

# DIZ

## Doepke-Info-Zeitung

The free customer newsletter from Doepke Schaltgeräte GmbH



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## Sustainable safety

Electricity is becoming increasingly important these days, with many pioneering technologies relying on the use of electrical energy. Sustainable energy generation and storage are also key issues of our time.

Sustainability doesn't mean that we need to avoid using technology, more that we need to refine it and improve how we use it. Solar and wind energy generation, heat pumps for heating buildings and electromobility are hardly new inventions, but these technologies, some of which have been around for decades, have now reached the point in their evolution where they can make a decisive contribution to the energy revolution.

The ever-increasing number of photovoltaic systems and heat pumps in the private and commercial sector, as well as the development of charging infrastructure for electromobility, not only help to reduce carbon emissions, they can also lower energy costs in the long term, while simultaneously supporting the development of the relevant technologies; this includes the development of efficient energy storage systems, loss-free transport of electricity over long distances and the development of increasingly efficient photovoltaic systems.

Experts in residual current protection technology are also needed to drive change, with a focus on the generation, storage and use of electrical

energy. New applications may also bring new risks with them, and for this reason new protective measures will also need to be developed and tested in order to ensure seamless residual current protection.

Doepke is constantly expanding its range of solutions in order to provide custom solutions for current and future requirements. With this in mind, we will soon be adding some new products to our range for you. We will be announcing them in 2024. Watch this space! ■

## Optimising system availability

Doepke is an expert in the safe use of electricity and a pioneer in the field of residual current protection technology. However, after safety, it is also essential to ensure that the electrical systems have the highest possible availability, particularly in the commercial and industrial sector.

Doepke also has some solutions in its portfolio for this requirement: first and foremost, of course, is our **e.Guard**, which can effectively protect against system failures using residual current monitoring.

Depending on the design and the application, our **DFA 2** and **DFA 3 remote actuators** enable remote restart, including automatically where permitted, and indicate that the system is operating safely.

Residual current circuit-breakers should be regularly tested by pressing the test button to

ensure they are working properly. This is prescribed by standards and also makes sense from a mechanical perspective. The RCCB switches off the power supply immediately when the test button is pressed. In cases where this could have unintended consequences, the use of a **twin circuit-breaker** or our **DRCCB 5 ST** or **STR** is recommended. These devices ensure that the power supply is maintained during the test.

Our **DRCA 1 residual current analyser** determines the cause of sporadically tripping residual current circuit-breakers and recommends the appropriate switch to improve availability.



And that's not all: we will soon be announcing a new addition to the range. ■

## High turnout at efa

Our stand at efa:ON in Leipzig was a hive of activity for all three days of the trade fair –

a successful way to round off the year! ■



## Doepke international – our sales agencies all over the world

**Denmark:** Vanpee A/S

**Founded:** 2000

**Location:** Brøndby

**Employees:** 14

Our Danish partner Vanpee was founded back in 1946, originally under the name E. Westberg A/S. At the end of 2000, Vanpee A/S was formed, specialising in the import, export and sale of intelligent lighting control, electrical products and electrotechnical components. Today, Vanpee offers a full and diverse range of innovative, high-quality products.

These include our products, primarily different types of our residual current circuit-breakers and RCCB/MCB combinations. Doepke and Vanpee have been working together for more than 20 years. Doepke's products are an important addition to our Danish partner's product range, and allow Vanpee to offer industry customers and switching installation manufacturers appropriate solutions alongside their electrical wholesale business. ■



## New Sales Managers at Doepke

Yosvani Caesar and Florian Schmitt new additions to the Sales team

Doepke Schaltgeräte GmbH has seen significant growth in recent years. This has meant the reorganisation of different departments, a process which is still ongoing. Now, two new area sales managers have been recruited to strengthen the Germany Sales team led by Nicole Heyen. They will act as the commercial contacts for sales agencies and wholesale trade.

Yosvani Caesar will be taking over as Sales Manager for the North East region. He is a trained electronic engineer, with a focus on energy and building technology, and also has business experience in the fields of



insurance and finance. His previous role was as a field sales rep for an electrical wholesaler. As such, he brings a wealth of experience as a contact person in the technical as well as the business field.



Manager for the South of Germany and will be the contact for sales agencies and wholesalers in South and South West Germany. Someone else will be appointed in the future to take on the technical part of his role.

Florian Schmitt is a familiar face. The trained electronics engineer has been working at Doepke since 2017 in the South West Technical Sales team. He is now also taking over as Sales

Your regular contact person from internal and field sales and the sales rep structure will remain as they are. ■

## New building opens

We showed you our new 1650 square metre hall with office space in various construction phases in DIZ. We are now delighted to announce that the project is finished! The building was opened in the summer and its new occupants have moved in. It is now home to our Electronics Production, Production and Process Engineering and Production Management departments. In order to boost our production volumes, we have installed some new additional machinery. The new building is heated sustainably with geothermal energy; it has a ventilation system with heat recovery and a roof-mounted photovoltaic system with almost 100 kW of power. This will be complemented by a green roof as soon as the adjacent, structurally identical building has been completed. ■



## The minds behind Doepke

**Gerd Ewen – Head of Business Administration**

*Please introduce yourself briefly: how long have you been working at Doepke?*

My name is Gerd Ewen, I'm 53 years young, I'm married and I have two 19-year-old sons. I have been Head of Business Administration since 2016, having previously earned a degree in this field. Before I started at Doepke,



I held management positions at three companies where my main tasks were always focused on different business administration issues.

*What is your department called and what are your tasks?*

The Business Administration department, where I work with my eight colleagues, covers balance sheet and financial accounting among other things. The financial accounting supplies figures for preparing the balance sheet and the income statement, which then shows the company's economic situation. The fixed assets, such as buildings, machinery and other assets, are recorded and documented. Controlling is responsible for drawing up budget plans, as well as preparing and sending the target/actual comparison figures to the management team to help guide company strategy.

*What specific projects/tasks are in store over the next 12 months?*

There are some big challenges ahead for us over the next 12 months. With the planned capacity expansion, the Business Administration department will also have its work cut out. The first task on the agenda is budget planning for 2024, followed by the 2023 inventory and annual and consolidated financial statements for 2023.

The Business Administration department is an important cog in the machine of Doepke Schaltgeräte GmbH and its subsidiaries. And all the cogs need to mesh together in order to get the right end result. ■

## Our electrical finds

Be it cable chaos, a strange installation or even 'chindogu' – the electrical curiosities we encounter have one thing in common: they are out of the ordinary and catch our eye. Chindogu, by the way, is Japanese and means 'unusual tool'. The term refers to inventions that the world doesn't really need but finds very amusing. We want to make you marvel, shake your head or laugh out loud by sharing our favourite electrical finds with you in this regular feature.

This find is more of a deterrent than a curiosity as it demonstrates the effects that thermal stress can have on a screw terminal.

The photograph was taken in an old building by our colleague Jörn Janssen.



Do you have an entertaining electrical find to show us? If so, please take a photo of it and send it to us at: [kommunikation@doepke.de](mailto:kommunikation@doepke.de).

Important: we can only consider photos that you have taken yourself.

## Sabiene visits Science World

Our flying trade fair mascot Sabiene (mascot *apis pulchrae industrialis*) has made the long journey to Canada, where she has been enjoying the abundant nature, as well as culture and education. Sabiene can be seen here in front of Science World in Vancouver. The museum, or more accurately the exhibition space, is housed in a geodesic dome, which was designed for Expo 86 inspired by architect Richard Buckminster Fuller. Science World allows visitors to experience science through touch and play and also holds temporary exhibitions on the topics of science, society, art and culture. Sabiene's favourite part,



though, was a break in Ken Spencer Science Park, a green garden oasis, which is also part of Science World. ■

## Norden Fire Brigade conducts fire drill at Doepke

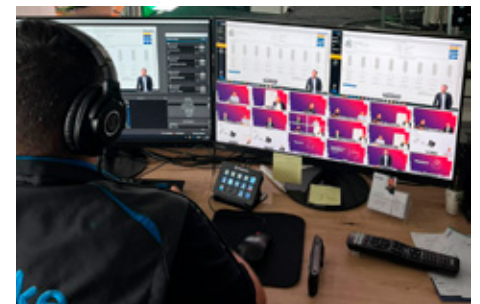


The traditional autumn drill by the Norden Volunteer Fire Brigade was held on our premises this year. All four units of the operations department, local fire brigades, the German Red Cross and the rescue coordination centre were involved. Around 100 emergency personnel plus 13 fire vehicles and six ambulances were on site. Nine Doepke employees participated, playing the roles of injured people. ■

## Doepke talk on operator obligations a success

In the fifth in our series of expert talks, René Rethfeldt and Stefan Euler from MEBEDO and Hartmut Hardt, Rechtsanwalt VDI with Stefan Davids, Johann Meints and Mario Sembritzki discussed legally compliant documentation, risk assessment and require-

ments for responsible electrical specialists. Around 250 audience members participated in the discussions and asked lots of questions on operator obligations in electrical installations. A recording of the online event is available at [akademie.doepke.de](http://akademie.doepke.de). ■



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### QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

*The best preparation for tomorrow is to do today's work superbly well.*  
(William Osler, Canadian physician, 'Father of modern medicine')

### DATES/NOTES

Webinars:  
Residual current protection for photovoltaics systems  
14 December 2024  
Info and registration: [akademie.doepke.de](http://akademie.doepke.de)  
E-Training in Building Technology  
23–25 January 2024, Rostock  
Light + Building (Hall 12.1, Stand A 03)  
3–8 March 2024, Frankfurt