

# DIZ Doepke-Info-Zeitung

The free customer newsletter from Doepke Schaltgeräte GmbH



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## Doepke is growing

### Construction progress at the Norden location

With Doepke products in high demand, the company remains a hive of activity. The workforce, machine fleet, factory site and warehouse space all need to be expanded in order to meet this growing demand.

Much has happened since we last reported on the progress of the construction work at the factory site at our Norden HQ.

The construction of the new 1650-m<sup>2</sup> hall is now in its final stages, and the electronics production department will gradually begin moving in over the coming weeks. New machines, which are urgently required to increase production volumes, are also being delivered.

A new block housing offices as well as social and technical rooms is also being built adjacent to the hall to add to the facilities provided in the main building.

But this new hall is just one of the measures required to increase the production space. Preparations are also under way to build a second identical hall with office space, which will be directly connected to the new hall. Tripping device production will be one of the departments to move there during the coming year.

But the company doesn't have the luxury of waiting that long. In order to meet the rapidly growing demand for space, Doepke has

managed to secure the use of a neighbouring empty hall. The new larger warehouse will be located here. The production department will then be expanded within the current warehouse; the renovation work required will commence shortly.

And it's not just in Norden that Doepke is expanding its capacity. Extensive building work is also being planned, if not already fully under way, at other sites. In addition to this, new machinery is being installed at the production plant in Bickenriede in order to increase the production capacity. Both sites in Germany are also still looking for new employees in various areas. ■



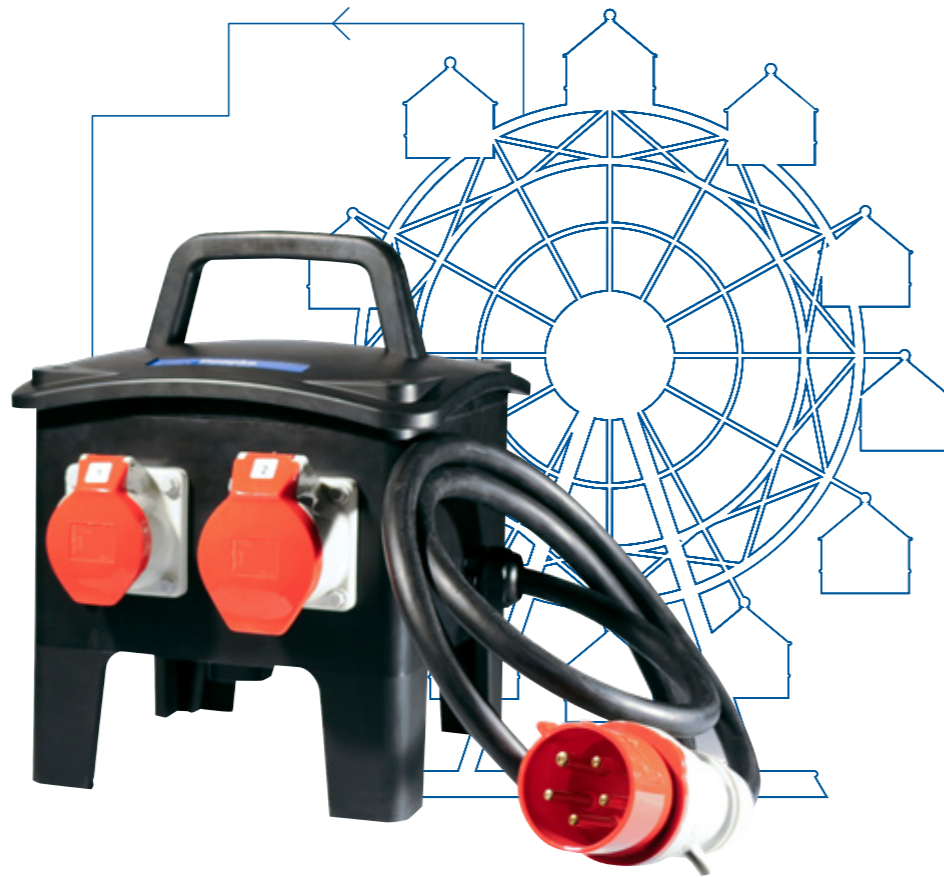
## Transportable safety

Mobile residual current circuit protection for construction sites, events, etc.

Spring is just around the corner, so once again the time of year for construction sites both big and small, as well as outdoor events like fairs, concerts and festivals is slowly coming round. And, generally, none of this is possible without an electricity supply. As always, whenever electricity is involved and members of the public are nearby, a suitable residual current device is required.

Mobile installations are not always operated via a building terminal box, and are often connected to an existing fixed installation instead. If the fixed installation is protected with a type A residual current device, it is not permitted to use a type B residual current circuit-breaker in the mobile installation in accordance with DIN 0100-530 and VdS 3501, section 4. If it is not known what protective measure is being used, the decision must be made by a skilled electrician. However, AC-DC sensitive residual current devices are always required and a sensible option whenever frequency-controlled electronic equipment is in use since they can cause smooth DC residual currents. These can include cranes, pumps, fans, sand sieves or masonry saws on construction sites, rides at fairs, or stage lifts at concerts, for example.

A dilemma for which Doepke has a solution: Our DFS B SK MI is the only residual current device on the market that can be operated



downstream of a type A, F or unknown residual current device. This is due to its low tripping threshold in response to DC residual currents of 6 mA DC.

The Doepke Protection Box provides mobile security made easy. The portable solid rubber distribution unit is fitted with a DFS B SK MI HD and can be easily connected between an existing CEE-socket and the consumer.

Depending on the design, the Protection Box has one or two CEE sockets with 16 or 32 A or a switchable output. The box and the residual current device have a particularly robust design, which means they are also ideally suited for outdoor use. ■

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

Switzerland: Demelectric AG

Founded: 1968

Location: Geroldswil

Employees: 35

Demelectric AG is a major manufacturer and importer in the Swiss electrical technology market. The company supplies major retailers and specialist companies throughout Switzerland with products from its comprehensive range.

Doepke and demelectric's collaboration was initiated by the companies' respective founders.

Demelectric has been carrying our products for many years now and presents them at trade fairs, in training events and in presentations for key institutions in the Swiss electrical industry. It has also set up its own website on the subject of residual current protection: [www.rccb.ch](http://www.rccb.ch)



The strong and successful partnership between demelectric and Doepke plays a key role in ensuring that our products are well known in Switzerland. Demelectric is considered to be the expert in Switzerland, when it comes to specialised solutions in the field of residual current devices – this is thanks in no small part to their outstanding capacity for collaborations. ■

## Sustainability as a value proposition

Residual current protection and the environment

For a long time it was considered impossible to pursue economical and ecological objectives at the same time, and the two were even seen as opposites. However, this point of view has radically altered in recent years. In these times of digitalisation, Industry 4.0 and the circular economy, sustainable production is not only a factor in consumers' purchasing decisions, it's also a matter of cost-efficiency. This includes converting to LED lighting, installing photo-voltaic systems, using recycled material and much more. The trend is moving away from mass production towards a transparent, service-oriented offering. When making a purchase decision, affordability is no longer the key factor, but rather the added value a product can deliver. This value proposition relates to the quality of production, service and, of course, the product itself. Sustainability is the magic word and this is reflected in production methods that conserve resources, long-term service that is reliably accessible, and durable low-loss products.

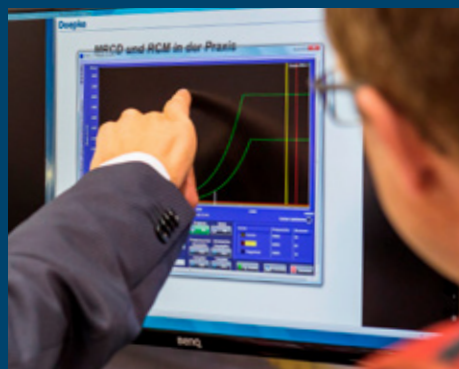
This value proposition is nothing new for Doepke. We always work with the clear aim of making electricity safer and protecting lives. And, of course, protecting lives also means protecting the environment, so there was no great shift required at Doepke. A real net output ratio of 90% and careful selection of raw materials have been key elements of Doepke's quality for decades, and the same applies to the conservation of resources.



But we don't want to rest on our laurels. In terms of environmental protection, Doepke starts with small changes – these range from the fleet of electric vehicles and the option for employees to charge their electric cars for free, to e-bike leasing and company bicycles, through to cargo bikes and electric carts on the factory site, and even the bee-friendly beds planted around the Doepke site.

This sustainable approach is also reflected on a somewhat larger scale in the construction work taking place. The new buildings currently being built on the factory site feature PV installations and green roofs and are heated using geothermal energy. The existing buildings are also fitted with PV installations and have been renovated to improve their energy efficiency, with new insulation and windows fitted and the lighting converted to LED.

However, the main focus is always on the product itself, and adhering to the value proposition for service and product quality. The demand for product quality is high. This is demonstrated by the durability and also the low power loss of the residual current circuit-breakers, which helps to improve the efficiency of the electrical system and reduce carbon emissions in the process. This quality requirement also includes a returns and repairs department for damaged devices as well as advice and training on how to handle and select the appropriate devices. All this makes sustainability a key element of our quality standard. ■

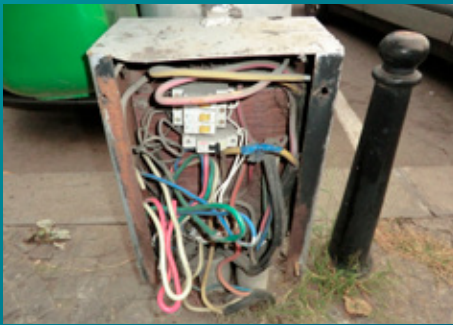




## Our electrical finds

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 stare in amazement, shake your head or laugh out loud by sharing our favourite electrical finds with you in this regular feature.

In Georgia’s capital city Tiflis (Tbilisi), there are all sorts of ‘creatively optimised’ electrical installations to discover, says qualified electrician Hartmut Peschke – and he has sent us the photographic evidence to prove it. Thank you for your submission, Hartmut!



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

## Sabiene visits a legend



Our trade fair mascot Sabiene has travelled a long way from home for her latest escapade – she visited the Caribbean island of Jamaica in search of a true music legend. Sabiene visited the museum dedicated to reggae musician Bob Marley. The Jamaican, who died before his time, achieved global fame with songs like *Get up Stand up, I shot the Sheriff* and *No woman, no cry*. While seriously ill in 1981, he wanted to return to his homeland of Jamaica but was too weak to continue his journey after landing in Florida for a layover. He died on 11 May 1981 in Miami. He was later laid to rest as the only Jamaican in his homeland in a graveside above ground. ■

## Doepke talk on YouTube and e.Guard on LinkedIn



Our fourth Doepke talk on the topic of ‘EMC – electromagnetic compatibility in electrical installations’ once again attracted many viewers. Anyone who missed this live can view the recording on our YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/@doepkegbh](http://www.youtube.com/@doepkegbh). You will also find our webinar on Doepke e.Guard there.

Please feel free to subscribe to our channel and keep up-to-date with all the latest Doepke videos.

And now a social media announcement: Doepke e.Guard is now also on LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/eguard](http://www.linkedin.com/company/eguard) – We look forward to gaining lots of new followers. ■



## ELMAR and master apprenticeship scholarships

At the end of November, as part of its brand forum event for the electronics industry, *Elektromarken. Starke Partner.* handed out the ELMAR brand award to electrical companies in five different categories. Ten master apprenticeship scholarships were also awarded to talented youngsters hoping to make their mark in the sector. The awards ceremony was celebrated in style and was even broadcast via live stream. Once again this year, brand-conscious companies can apply for the ELMAR awards, and budding master electricians

for a scholarship. The application phase begins in the summer, and all the relevant information can be found on the *Elektromarken* website.

The initiative will also be in attendance at the spring trade fairs for the electrical industry in Dortmund and Stuttgart, where it will be providing a MASTER’S BREAKFAST for registered trade fair visitors on each day of the fair. For information and to register, please visit [www.elektromarken.de](http://www.elektromarken.de). ■

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### QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

*Some people feel the rain;  
others just get wet.*

*Bob Marley*

### DATES/NOTES

Elektrotechnik-Fachtagung  
TÜV-Nord Akademie  
2 March 2023, Hamburg

eltefa (hall 8, stand 8c32)  
28–30 March 2023, Stuttgart

Hannover (hall 12, stand D62)  
17–21 April 2023, Hannover

We will be there!