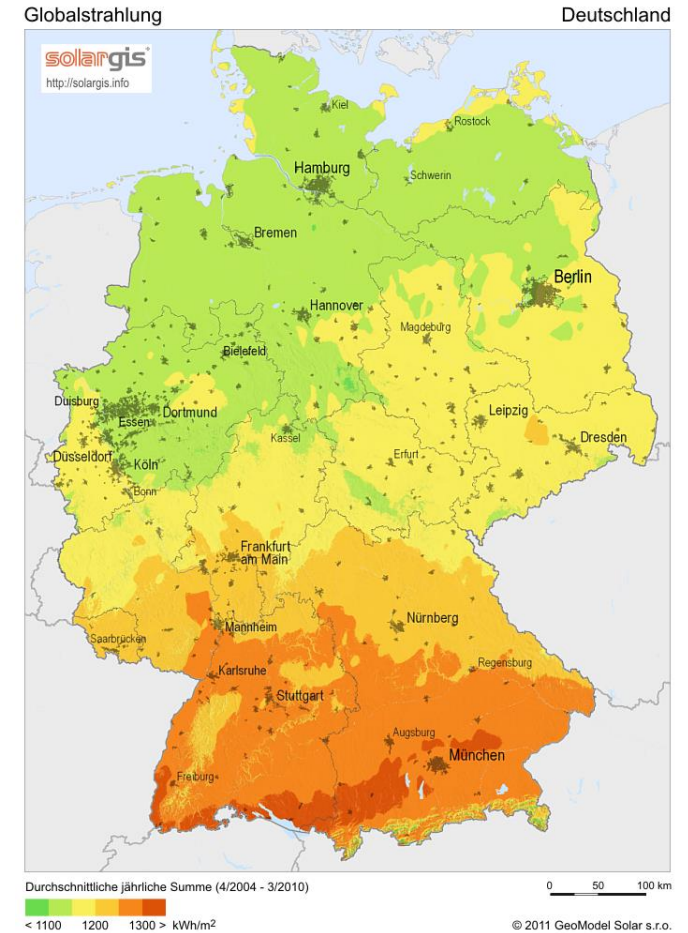
- Germany: 40 GW (2014)
- Brazil: 15 MW (2004)

### Surface:

- Germany: 357.340 km<sup>2</sup>
- Brazil: 8.514.215 km<sup>2</sup>

### Global Irradiation:

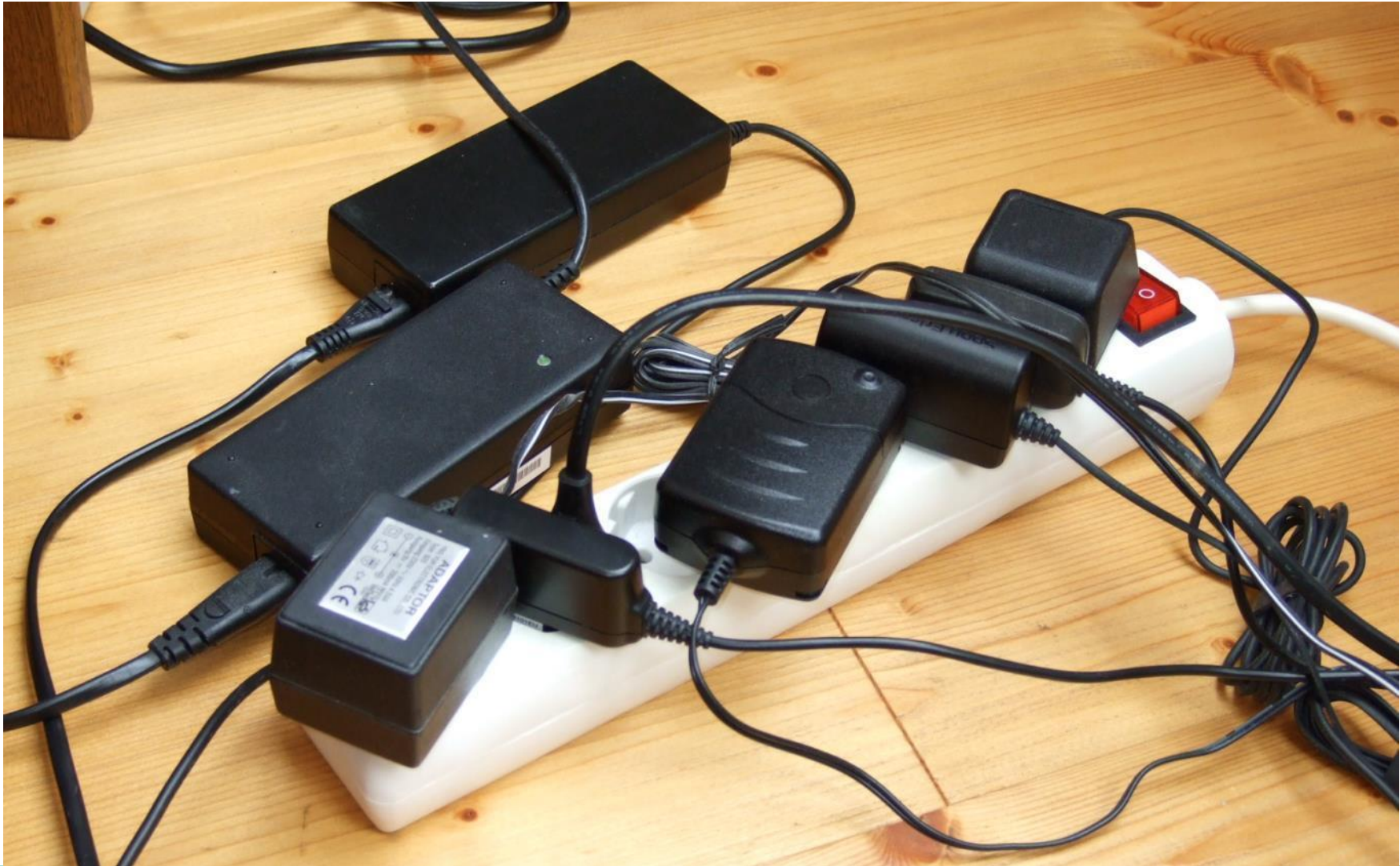
- Germany: 900-1250 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>
- Brazil: 1200-2400 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>



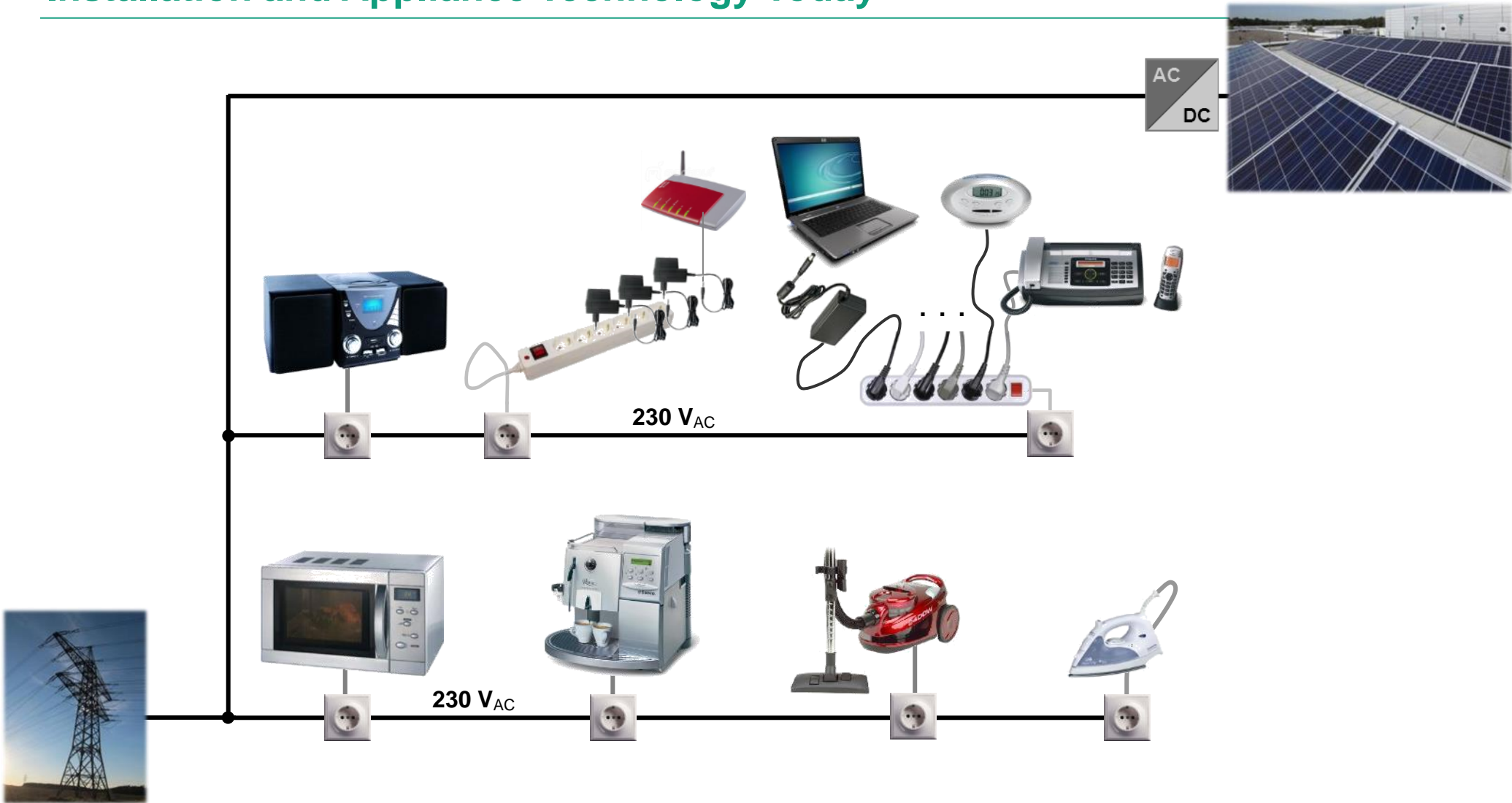
Photovoltaic can bring a huge benefit to the brazil electrification



# Installation and Appliance Technology Today

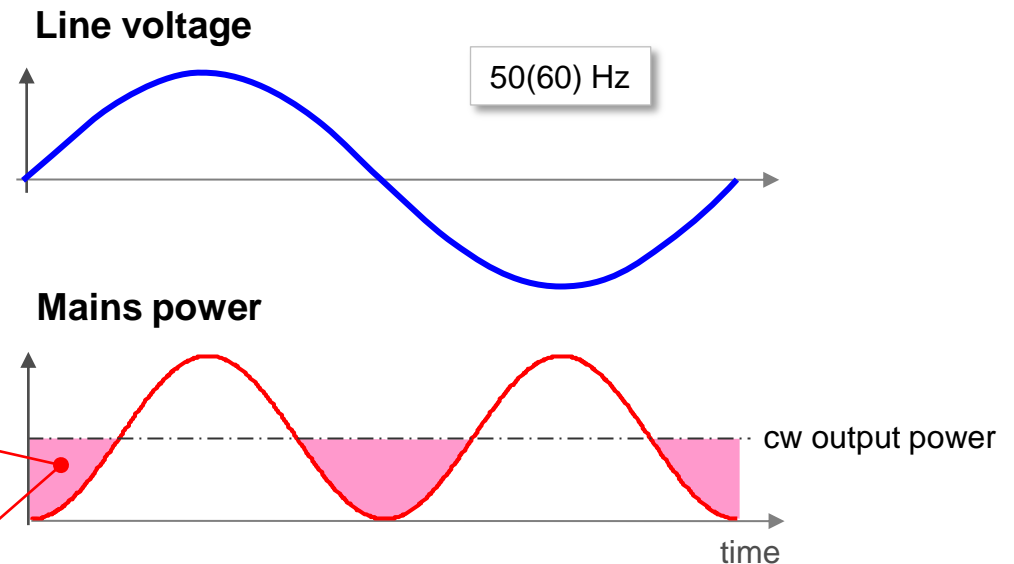
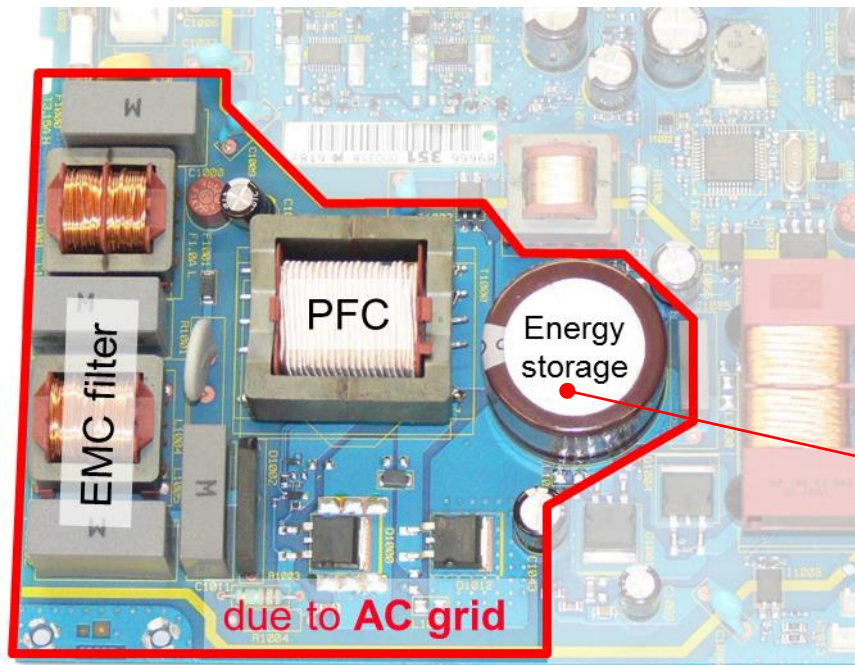


# Installation and Appliance Technology Today



# AC ■ Long time success guarantor, today more and more a burden?

## Power Supply of Electronic Equipment



One hundred supply gaps per second require a significant energy storage **in each** power supply or line adapter.

⇒ With high impact on **size**, **cost** and **energy efficiency**!



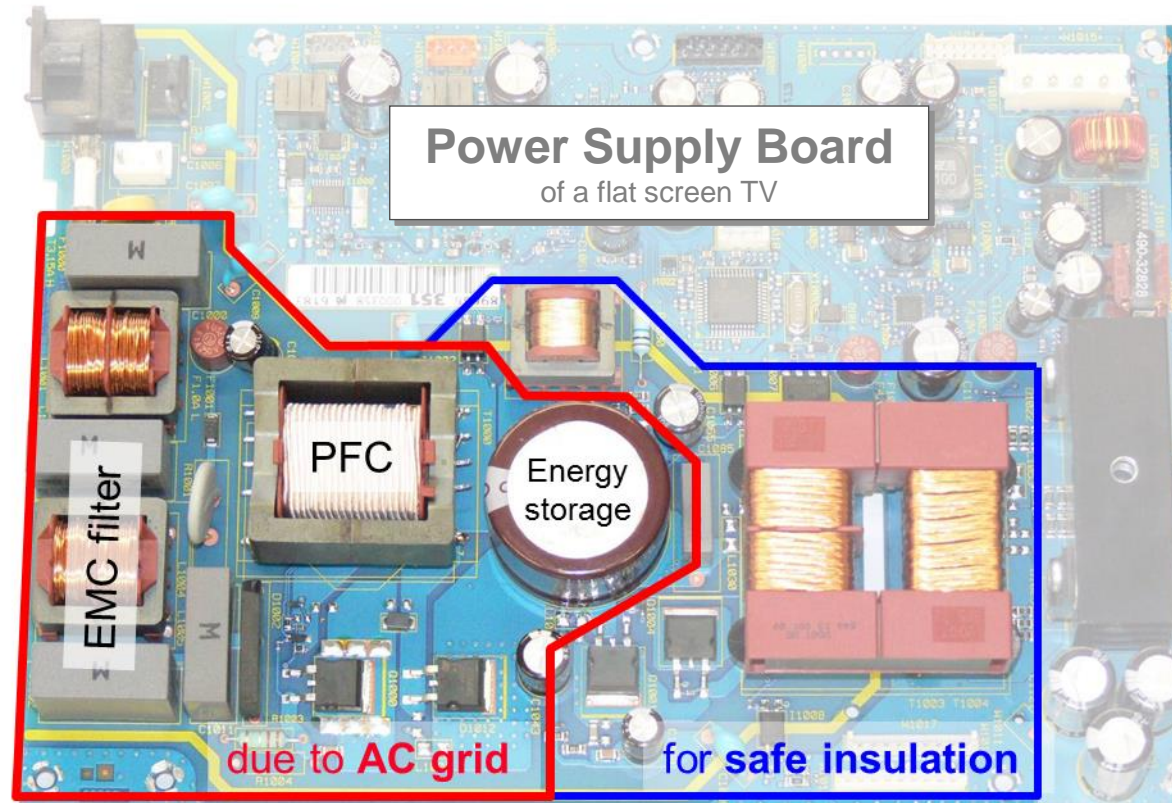
# AC ■ Long time success guarantor, today more and more a burden?

## Power Supply of Electronic Equipment

AC is responsible for

- 40...80% of power dissipation
- 50...95% of weight
- 50...95% of size

in the line adapter or power supply of any electronic equipment!



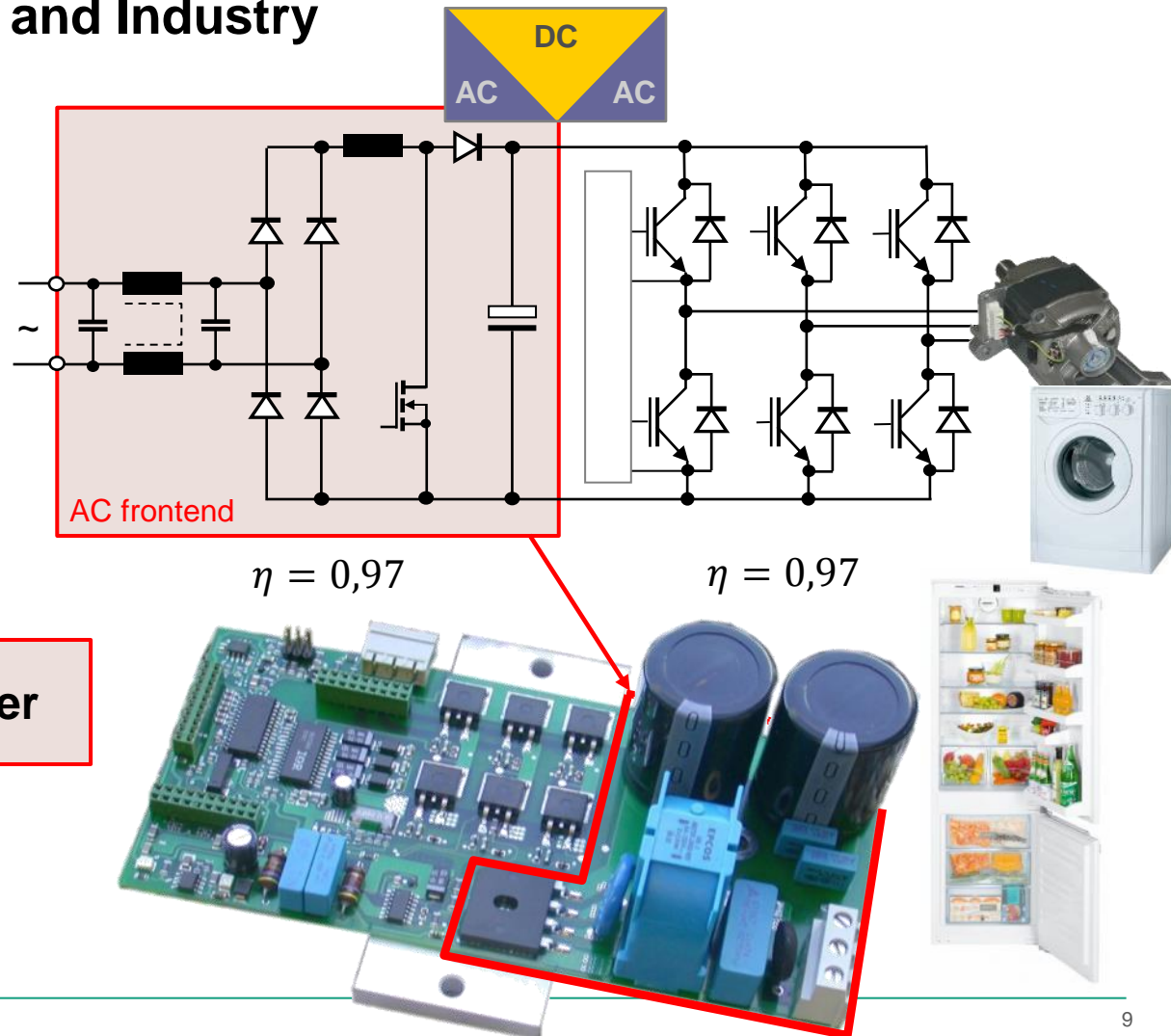


# AC ■ Long time success guarantor, today more and more a burden?

## Variable Speed Drives in Home and Industry

The AC frontend is causing

- ca. **50%** of **cost**
- ca. **50%** of **power losses**
- **> 65%** of **construction volume** of the whole inverter!



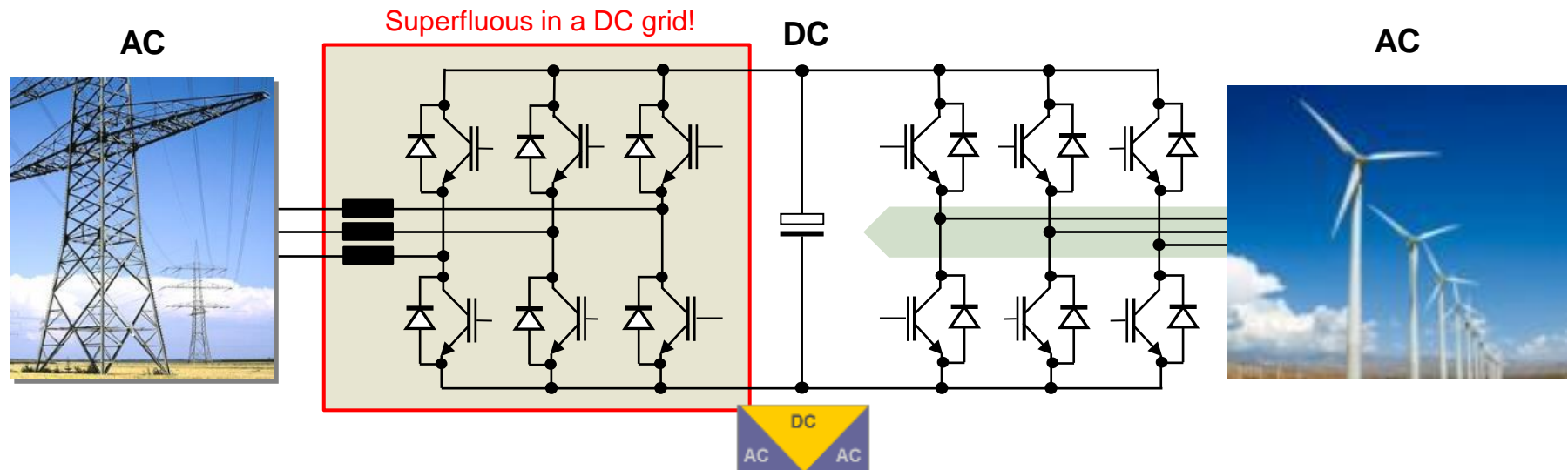
▶ **AC: Cost driver and efficiency killer**

# AC ■ Long time success guarantor, today more and more a burden?

## Electrical Generators

### AC supply

- requires an expensive elaborate AC frontend
  - ⇒ and thus makes many potentially energy-saving applications uneconomical
- causes problems with mains perturbations,
- complicates peak load buffering by means of electrical energy storages.



1) energy recuperating drives, wind power, water power, etc.

## AC ■ Long time success guarantor, today more and more a burden?

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### Aspects for a Reconsideration of the Historic AC Grid Concept

- **The self-use of regenerative energy is to be promoted**
  - ⇒ PV, fuel cells, CHP or wind provide directly and more cost-effective DC power
- **Energy storages get outstanding importance with increasing share of wind & PV**
  - ⇒ Batteries, electrolysers (H<sub>2</sub>) work on DC basis
- **Reactive power increases losses and reduces transmission capacity in AC grids**
  - ⇒ Problem does not exist in DC systems
- **Efficiency increasing in drive applications through energy recovery**
  - ⇒ Much more easier and economically feasible in DC grids<sup>1)</sup>
- **Design and comfort aspects demand for more compact appliances**
  - ⇒ DC/DC converter can be realized much smaller
- **Reduction of electronic scrap quantities**
  - ⇒ DC/DC converters shrink with increasing switching frequencies and can be realized with much less material usage than line frequency AC/DC adapters

1) no AFE (active AC frontend) necessary



## A look back at the beginnings of electrification

### Electricity Generation began in Distributed Structures - DC dominated

From the annual report 1911 of the Municipal electricity plant Regensburg - Germany:

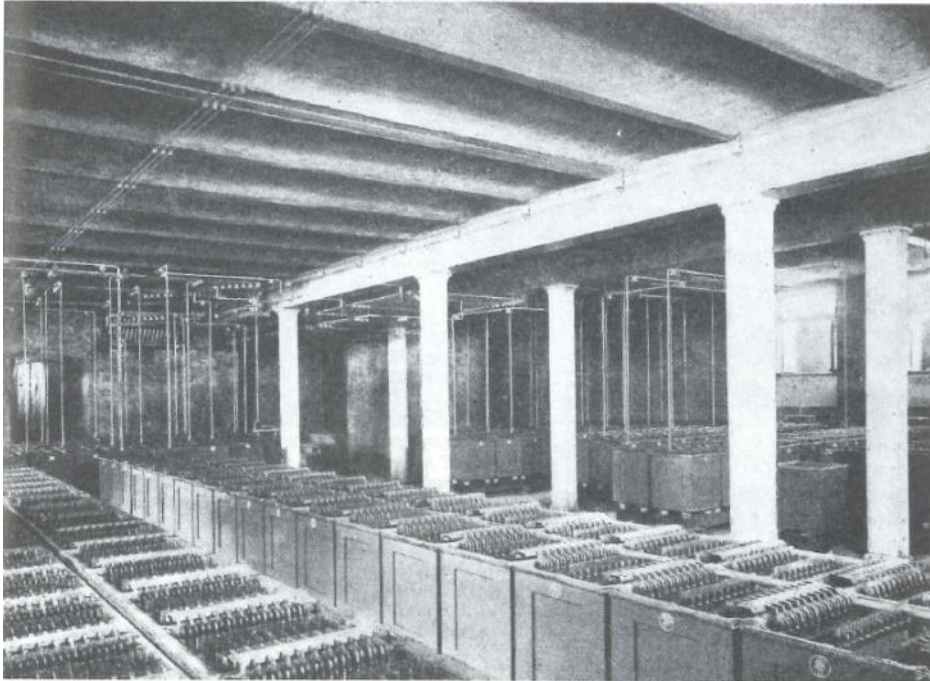
Am 31. Dezbr.	Anschlußwert in KW							Zunahme in % gegen das Vorjahr	
	Gleichstrom <b>DC</b>				Drehstrom <b>AC</b>			Gleichstr. Licht	Gleichstr. Kraft
	Licht <sup>1)</sup>	Kraft <sup>2)</sup>	Bahn	Zusammen	Licht	Kraft	Zusammen		
1900	512,87	125,68	—	638,55	—	—	—	—	—
1901	625,83	235,00	—	860,83	—	—	—	22,0	87,2
1902	774,30	358,32	—	1 132,62	—	—	—	23,7	52,4
1903	866,64	436,42	545,60	1 848,66	—	—	—	11,9	21,8
1904	1 049,46	556,96	545,60	2 152,02	—	—	—	21,1	27,6
1905	1 160,70	634,96	545,60	2 341,26	—	—	—	10,6	14,0
1906	1 262,96	683,28	545,60	2 491,84	—	—	—	8,8	7,6
1907	1 351,45	797,55	545,60	2 694,60	—	—	—	7,0	16,3
1908	1 479,73	963,26	545,60	2 988,59	—	—	—	9,5	20,9
1909	1 585,21	1 129,60	545,60	3 260,41	—	—	—	7,1	17,3
1910	1 681,41	1 229,87	715,25	3 626,53	20,09	243,04	263,13	6,1	8,9
1911	1 761,62	1 285,88	715,25	3 762,75	31,84	469,82	501,66	4,8	4,4

Source: Elektrizität in Ostbayern - Oberpfalz“, Toni Siegert, Bergbau- und Industriemuseum Ostbayern; Band 6;

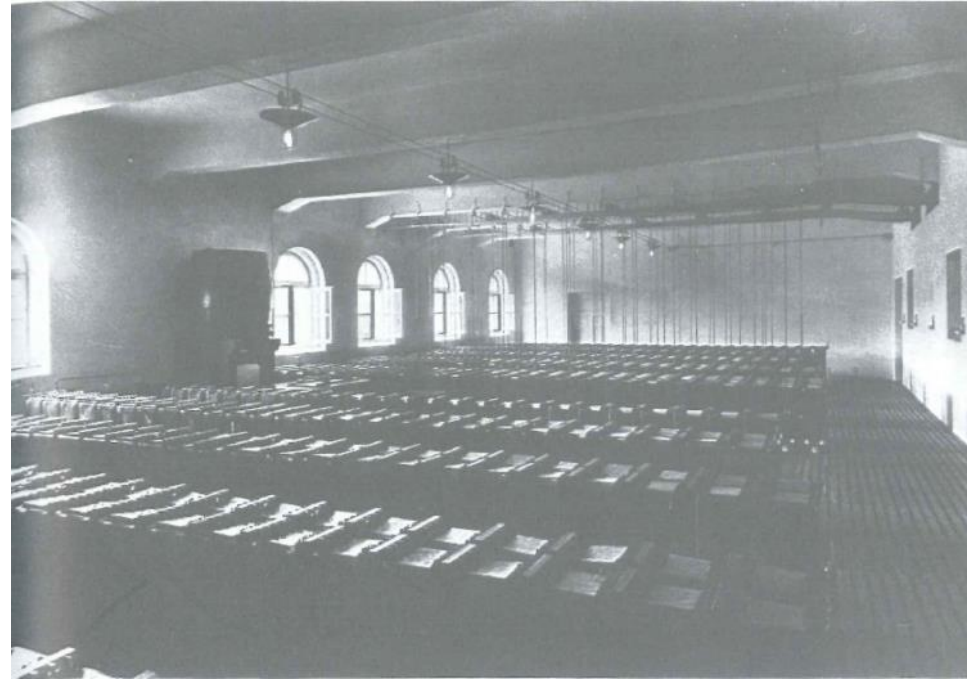
# A look back at the beginnings of electrification

## Buffering the DC Power Supply

Accumulators hall of the municipal power station  
Straubing - Germany (Photo of 1901)



Accumulators hall of the municipal power station  
Landshut - Germany



Source: Elektrizität in Ostbayern - Oberpfalz“, Toni Siegert, Bergbau- und Industriemuseum Ostbayern; Band 6;

Bernd Wunder  
DC Micro Grids

© Fraunhofer IISB

## A look back at the beginnings of electrification

### DC - Long time the dominant current form in rural areas!

#### Städt. Elektrizitätswerk Landshut: Wirtschaftsdaten 1933–1938<sup>281</sup>

	1933		1938	Differenz	
				nominal	in Prozent
<b>Stromerzeugung</b>					
Drehstrom (Eigenerzeugung) in kWh	1819240	AC	4311090	+ 2491850	+ 137,0%
Gleichstrom (Eigenerzeug.) in kWh	3361390	DC	4613528	+ 1252138	+ 37,3%
Gesamte Eigenerzeugung in kWh	5180630		8924618	+ 3743988	+ 72,3%
Strombezug in kWh	34680		156630	+ 121950	+ 351,6%
Gesamterzeugung in kWh	5215310		9081248	+ 3865938	+ 74,1%
Nutzbare Stromabgabe in kWh	4525987		8185879	+ 3659892	+ 80,9%
Netzverluste in kWh	689323		895369	+ 206046	+ 29,9%
Netzverluste in %	13,2%		7,6%		- 5,6%-Punkte
Höchstlast in kW	1440		1830	+ 390	+ 27,1%
Benutzung der Höchstlast in Stunden	3088		3788	+ 700	+ 22,7%
<b>Stromverteilung</b>					
Niederspannung – Leitung in km	53,5		58,9	+ 5,4	+ 10,1%
Niederspannung – Kabel in km	28,0		32,6	+ 4,5	+ 16,4%
Hochspannung – Leitung in km	19,3		18,4	- 0,9	- 4,7%
Hochspannung – Kabel in km	1,1		5,1	+ 4,0	+ 363,6%
Gesamtleitungslänge in km	101,9		115,0	+ 13,1	+ 13,0%

Source: Elektrizität in Ostbayern - Oberpfalz“, Toni Siegert, Bergbau- und Industriemuseum Ostbayern; Band 6;

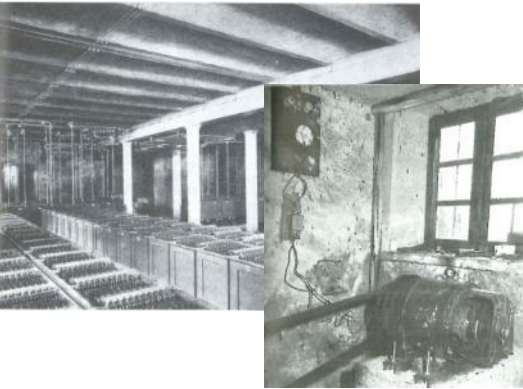


# Historical development of transformer and power electronics

Was it the breakthrough for AC or just a stage win?



DC



## Distributed grids

Many individual producers, mains supply buffered by batteries

AC



**High supply reliability** through transnational distribution grid and availability of practically any amounts of energy from large centralized power plants

AC and/or DC



**Sustainable Energy Supply** central & distributed generators in conjunction with storages and consumers within a smart grid

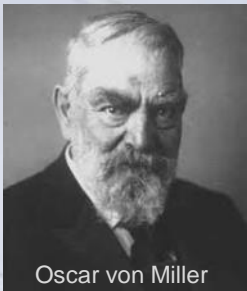
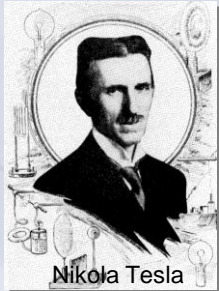
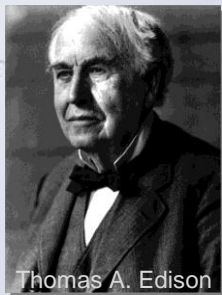
1900

1950

2000

# Historical development of transformer and power electronics

Some technical boundary conditions have changed

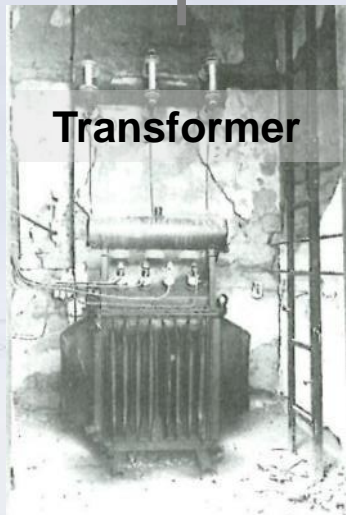


1885

1960

1970

1980



Si power diodes

Bipolar power transistors

Power modules

Power MOSFET

IGBT

## Power electronics

today allows for flexible and highly efficient conversion of electrical energy into any desired form.

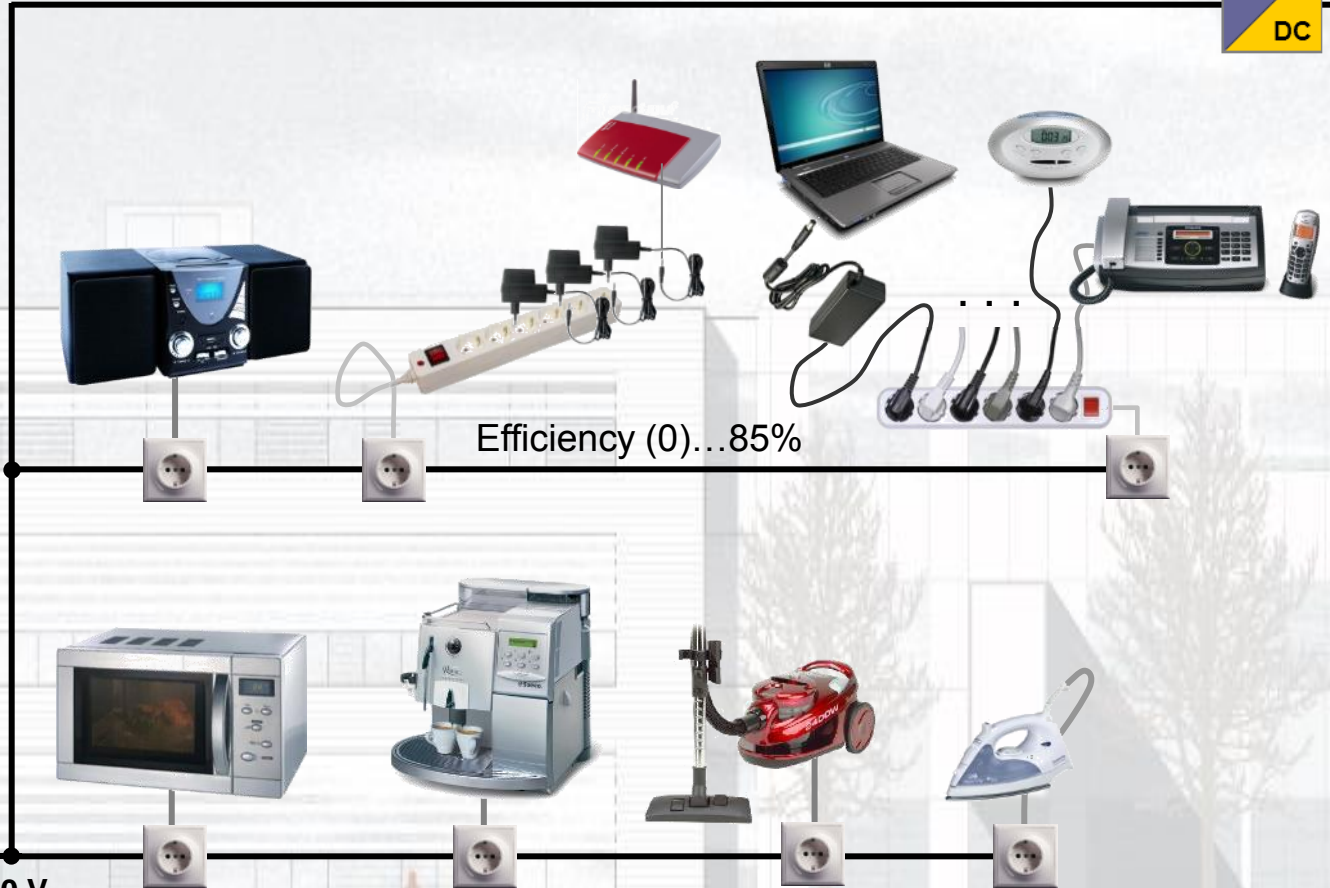


# ... and what happens next?

## Installation and appliance technology today



98%  
AC  
DC

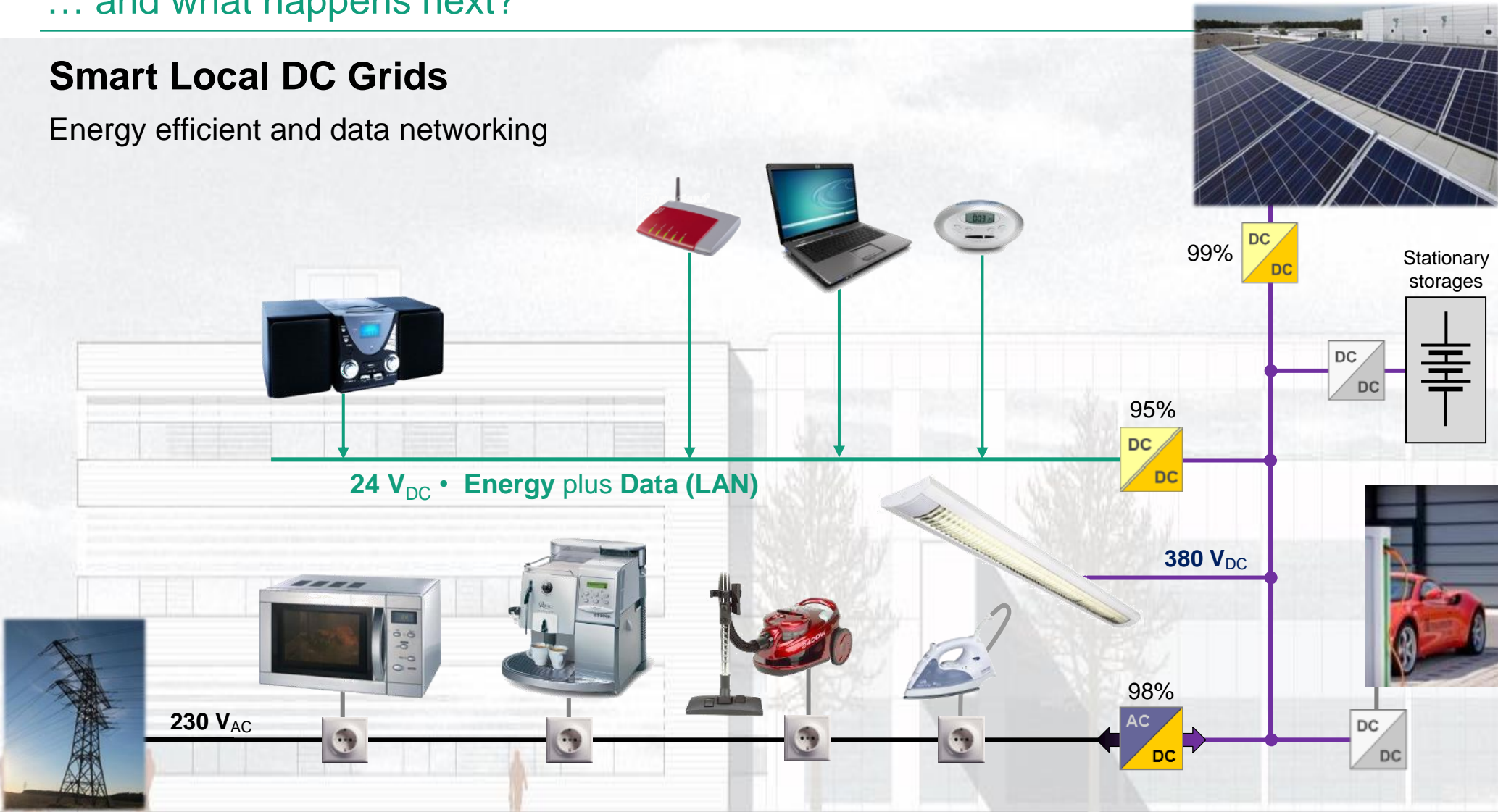




... and what happens next?

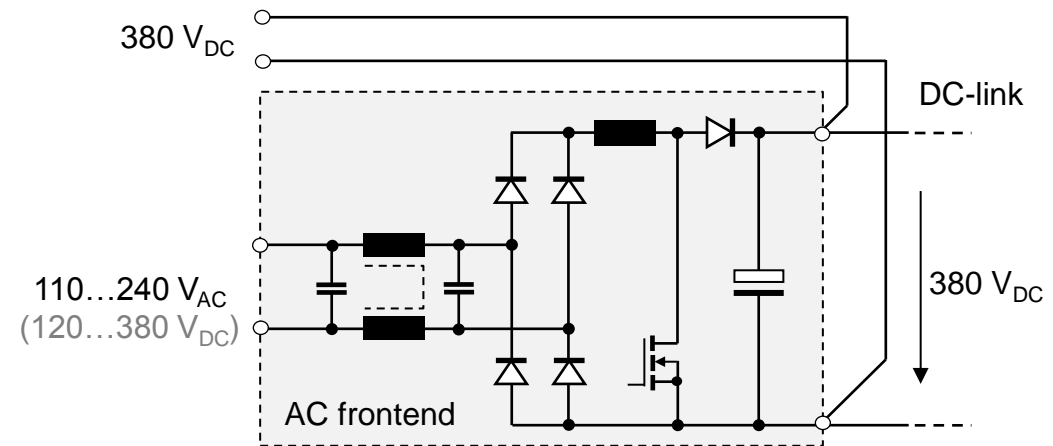
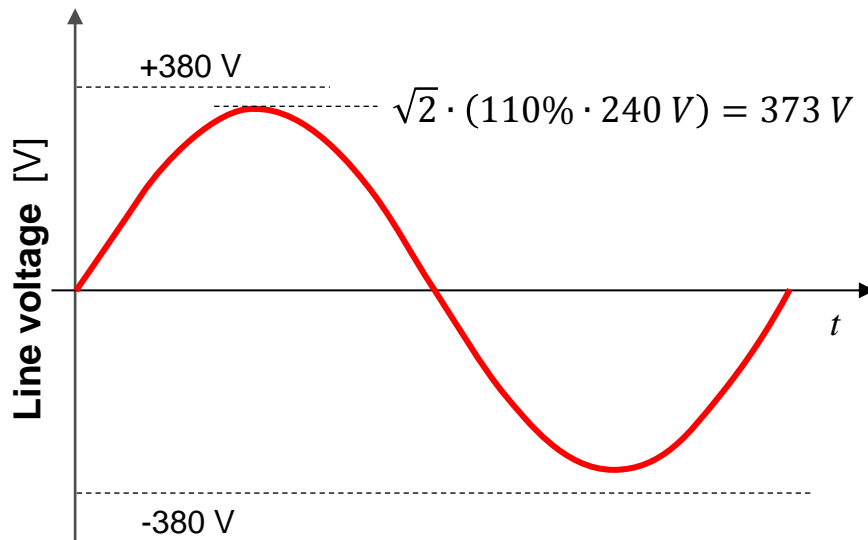
## Smart Local DC Grids

Energy efficient and data networking



## Why a DC voltage of 380 Volt?

Virtually all electronic equipment today has a switch mode power supply at the AC input, that internally uses a voltage in the range of 380...400 V as DC-link voltage.




⇒ In principle, all these appliances can be operated directly to  $380\text{ V}_{\text{DC}}$ .

# DC Grid Technologies

## More and more electronic devices already allow an operation also with DC

Examples: Drivers (power supplies) for LED lighting






**Series AMER120-AZ**  
up to 5A | AC-DC LED driver

**FEATURES:**

- AC-DC Constant current LED Driver
- Input range 90-277VAC/47-440Hz
- High Efficiency up to 91%
- Operating temperature -40 to 85°C
- Over Temperature Protection
- Waterproof Case rated IP67
- Power Factor Correction
- SCP, Over Current Protection

Models  
Single output

Model	Max Output Power (W)	Output Voltage Range (V)	Output Current (A)	Input Voltage (VAC/Hz)	Input Voltage (VDC)	Efficiency (%)
AMER120-50250AZ	125	36-50	2.5	90-277/47-440	120-390	91
AMER120-36340AZ	122.4	24-36	3.4	90-277/47-440	120-390	90
AMER120-24500AZ	120	12-24	5	90-277/47-440	120-390	90

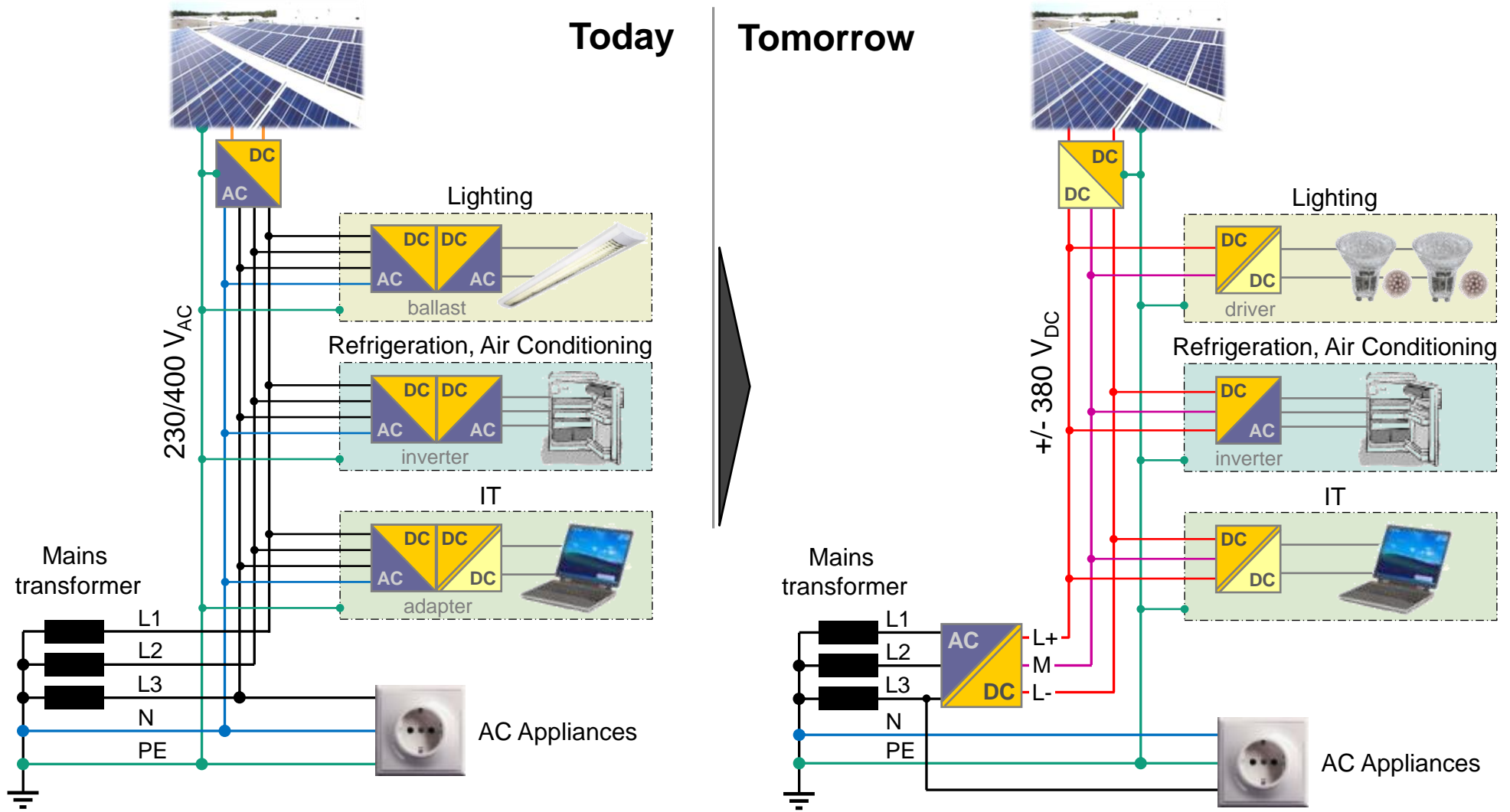






INPUT	VOLTAGE RANGE	Note.5	90 ~ 295VAC	127 ~ 417VDC	
	FREQUENCY RANGE		47 ~ 63Hz		
	POWER FACTOR		PF ≥ 0.95/230VAC	PF ≥ 0.98/115VAC at full load	
	EFFICIENCY (Typ.)		88%	88%	90%
	AC CURRENT		2A / 115VAC	1A / 230VAC	
	INRUSH CURRENT(max.)		COLD START 65A/230VAC		
	LEAKAGE CURRENT		<1mA / 240VAC		

Although the universal voltage capability brings only little gain in efficiency and no benefits with respect to overall volume, weight and cost, it facilitates changeover scenarios significantly.

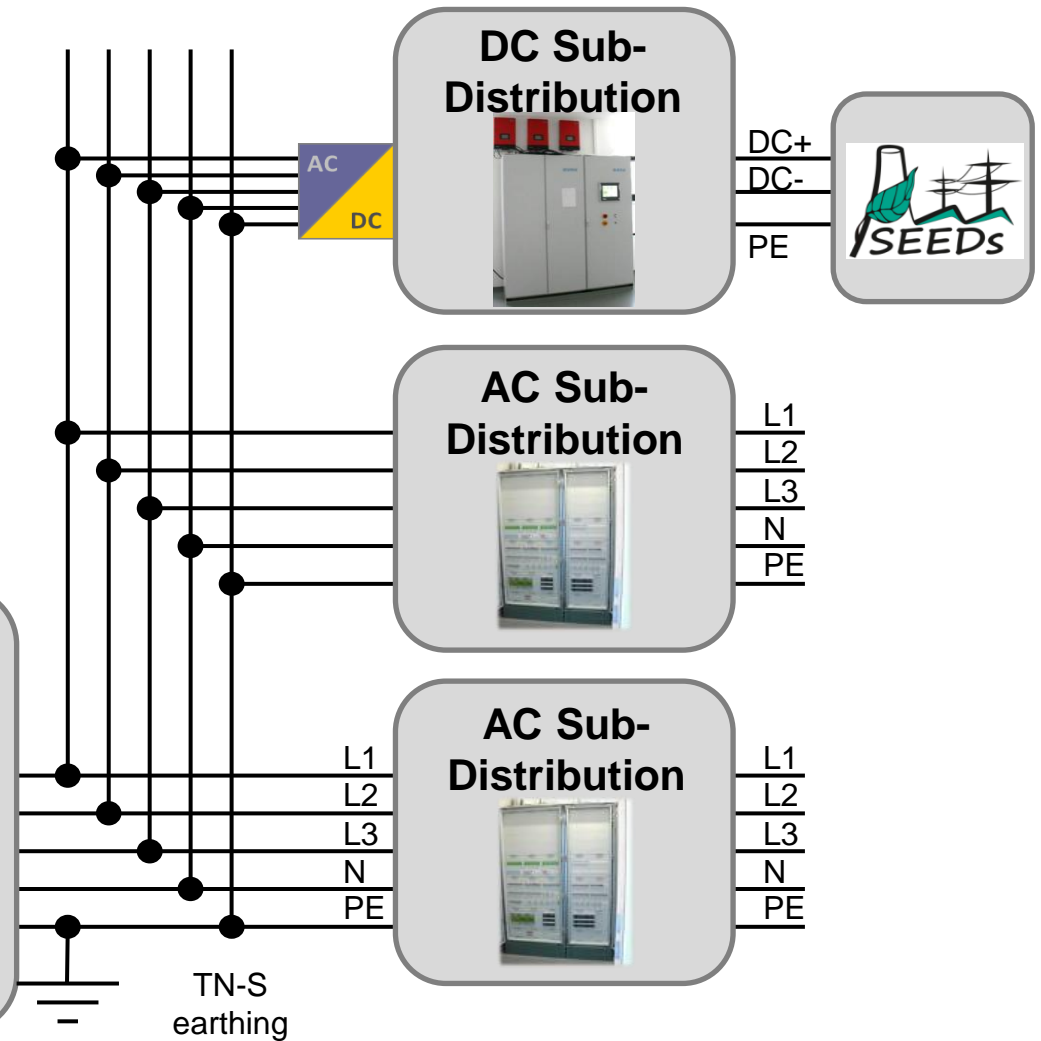
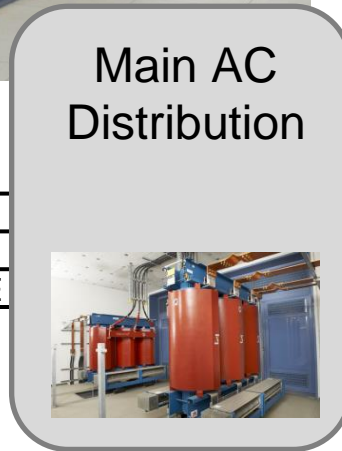
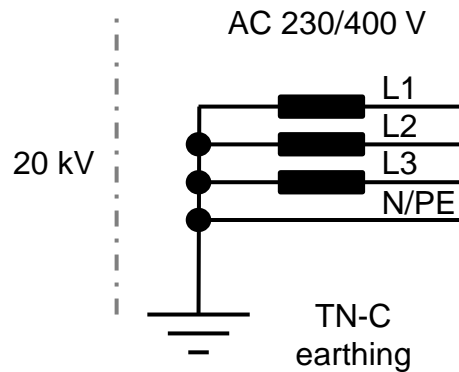
# DC Grid Technologies





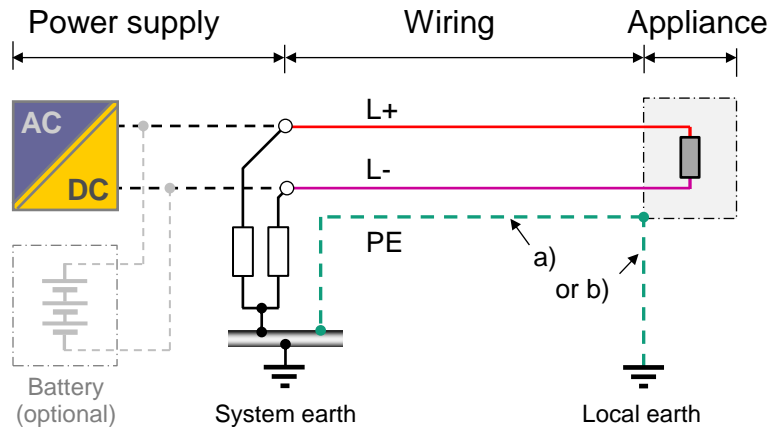
# DC Grid Technologies

## Power Distribution and DC Grid Integration at Fraunhofer IISB



## Protection and Earthing Concepts

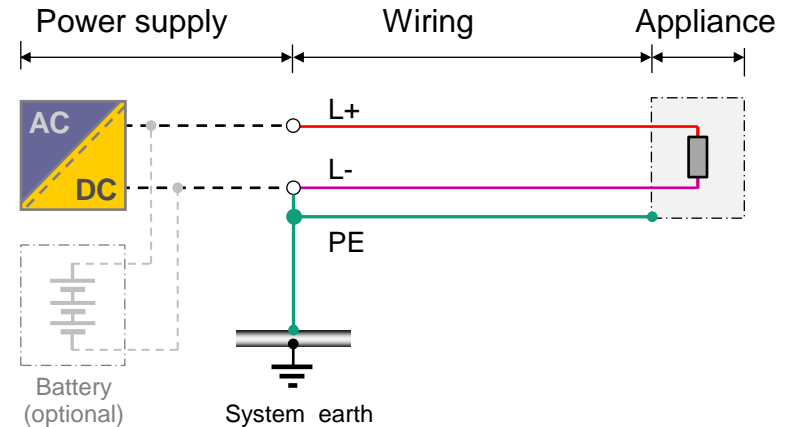
### IT system with high-ohmic symmetric grounding



🗣️ A single fault (e.g. ground fault) causes a message but no shutdown ⇒ high availability

- High-ohmic earthing is permissible, however, the impedance must be high enough so that no dangerous body currents can flow (typ.  $> 50 \text{ k}\Omega$ )
- Symmetrical earthing facilitates error detection and avoids problems with CM-filter chokes

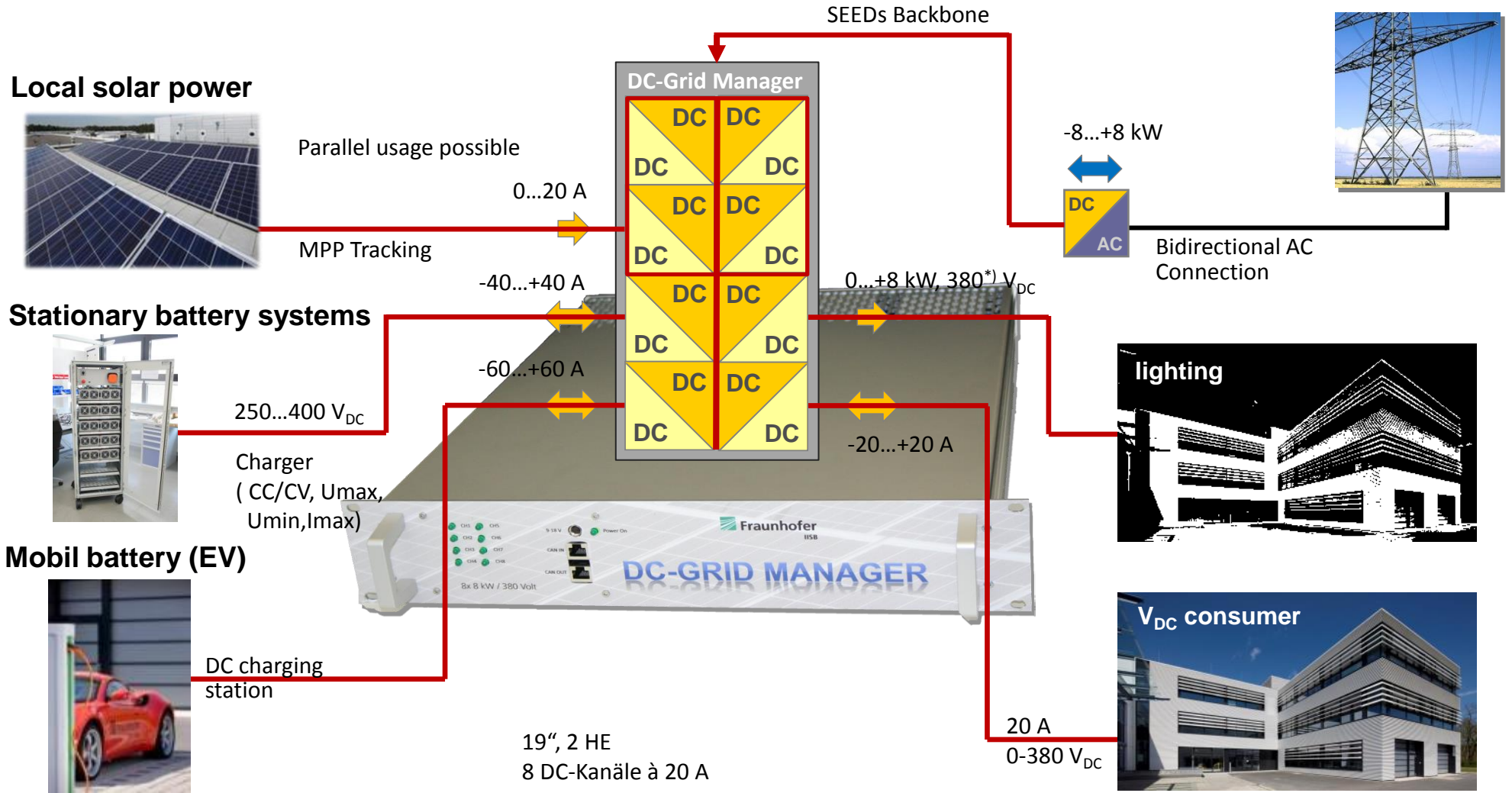
### TN-S system



🚫 A single fault already leads to a shutdown

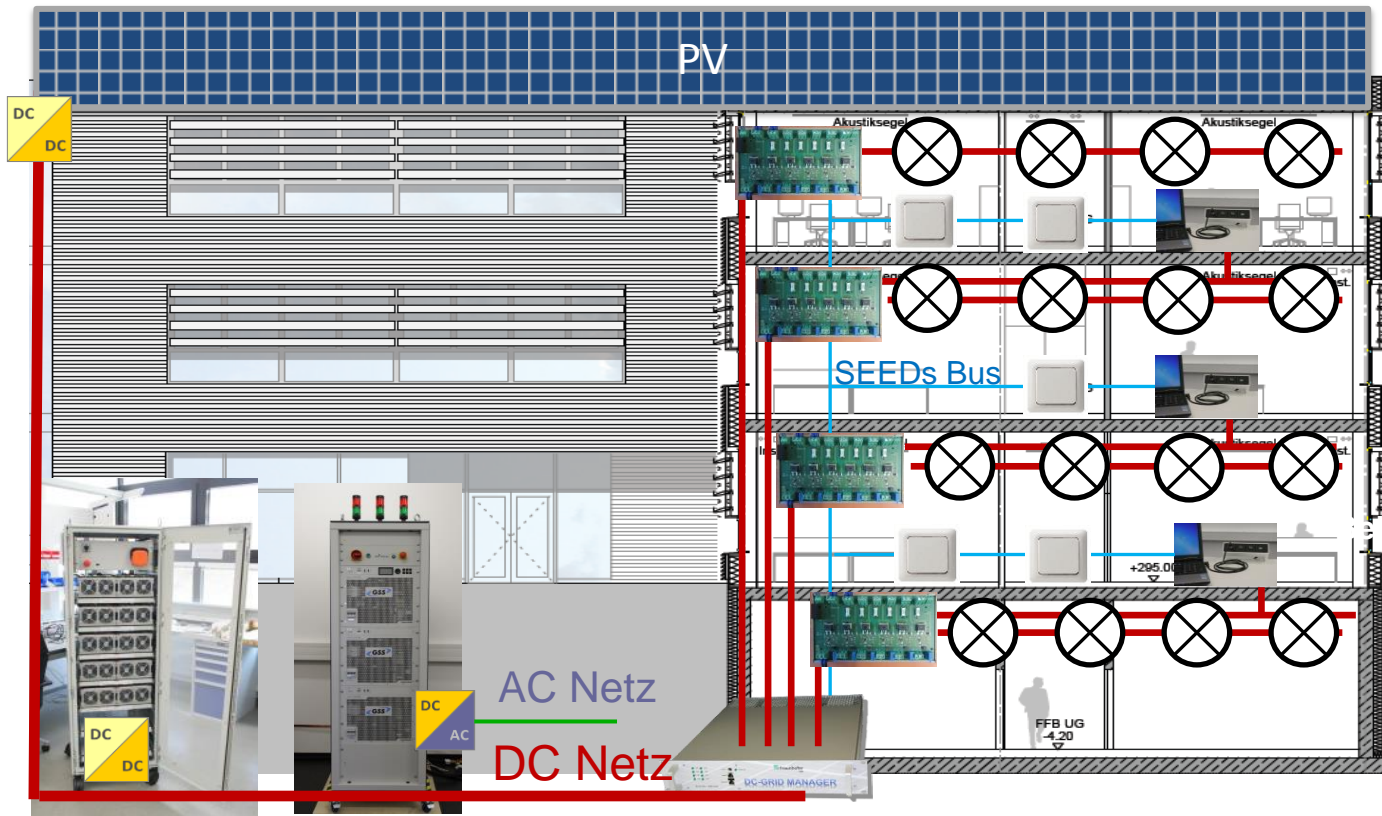
- 🗣️ Higher compatibility with (from AC world) established earthing concepts and appliances
- 🗣️ Higher robustness as well as easier fault identification and fault isolation

# DC Grid Technologies



\* Voltage according to ETSI EN 300 132-3-1

# DC Grid Technologies



IISB Battery  
Storage  
3x 20 kWh  
 $P_{\max} = 100 \text{ kW}$

Inverter and  
Rectifier  
 $P_{\max} = 100 \text{ kW}$

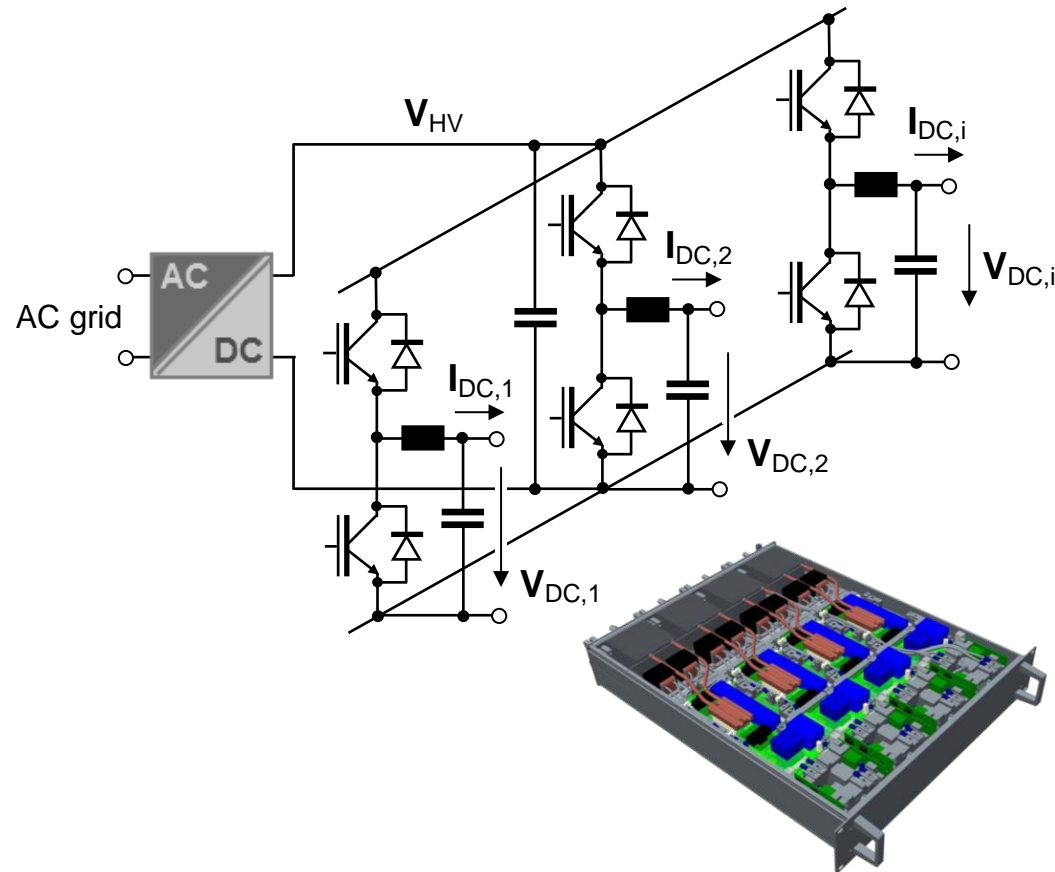
DC-Grid  
Manager  
 $P_{\max} = 64 \text{ kW}$

24 V Desk System  
(3x100W 5-24 V)



## DC-Grid Manager

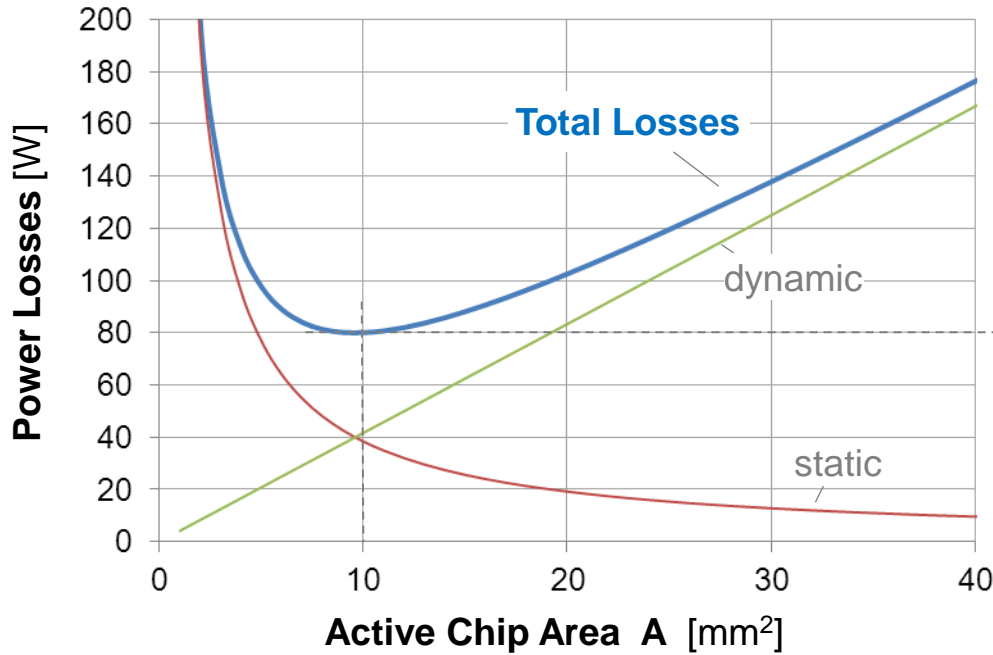
Block diagram



## Characteristics

- Arbitrarily configurable DC channels (as voltage/current controlled source or sink)
- High control dynamics for fast fault-control and lowest fault energy
- Separate channels for single load or grid sections allow:
  - fast fault isolation
  - individual current limiting characteristics (short circuit behavior)
  - complex control functions (MPP tracking, charge/discharge control of batteries, ...)
  - arc extinction
- High efficiency over a very wide load range

## Intrinsic Losses in Hard Switched Topologies



$$A_{\text{opt}} = \frac{I_{\text{eff}}}{\sqrt{f_{\text{sw}}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{R_{\text{on}}^{(A)}}{E_{\text{oss}}^{(A)}}}$$

$$P_{v,\text{total}}(A) = \frac{R_{\text{on}}^{(A)}}{A} \cdot I_{\text{eff}}^2 + E_{\text{oss}}^{(A)} \cdot A \cdot f_{\text{sw}}$$

$$P_{v,\text{min}} = 2 \cdot I_{\text{eff}} \cdot \sqrt{f_{\text{sw}}} \cdot \sqrt{R_{\text{on}}^{(A)} \cdot E_{\text{oss}}^{(A)}} =$$

$$2 \cdot I_{\text{eff}} \cdot \underbrace{\sqrt{f_{\text{sw}}}}_{\text{Circuit}} \cdot \underbrace{\sqrt{R_{\text{on}} \cdot E_{\text{oss}}}}_{\text{FOM of power semiconductor technology}^{1)}}$$

### Fundamental efficiency limit

$$\eta_{\text{max}} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{f_{\text{sw}}}{f_{22}^*}} \quad \text{with} \quad f_{22} = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot R_{\text{on}} C_{\text{oss},e}}$$

1) as a Figure-of-Merit (FOM) this term characterizes a technology not only a certain device!

## Fundamental Efficiency Limit

With the **cut-off frequency** of a switching cell<sup>1)</sup>, e.g.

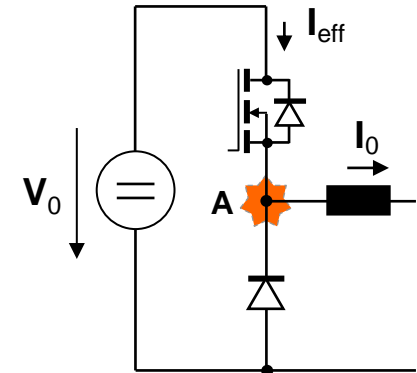
$$f_{22} = \frac{1}{2\pi C_{tot} R_{on,150^\circ C}} = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot 80 \text{ pF} \cdot 0,5 \Omega} = 4,0 \text{ GHz}$$

the upper efficiency limit can be written as:

$$\eta_{\max} = 1 - \frac{P_{v,\min}}{P_{in}} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{f_{sw}}{f_{22}}} = \begin{cases} 99,9\% & @ f_{sw} = 10 \text{ kHz} \\ 99,6\% & @ f_{sw} = 100 \text{ kHz} \\ 98,7\% & @ f_{sw} = 1 \text{ MHz} \end{cases}$$

### Requirements

- Power semiconductors with very high cut-off frequencies and **unipolar** behaviour in the 1 **and** 3(!) quadrant of the output characteristic
- Very low-capacitance dynamic nodes, i.e. power inductors with very low winding capacitance, substrate designs with very low ground capacitance
- Very low-inductive commutation cells

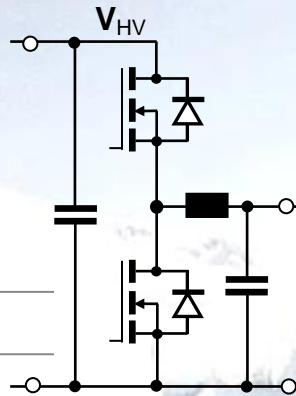
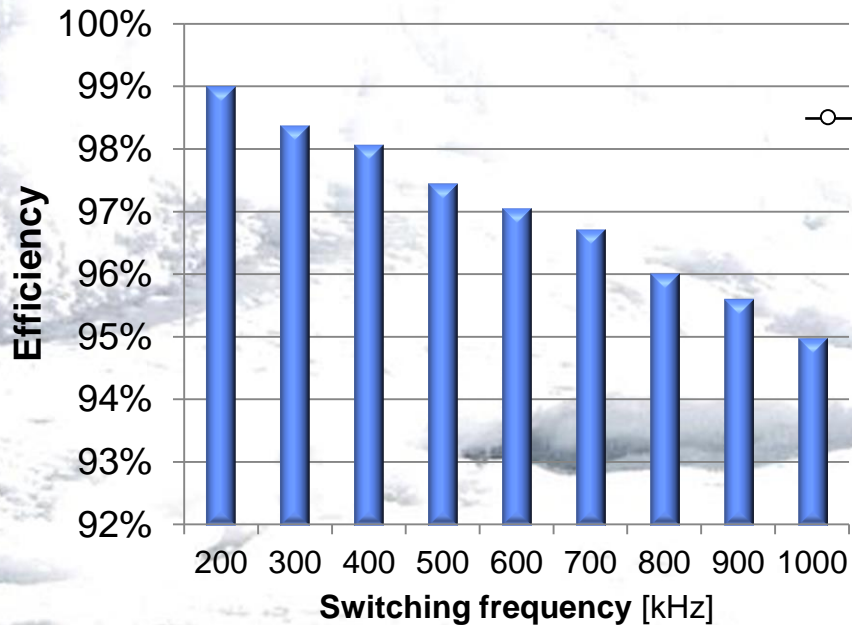


1) where  $C_{tot}$  is the total capacitive load of the dynamic node A!

## SiC and GaN open new Horizons in Power Density and Efficiency

### Fraunhofer IISB ■ GaN-Reference Design<sup>1)</sup>

- Buck/Boost converter
- GaN devices (600 V, normally-off)
- Output power: 1,5 kW (@380 V)
- **Power density: >30 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>**



### Fraunhofer IISB ■ SiC-Reference Design<sup>1)</sup>

- Buck/Boost converter
- SiC MOSFET, 1200 V, normally-off
- Switching frequency: **200 kHz**
- **Efficiency: >98,5 %** (760 V  $\Rightarrow$  670 V)
- **Power density: 140 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>**



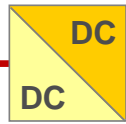
1) with Panasonic devices



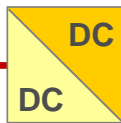
# DC Grid Technologies

## Decentral DC Grid Topology

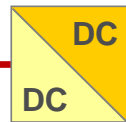
Local power generation



Stationary batteries



Mobile batteries



380 (+/-380) V<sub>DC</sub> Backbone

Public AC grid



Consumer

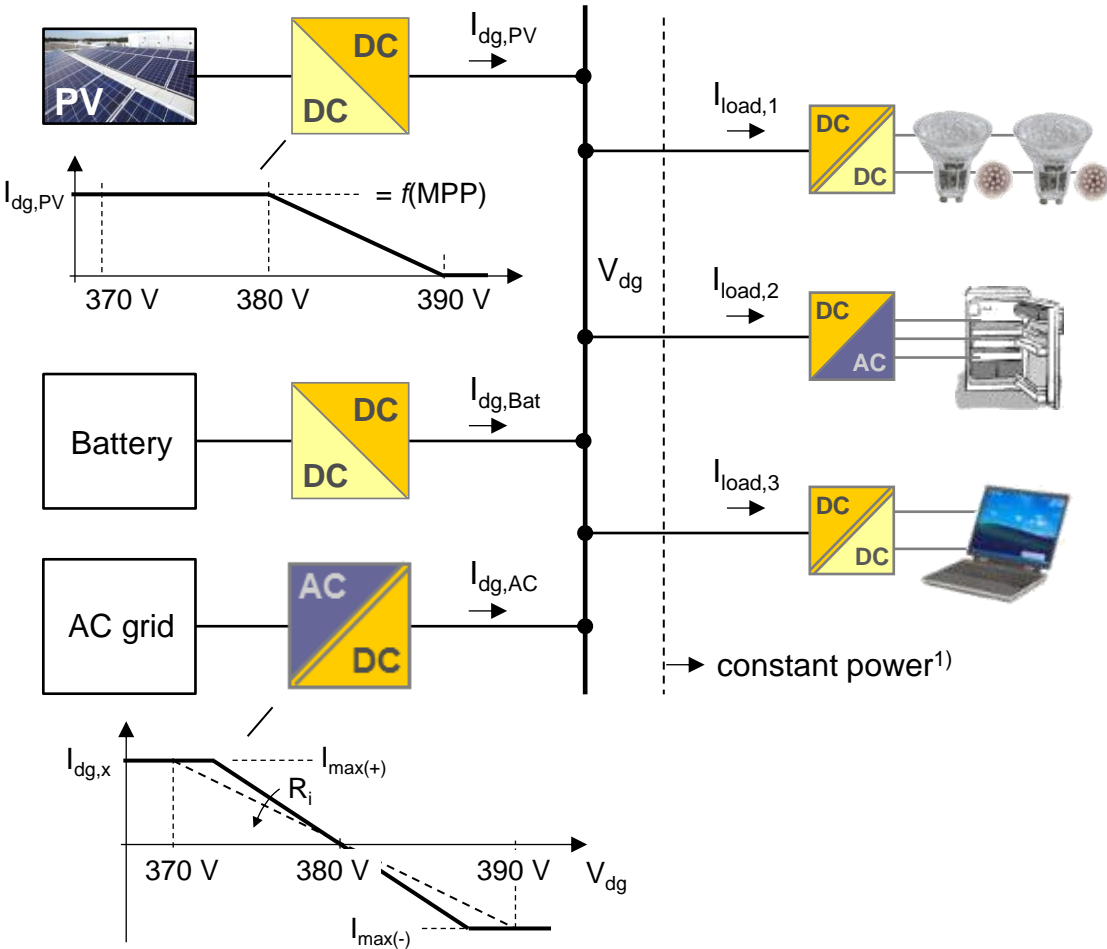


Prosumer



# DC Grid Technologies

## How to control a grid without a superordinated master?



### Droop Control

- The grid voltage ( $V_{dg}$ ) serves as the central control variable
- All feed-in converters operate as voltage sources **with internal resistance**

### Advantages

- No superordinate controller in the grid necessary
- Maximum in reliability, availability and flexibility

### Challenge

- Ensuring the dynamic grid stability under any constellations  
⇒ self-parameterizing controller

1) typically negative differential input impedance, i.e., input current increases as line voltage drops

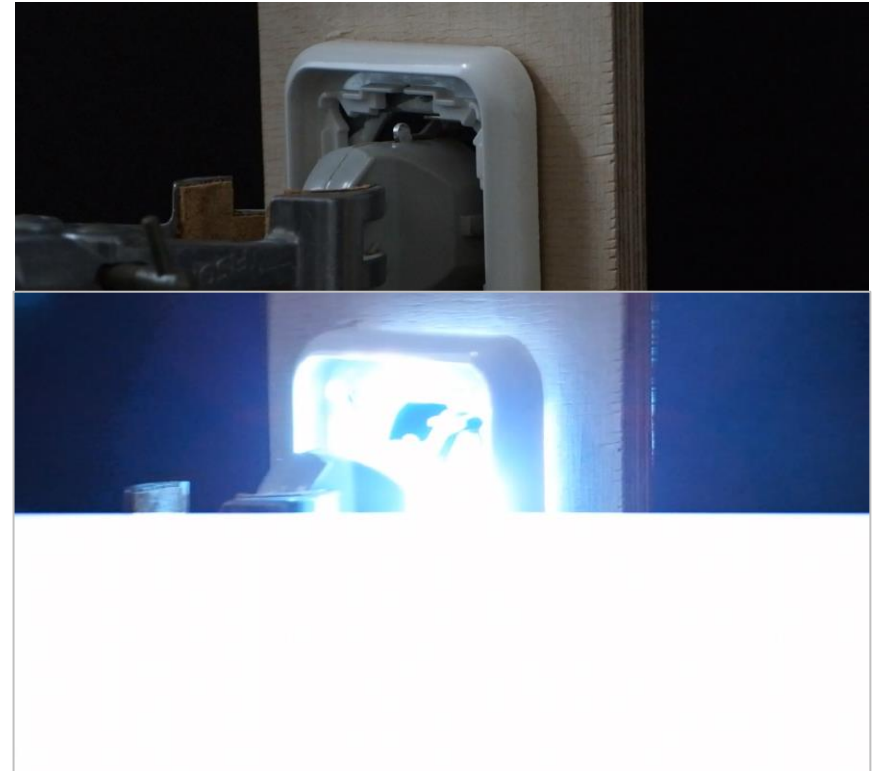
# DC Grid Technologies

## Problem "Mechanical Switches and Connectors"

230 V<sub>AC</sub> / 10 A

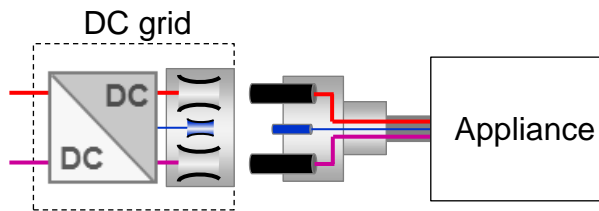


380 V<sub>DC</sub> / 10 A



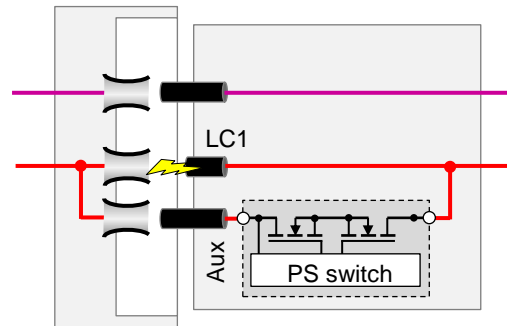
## HV-DC Plug Concepts

### Pilot Contact (leading opening)



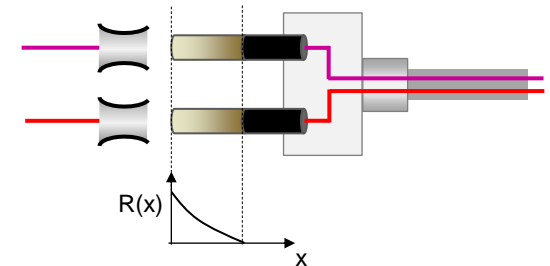
- Plug-in is performed without current (Appliance draws load current only when pilot contact is closed, i.e. after closing the load contacts, and reduces current to zero before disconnecting)
- Evaluable also on the source side to shutdown the voltage

### Hybrid Connector<sup>1)</sup>



- The arc voltage, arising when the leading contact LC1 opens, drives a power semiconductor switch:
- ⇒ PS switch and auxiliary contact (Aux) take over the load current
  - ⇒ the arc at LC1 extinguishes immediately
  - ⇒ PS switch disconnects current before the load contacts open

### Resistive Pin Tip



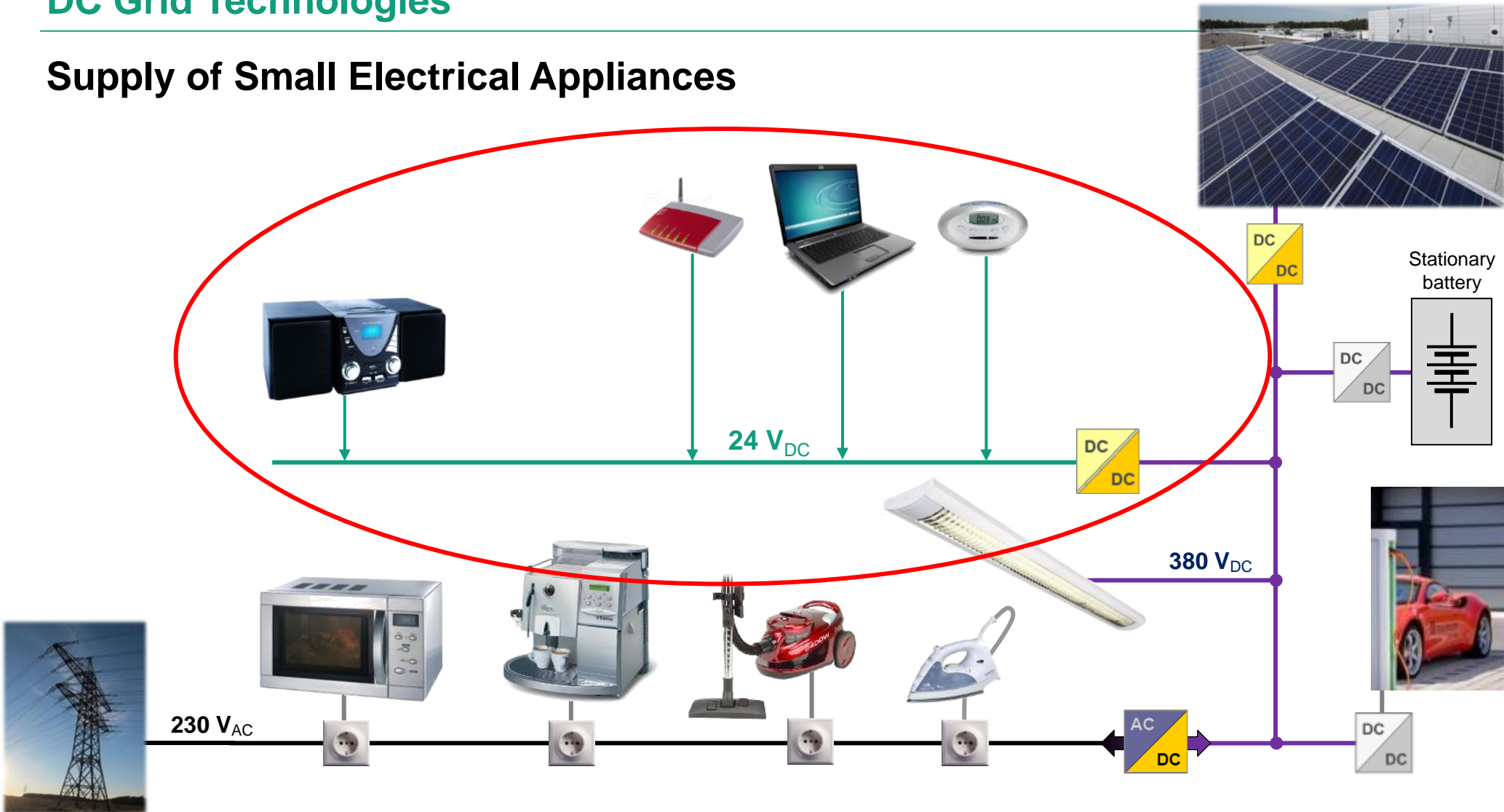
- Resistive pin tip (e.g. of SiC)
- Auto precharge for capacitive loads
- Error case "incomplete plugging" must be suitably caught

1) after patents of SMA (DE102 25 259 B3) and E.T.A (DE20 2009 004 198 U1)



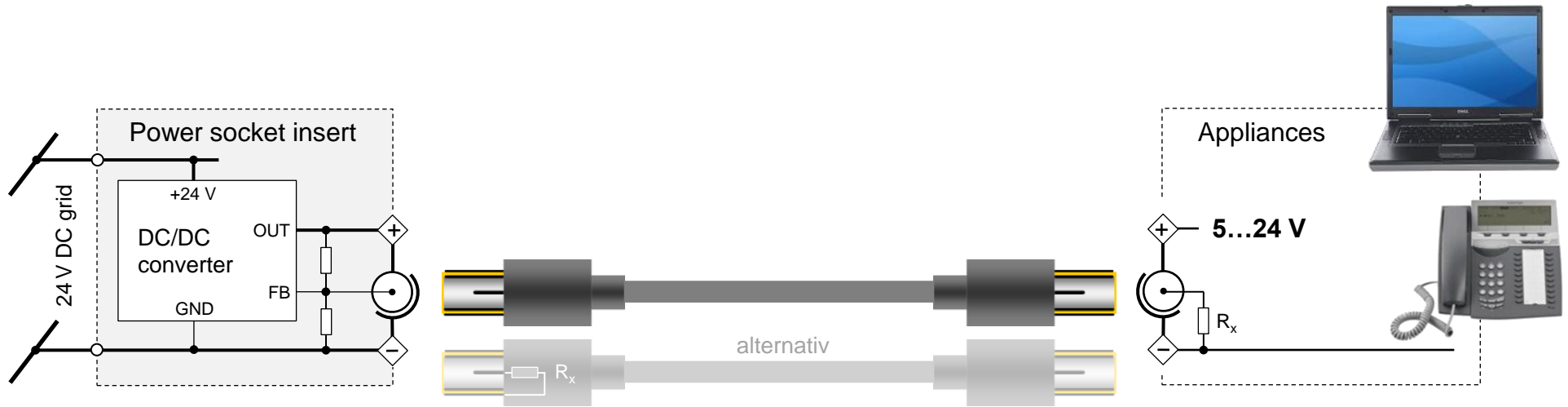
# DC Grid Technologies

## Supply of Small Electrical Appliances



# DC Grid Technologies

## An Universal LV-DC Plug System



- **One plug for all** low-power appliances<sup>1)</sup>
- The socket provides the individual supply voltage requested from the appliance
- Electroless, arc-free (dis)connection by leading opening pilot contact

1) up to 100 Watt

## Size Comparison

**AC Line Adapter**

vs.

**LV-DC/DC Converter**

**75 W**

$230 V_{AC} \Rightarrow 19 V_{DC}$



Efficiency: **87 %**

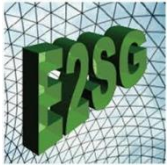
**75 W**

$24 V_{DC} \Rightarrow 19 V_{DC}$



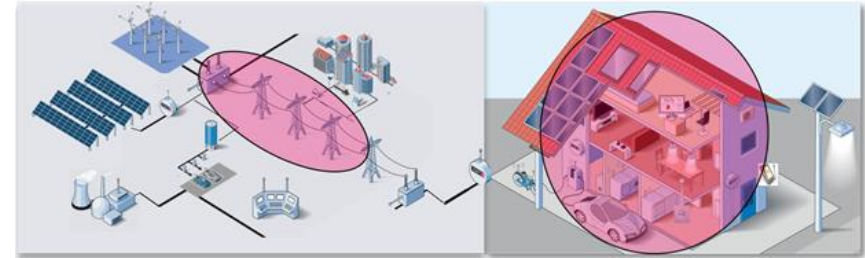
Efficiency: **95 %**

# European Projects



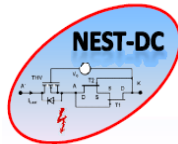
## E2SG – “Energy to Smart Grid”

<http://www.e2sg-project.eu/>



## SEEDs – “Keimzellen für die Energiewende im Industriemaßstab”

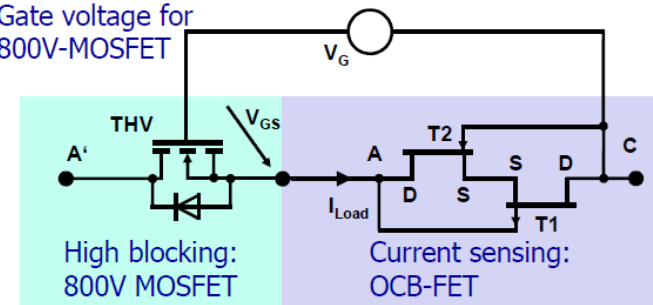
<http://www.energy-seeds.org/>



## NEST-DC – Research Objective Is Innovative Electronic Circuit Breaker for Renewable Energy and On-Board Grids

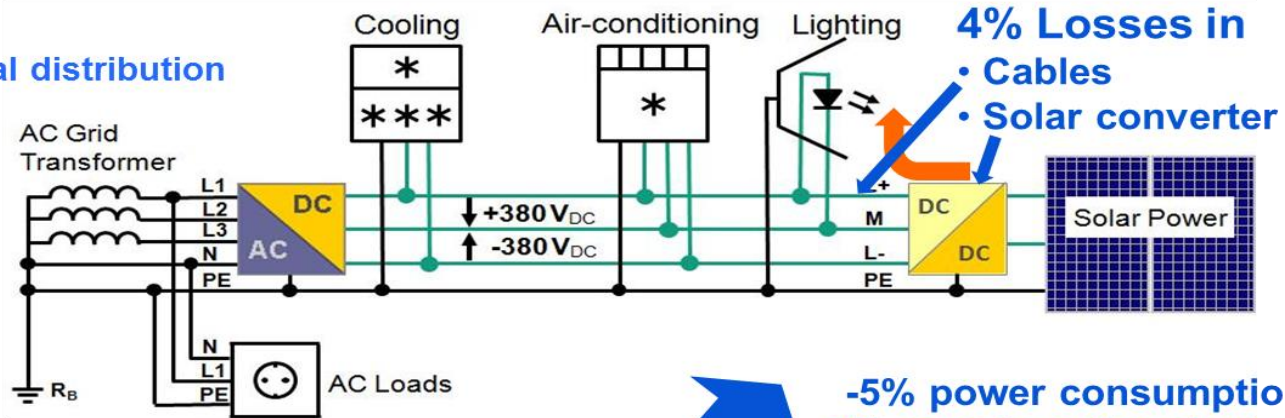
<http://www.infineon.com/cms/en/about-infineon/press/press-releases/2014/INFXX201407-050.html>

Gate voltage for 800V-MOSFET



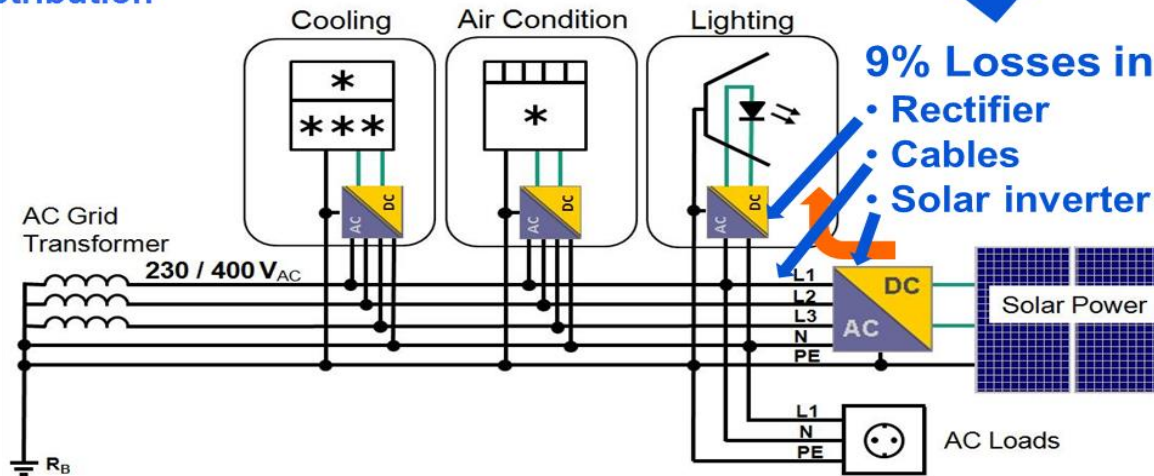
Other DC Projects: DC Forward, DC=DeCent, Smart Grid Solar, ...

## Proposed DC electrical distribution



-5% power consumption  
-7% cost for solar electricity

## Typical present AC electrical distribution





04 / 2015

Evaluation and Verification of DC-Grid compared to AC-Grid

Deomstration In real Applications  
Office Testbed at Fraunhofer IISB (Erlangen)  
Ligthing Testbed at Philipps Resarch Center (Eindhoven)



**Philipps Lighting Test Bed in Eindhoven**



**µCHP Unit (Gas to DC Grid)**

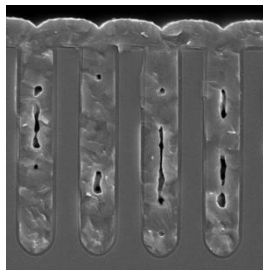
Design and Development of complete Systems and Demonstrators with new Devices

**Hybrid DC-Switch (5 kA @ 380 V<sub>DC</sub>)**



Development of new Devices and Komponenten (IGBT, DC-Current Sensor, DC-Switches, Arc Detection, ...)

**MPT-IGBT technology**



Semiconductor Technologies

04 / 2012

## Summary

### The combination of DC and AC to a smart hybrid grid allows

- **Cost reduction** on device, infrastructure and system level
- **Increase of comfort** („smaller, lighter“) **and connectivity** („Internet of things“)
- **Increase of design freedom** (e.g. LED lighting)
- **Easier integration of renewable energy sources and electric storages**
- **Increase of energy efficiency**

**Thank you  
for your attention!**

