

22.03.2024

Significant increase in visitors: SHK+E ESSEN draws a strong final balance

Around 30,000 trade visitors experienced innovative building technology at Messe Essen

SHK+E ESSEN impressively kicked off the trade fair season for the industry with an expanded range of products and services: around 30,000 trade visitors came to Messe Essen from March 19 to 22, 2024 to find out about innovations in the fields of sanitation, heating, air conditioning and electrics. The focus of the more than 330 exhibitors from 16 countries included heat pumps, hybrid heat pump systems and other heating solutions as well as products for efficient installation. In the accompanying specialist forums and dedicated areas, SHK+E ESSEN also covered a wide range of topics that are currently affecting the industry: from artificial intelligence and drinking water hygiene to the Building Energy Act.

"We are very satisfied with the course of the trade fair. SHK+E ESSEN has more than fulfilled the expectations placed in it and sent out important impulses. We are also pleased that the new electrical range was so well received – we will expand this in future," explains Oliver P. Kuhrt, CEO of Messe Essen. Frank Hehl, Managing Director of the SHK NRW trade association, which is the conceptual sponsor of SHK+E ESSEN, states: "The visitor numbers speak for themselves. The industry, and above all the installing trade, still has a great need to meet in Essen to exchange ideas personally and professionally. In order to meet trade visitors' desire for a comprehensive trade fair experience, we would be delighted if the sanitation sector, which was underrepresented this year, were to fly the flag again in 2026."

With that extra bit of electrics

The trade fair was launched this year for the first time under the name SHK+E ESSEN. The E stands for the energy sector of electrical engineering, which plays a decisive role in the context of sector coupling. The focus was particularly on battery storage, photovoltaics, wall boxes and inverters. Partner of the trade fair for the heating sector is the Federal Association of the German Heating Industry, whose Managing Director Markus Staudt explains: "With the Building Energy Act, the industry and end consumers now finally have planning security. The law allows for a wide range of heating technology solutions. SHK+E offered an ideal platform for the western German HVAC trade to find out about the range of solutions and related topics such as the new funding framework. The exchange of information is now more important than ever, so that trade and industry can work together to turn paragraphs and laws into built-in heating systems."

The extended and varied supporting program at SHK+E ESSEN included topics such as artificial intelligence in the trade, political framework conditions for heat pumps and the recruitment of skilled workers. The Content Lab in Hall 2 celebrated its premiere, where visitors could find out about the use of social media in the trades, for example. Another focal point was figawa's drinking water meeting point in Hall 6, where new technical solutions for drinking water installations and rising temperatures in water distribution were on the agenda alongside other topics. Volker Meyer, Managing Director of figawa, summarized: "The presentations at the drinking water meeting point, which focused on topics such as the cooling of drinking water and the balance between energy efficiency and drinking water hygiene, met with great interest from plumbers and specialist planners. SHK+E ESSEN has shown that the industry can offer solutions to the current challenges associated with the changing climate."

New in the program: the role of hydrogen in municipal heating network planning

On the initiative of the SHK NRW trade association and Messe Essen, a dedicated event on the role of hydrogen in municipal heating network planning was held for the first time at SHK+E ESSEN. On March 20, several experts explained at the Congress Center West why hydrogen is essential for the German energy transition and talked about the prospects and design of a hydrogen market.

The visitors to SHK+E ESSEN were mainly practitioners from the HVAC and electrical trades as well as technical building services planners and representatives of the wholesale trade. 73% were decision-makers with purchasing and procurement expertise (2022: 69%). The trade fair audience was primarily interested in heating technology, followed by sanitation installations and drinking water. Around 90 percent of visitors were completely satisfied or satisfied with the range of products and services at SHK+E ESSEN.

Reunion in Essen in the year 2026

The next SHK+E ESSEN will take place from March 17 to 20, 2026 at Messe Essen. Interested exhibitors can find the registration documents at [www.shke-essen.de](http://www.shke-essen.de).

18.03.2024

Facts, figures and data: SHK+E ESSEN 2024

Runtime

19. to 22.3.2024

Organizer

Messe Essen

Ideal sponsor

Trade Association Sanitation, Heating and Air Conditioning

NRW

Cooperation partner

Federal Association of the German Heating Industry (BDH)

figawa

VdZ - Trade Association for Buildings and Energy

## Location

Messe Essen, Messeplatz 1, 45131 Essen

## Opening hours

Tuesday to Thursday: 9 am to 5 pm

Friday: 9 am to 3 pm

## Exhibitors

Around 330 exhibitors from 16 countries

## Exhibition Areas

Halls 1, 3:

Heating technology, ventilation and air-conditioning

Technology and electrics

Hall 2:

Innovation and information;

Tools, factory equipment and mobility

Galeria:

Tools, factory equipment and mobility

Hall 6:

Sanitation installations, water technology

and sanitary objects

All halls:

Service providers and IT solutions

Admission prices

Day ticket: 22 €

Reduced (pupils, students, trainees, people with disabilities): 12 €

Tickets at: [www.shke-essen.de](http://www.shke-essen.de)

Specialist forums and special areas

Campus SHK Education, Learning + IT

(Hall 2/Stand 2C10)

Content Lab (Hall 2/Stand 2A07)

Startup@SHK+E ESSEN (Hall 1/Stand 1D11)

Drinking water meeting point (Hall 6/Stand 6A06)

Program

Trainee Lounge\*

(Tuesday to Friday, all day, Hall 2/Stand 2B02)

Benelux Day (Wednesday, 20.3.)

Tour for architects and TGA specialist planners\*

(Tuesday, March 19, 11 a.m., Hall 1/Stand 1C50)

Assembly optimization tours\*

(Tuesday to Friday, 2 x daily, Hall 2/Stand 2B03)

\*Registration required,

further information at [www.shke-essen.de](http://www.shke-essen.de)

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Accreditation will only be granted upon presentation of proof of journalistic activity in accordance with Messe Essen's accreditation guidelines online at [www.shke-essen.de](http://www.shke-essen.de) or on site at the Press Center West.

Photos/Videos

Images and videos for editorial purposes are available free of charge in the MEDIA CENTER of Messe Essen:  
[www.messe-essen-mediacyenter.de](http://www.messe-essen-mediacyenter.de)



18.03.2024

SHK+E ESSEN shows the building technology of tomorrow

Exhibitors present solutions for electric heat and efficient assembly

From March 19 to 22, 2024, the industry will meet at SHK+E ESSEN for the first highlight of the year. Around 330 exhibitors from 16 countries will present their sanitation, heating, air-conditioning and electrical products at Messe Essen. Tradespeople, planners and other HVAC professionals from Germany and neighboring countries will experience market-ready innovations for their customers at the trade fair. This year's diverse range of products and services will focus on electrical heat generation and efficient installation techniques.

"We are delighted that SHK+E ESSEN is once again taking place at its usual time in spring after being postponed due to the pandemic. This was the express wish of the industry, which we were happy to comply with," explains Oliver P. Kuhrt, Managing Director of Messe Essen. Frank Hehl, Managing Director of the SHK NRW trade association, states: "The HVAC trade has a key role to play in achieving the energy transition. SHK+E ESSEN is a must-attend event for all companies, because this is where they can experience the products that they will later install for their customers. Specialist knowledge and know-how are essential for this."

The heart of the energy transition beats here

The heart of the energy transition beats at SHK+E ESSEN in Halls 1 and 3, where the heating industry will be showcasing its innovations. The focus is on cross-sector solutions for the efficient integration of heat, electricity and mobility - with the heat pump as the starting point. In addition, there will be battery storage systems, energy management systems, photovoltaics, wall boxes and inverters, which are combined into a holistic system in sector coupling. The partner of SHK+E ESSEN for the heating sector is the Federal Association of the German Heating Industry.

In Hall 6, the sanitation industry will present itself with sanitation installations, water technology and sanitation objects. In addition to digital bathroom planning and resource conservation, the dominant theme will be efficient installation techniques, which are essential for economic success in times of a shortage of skilled workers. These include fittings, piping components as well as tools and techniques for fastening and sealing. In order to present these efficiently to visitors, there will be tours, a visitors guide and presentations. Heating technology will also be included in Halls 1 and 3.

Specialist forums with offers for education and the digital transformation

In addition to the range of heating and sanitation products, interested visitors can also look forward to tools, business equipment and products for business mobility in Hall 2 and the Galeria. SHK+E ESSEN also scores points with further specialist forums and special areas on selected future topics in the industry. These include, for example, the SHK Education Campus, Learning + IT and the Content Lab in Hall 2. Hall 1 is home to the Startup@SHK+E ESSEN area in cooperation with the VdZ - Trade Association for Buildings and Energy. This is where young companies will showcase their solutions for the digital transformation in the HVAC sector.

Everything flows - but the requirements for drinking water of impeccable quality are constantly growing. This is due to increased customer awareness and changing framework conditions as a result of climate change as well as greater energy efficiency and hygiene. Anyone who wants to find out about high-quality products and innovative services for the supply of drinking water will find a suitable platform for this with the Forum Treffpunkt Trinkwasser in cooperation with figawa. The topics on offer in Hall 6 include water meters and metering, water treatment and the disinfection of drinking water and drinking water installations.

Four days dedicated to the future

SHK+E ESSEN opens Tuesday to Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm and on Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. Tickets are available at [www.shke-essen.de](http://www.shke-essen.de). A regular day ticket for the trade fair costs 22 euros; trainees, pupils and students only pay 12 euros. With the digital visit planner "My Trade Fair" on the website, visitors can also create a watch list, write to exhibitors and generate an individual route through the exhibition halls.

09.09.2022

Industry with positive conclusion of SHK ESSEN 2022

Pleased exhibitors and visitors at the reunion at Messe Essen

### **Pleased exhibitors and visitors at the reunion at Messe Essen**

**SHK ESSEN has celebrated a successful restart after the pandemic-related break in 2020: From 6 to 9 September 2022, 406 exhibitors from 15 countries presented their range of products and services for sanitation, heating, air conditioning and digital building management. Despite full order books and an unusual trade fair date, around 24,000 visitors took the opportunity to finally experience and compare new products on site again. The focus of the trade fair was on energy-efficient heating systems, indoor hygiene and smart sanitation trends. In addition to the impressive appearances of many brand manufacturers from the sanitary and heating industry, numerous new exhibitors set important impulses for the future in building technology in several expert forums.**

"The industry has impressively demonstrated its innovative strength in Essen. At the same time, SHK ESSEN has underpinned its status as one of the leading trade fairs for personal exchange between the trade and the industry. We are delighted about the great response from exhibitors and visitors, which cannot be taken for granted in these challenging times", explains Oliver P. Kuhrt, CEO of Messe Essen. Hans-Peter Sproten, General Manager of the SHK NRW trade association, which is the ideational sponsor of the trade fair, has a similar view: "Industry solutions for the energy turnaround as well as energy and water-saving technologies from the sanitary sector - these topics were primarily the focus of the trade fair visitors. The fact that the handicraft companies – despite the currently high workload – informed themselves here on site shows that SHK ESSEN is indispensable for the development of the companies. On top of that, we succeeded for the first time in getting more than 2,000 pupils excited about the future profession of a plumbing and heating installer by visiting the AZUBI Lounge and the rally across the exhibition site – that is a great success for the sector in North Rhine-Westphalia."

### **More than two thirds of the visitors were decision-makers**

The largest group of visitors was made up of craftsmen, followed by technical planners and experts, wholesalers and architects as well as representatives of manufacturers. 69 percent were decision-makers with purchasing competence. The visitors were mainly interested in heating technology, sanitary installations, air-conditioning and ventilation technology as well as sanitary objects. The conclusion of the trade visitors was positive: 91 percent recommend a visit to SHK ESSEN and 92 percent plan to visit the trade fair again in 2024.

The Federal Association of the German Heating Industry (BDH) also concludes positively at the end of the fair: "SHK ESSEN was an enormous success and was very positively received by the exhibitors. The joy of seeing each other again was clearly noticeable in all halls. In the heating sector, the topics of climate protection and security of supply dominated above all. Interest in technical solutions such as heat pumps, hybrid systems, digital solutions and the current political framework conditions and funding opportunities was correspondingly high. The lecture forum was also better attended than I have ever experienced", explains Andreas Lücke, Senior Expert at the BDH and Chairman of the Advisory Board of SHK ESSEN. In addition, the two new expert forums for heating with photovoltaics and hydrogen in Hall 2 proved to be real crowd-pullers, where there was always a lot of activity.

## **6th German Indoor Hygiene Forum and Drinking Water Meeting Place**

In Halls 5 and 6, the focus was on barrier-free bathrooms, smart water applications and products made of natural materials, in addition to sanitary installations and objects and water technology. In addition, the 6th German Indoor Hygiene Forum organised by the SHK NRW trade association and the Drinking Water Meeting Point organised by the Federal Association of Companies in the Gas and Water Trade - figawa – were two specialist forums where visitors could find out about air hygiene, drinking water hygiene and pollutants. Volker Meyer, General Manager of figawa, explains: "After a four-year break, SHK ESSEN has once again impressively shown that it is the meeting place for the SHK sector. The current hot topics, such as the implementation of the energy turnaround and the handling of the scarce resource of drinking water, were the focus. Our member companies presented their innovative solutions and products for these challenges."

### **Successful premier: start-ups at SHK ESSEN**

Whether digitalisation, smart home or energy management systems – the constantly changing SHK industry offers a wealth of opportunities for inventive entrepreneurs to get off to a successful start with a new idea. That is why SHK ESSEN offered start-ups their own stage for the first time this year. A cloud-based software for the skilled crafts and trades, with which projects can be handled holistically from the initial contact to the receipt of payment, is just one example of the innovative products of the around 20 young companies, which presented themselves under the motto "Startups@SHK ESSEN" in Hall 2. The partner of the Startup Area was the VDZ – Wirtschaftsvereinigung Gebäude und Energie (German Trade Association for Buildings and Energy).

### **Save the date: SHK ESSEN 2024 opens from 19 to 22 March 2024**

After this year's SHK ESSEN was held once in September due to the effects of the Corona pandemic, it will return to its usual time in 2024 and open from 19 to 22 March. Interested exhibitors can find the registration documents online at [www.shkessen.de](http://www.shkessen.de). The industry can already look forward to another highlight this year with GET Nord: the trade fair for electrical, sanitary, heating and air-conditioning in the north opens from 17 to 19 November 2022 at the Hamburg Messe und Congress site.