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## **Successful 7th expert forum at DEHN**

**DEHN has been maintaining a close relationship to lightning and surge protection experts from all over Germany for a long time. On 3 and 4 June 2014, the 7th expert forum on "Changes in lightning protection with a focus on internal lightning protection and EMC in electrical installations and systems" took place in Neumarkt. This year's forum attracted many experts again. The high number of participants (120 persons) showed the great interest in the exchange of practical and theoretical knowledge between the manufacturer and experts.**

The purpose of this forum was to inform the experts of the latest lightning protection standards and their practical implementation and to highlight development tendencies. Moreover, new scientific and technical findings as well as practical experiences in the field of lightning protection were presented and discussed. Due to the advancing technology and changing standards, experts must constantly improve their skills and this forum made a contribution. DEHN was able to win recognised experts for lectures and would like to thank all of them for their contributions at the 7th expert forum.

### **The following topics were discussed:**

- Current trends in lightning protection standards
- Changes to Supplements 1 to 4 of the German DIN EN 62305-3 standard (edition 2)
- DIN EN 61439 standard for low-voltage switchgear installations, in particular "black box"
- Changes to Supplement 5 of the German DIN EN 62305-3 standard (edition 2) – Lightning and overvoltage protection for photovoltaic power supply systems
- Foundation earth electrodes according to DIN 18014:2014-03, changes and practical implementation
- Necessity of lightning protection systems and their inspection
- Wind load calculations for lightning protection products according to DIN EN 1991-1-4 / NA (EUROCODE 1 Part 1-4 / NA)
- Surge protection according to EMC criteria
- Implementation of internal lightning protection from an insurer's point of view
- EMC-oriented lightning protection zones concept according to the DIN EN 62305-4 standard (edition 2) – Practical implementation based on the example of an industrial building

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The exchange of knowledge on standards between the manufacturer and experts is an enrichment for both parties involved. DEHN as a manufacturer of lightning and surge protection products is familiar with equipment and installation standards whereas the experts have a lot of practical experience in the field of lightning and surge protection.

On the first day of the forum, the participants visited DEHN's second location in Mühlhausen and were shown around the new logistics centre. An event in the evening completed the first day.

"We were able to keep knowledge of lightning and surge protection up-to-date, focus on future challenges in the field of lightning and surge protection and discuss innovative solutions. We are pleased that you are interested in exchanging experiences and that you are looking forward to the next forum in two years", Managing Director Dr. Peter Zahlmann said in his closing speech.



**Figure:** Expert forum 2014 – Visit of the new DEHN site

**The market leader DEHN, a globally active family-owned electrotechnical company** with about 1,600 employees worldwide, offers innovative products and solutions as well as comprehensive services in the field of **surge protection, lightning protection and safety equipment**. DEHN focuses on the protection of system and building technology, the transportation, telecommunication and process sector, photovoltaic systems, wind turbines, etc. The company's continuous growth is based on more than 100 years of tradition and experience as well as highest quality standards and consistent customer and market orientation throughout the world.

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