

Czech grid operator and German technology accelerate energy transition: envelio's Intelligent Grid Platform now supports EG.D in processing grid connection requests

- **German scale-up's software helps EG.D digitise and automate its distribution grid**
- **"Online Connection Check" application speeds up the process of evaluating new connection requests such as for PV Systems**
- **The implementation of the Intelligent Grid Platform in the Czech power grid marks an important step in envelio's expansion into European markets**

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By 2023, the number of solar installations in the Czech Republic had more than doubled. As a result, the number of grid connection applications has increased significantly. Due to the further increase in demand for PV systems, wallboxes and heat pumps, the number of grid connection requests is expected to continue to rise in the coming years. EG.D, one of the largest Czech grid operators, is responding to these developments by implementing the Intelligent Grid Platform, the market leading software solution from German scale-up envelio.

Online Connection Check enables automated self-disclosure for connection requests

To efficiently handle the growing number of connection requests for PV-systems, EG.D has implemented the "Online Connection Check" (OCC) integrated within the IGP. This application allows connection applicants to receive an indicative response to their connection request through a fully automated process on the grid operator's website. Particularly in the early planning stages, this will accelerate the connection process for all stakeholders without placing additional workload on the grid operator. As a result, the increasing number of connection requests can be processed faster and better.

Michal Holan, the responsible project manager at EG.D, explains: "In the last two years, our company has faced a huge boom in the number of applications to connect small PV plants to our grid. To give you a sense of scale - those applications per year were more than the previous ten years combined. That's also why we decided to digitalize the whole process to make it as intuitive as possible for our customers. This is where envelio helped us a lot with their OCC application. This way, customers get the relevant information for their PV plant investment right from the start. Already the first month of operation of this application has shown us a great interest of our customers. Many thanks to our colleagues at envelio for their involvement and cooperation in the deployment of the OCC application."

Seamless integration despite special challenges

Integrating the IGP into EG.D's existing systems involved taking into account a number of special circumstances. Firstly, the IGP replaced a previously used custom solution. In order to meet EG.D's requirements, envelio extended the functionality of the IGP to be able to model grid participants in the load flow calculation in accordance with Czech legislation. Secondly, the entire software had to be translated into the Czech language. Despite this, the implementation was completed quickly. The rapid pace is demonstrated by the impressive reduction in blackfallen grid areas in the low-voltage networks. In just six weeks, the rate dropped from 4.93% to 0.94%.

Simon Koopmann, CEO of envelio, concludes: "The joint project with EG.D marks our market launch in the Czech Republic and impressively demonstrates how quickly and efficiently the IGP can be integrated into existing IT structures. Despite particular challenges such as translation and specific application requirements, we were able to introduce the IGP and achieve a Go Live of the Online Connection Check on EG.D's website quickly. For us, this now also serves as a blueprint of how we can bring the IGP to other markets and offer it in local languages where required."

About EG.D: EG.D name stands for Electricity and Gas Distribution, which accurately describes the company's business. In the Czech Republic, EG.D operates the electricity distribution system for almost 3 million customers and the gas distribution system for more than half a million. EG.D is part of the international company E.ON.

About the Intelligent Grid Platform (IGP): Envelio's Intelligent Grid Platform (IGP) is a comprehensive software solution for the efficient planning and operational management of distribution grids, providing a digital twin that processes, corrects and visualises existing data. As smart metering increases the volume of data, the platform's accuracy improves, providing transparency into grid processes. The award-winning software adapts to different sizes of grid operators, making it a unique solution to the challenges of decentralised energy supply and distribution grid expansion. Envelio's IGP enables grid operators to optimise and automate processes, laying the foundation for a rapid and decentralised global energy transition.

About envelio: Founded in 2017 as a spin-off of RWTH Aachen, envelio provides software for network operators. With its specially developed Intelligent Grid Platform, the cleantech company offers its customers a transparent insight into actual network operations. The digital twin enables network operators to optimize processes through automation and digitization, address network vulnerabilities, and automate network connections. Based in Cologne, the award-winning software company aims to offer its platform solution in more markets, further advancing its internationalization.

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