

Media Release

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Page 1 of 2

Voith to participate at World Hydropower Congress in Ethiopia

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- **Leaders and specialists from government, industry, finance, UN agencies, academia and civil society will gather in Addis Ababa**
- **Ensuring sustainable development remains a priority**
- **Voith to contribute in workshops and sessions**

Heidenheim/Addis Ababa: From May 9 to 11, the International Hydropower Association (IHA) will host one of the most important gatherings for hydropower decision-makers and professionals in Addis Ababa. With the support of the African Union Commission, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the World Bank Group, IHA will convene the sixth World Hydropower Congress for the first time in Africa.

The congress takes place following a strong global commitment to improve access to electricity and water in a climate-constrained world. The UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement will provide a powerful backdrop to the discussions.

Technology Group Voith is a platinum corporate member of the International Hydropower Association and also a sponsor of this year's congress. The event aims to ensure that hydropower can make the greatest possible contribution to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other international milestones, while managing the challenges of a changing climate.

"IHA is an excellent organization representing the hydropower sector in the best possible way. This is mainly due to the diversity of its members, which include equipment providers, customer utilities, consulting companies and other industry participants doing business together, but also partner institutions that are involved in the sector", states Uwe Wehnhardt, President and CEO of Voith Hydro.



Dr. Norbert Riedel, Chief Technology Officer at Voith Hydro will be speaking in a workshop at the congress on renewable energy storage. Heike Bergmann, Senior Vice President Sales Africa, will be part of a panel addressing capacity building and skills shortages. "Voith is supporting the premise that technological construction and training is being done simultaneously in order to support both Africa's economic and social development, in addition to reducing worldwide emissions," says Heike Bergmann.

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Page 2 of 2

Renewable energy is undoubtedly the most sustainable answer to rising energy demands. Hydropower plays a key role in sustainable and environment-friendly power generation from regenerative energies and is the leading renewable source of electricity generation globally. Worldwide it makes an indispensable contribution to stable power supplies and thus to economic and social development – both in industrialized countries and in regions seeing strong growth. Since the early days of hydropower exploitation, Voith has been a leading supplier of this technology and is constantly refining and improving it.

For 150 years, Voith technologies have been inspiring its customers, business partners and employees all over the world. Founded in 1867, Voith today has around 19,000 employees and earns 4.3 billion euros in sales. It has locations in more than 60 countries and is one of the largest family-owned companies in Europe. As a technology leader, Voith sets standards in the energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transport & automotive markets.

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