



SHUTTERSTOCK

German companies support UAE sustainability goals

As the UAE government strides towards its clean energy targets for 2030 and beyond, collaborations with Germany's leading institutions are instrumental

By Helga Jensen-Forde
Special to GN Focus

With the UAE's achievable sustainability goals set for 2030 and a longer-term ambition to reach net zero for 2050, key players in German technology are playing a pivotal role in helping the region achieve a cleaner future.

Since German companies can provide the latest innovative green technology and state-of-the-art engineering solutions, the collaboration is already proving to be the perfect panacea.

Matthias Fengler, CFO of theion GmbH and Managing Director for theion Middle East, explains, "Germany and the UAE share a strong commitment to sustainability and German companies are playing a vital role in advancing the UAE's sustainability goals. Through collaborations in clean energy, technology, and engineering, German companies bring decades of expertise to support the

UAE's ambitious targets, such as its Net Zero 2050 strategy."

Working together is certainly key to a greener future and the biggest players in German technology can provide invaluable expertise to the region.

"Collaboration is instrumental in advancing the UAE's sustainability goals and Siemens Energy has been at the forefront of these efforts," says Khalid Bin Hadi, Managing Director UAE, Siemens Energy.

"Our partnerships with leading companies and government entities in the UAE, such as the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MoEI), the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development (ADDED), ADNOC, DEWA, as well as a variety of universities, including Khalifa University and Al Ain University, have led to significant advancements in green hydrogen capabilities, renewable energy projects, and grid infrastructure enhancements.

As an energy technology company, our solutions cover the entire energy landscape,



Matthias Fengler
CFO, theion GmbH and
Managing Director,
theion Middle East



Khalid Bin Hadi
Managing Director UAE,
Siemens Energy

from conventional to renewable power, from grid technology to storage, to electrifying complex industrial processes."

According to Hadi, one of the company's flagship initiatives has been the Green Hydrogen Project at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park.

"This partnership with DEWA inaugurated the first industrial-scale green hydrogen project in the Middle East and Africa region in 2021. Siemens Energy electrolysers sit at the heart of this project, converting water into hydrogen and oxygen gas, using clean electricity. We also support a variety of solar energy projects across the country with a mix of technologies that enable reliable, efficient, and stable clean electricity."

The result of partnerships between German companies and UAE entities speaks for itself. Thanks to Siemens Energy's H-class gas turbine, which is one of the largest and most efficient in the UAE, it has lowered green-

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The Green Hydrogen Project at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park is an initiative led by German company Siemens Energy

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house gas emissions from Emirates Global Aluminium power-generation and aluminium-smelting operations at Jebel Ali by 10 per cent. According to Hadi, this is the equivalent of planting more than 17 million trees each year. With harmful NOx emissions being decreased by as much as 58 per cent, it is comparative to removing more than 850,000 cars from the road.

However, this is only one example, with other German companies, including KROHNE, also bringing its products and skills to the UAE. Recently, the global manufacturer, who are headquartered in Duisburg, Germany, opened an office in Expo City, demonstrating their commitment within the region.

“Our new office in Expo City Dubai provides an ideal setting for us to innovate and collaborate on sustainable solutions that directly align with the UAE’s vision for a sustainable future. We are leveraging our expertise in measurement technology to support various industries in their efforts to reduce carbon emissions and improve resource efficiency,” says Jay Gadhavi, General Manager, KROHNE Middle East.

Mega projects

“Our decision to invest in the UAE by opening an office in Expo City Dubai was driven by several strategic factors, including growing demand. We’ve observed a significant increase in demand for our innovative measurement solutions across various industries in the UAE and the mega projects across the broader Middle East region.

This significant investment demonstrates our long-term commitment to the UAE and our belief in its vision for a sustainable future.



Jay Gadhavi
General Manager,
KROHNE Middle East



Dr Martin Soltes
Founder & Managing
Director, EVUM Motors

By establishing this new office, we’re not just responding to current demand but also positioning ourselves to play a pivotal role in the UAE’s ongoing journey towards sustainability and technological advancement.”

Whilst companies from around the world set up various enterprises in the UAE on a daily basis, it seems that German companies are fast becoming one of the leaders when it comes to sustainability. Theion’s Fengler says that Germany has a long-standing tradition in using renewable energies, be it wind, sun or hydropower. Therefore, this could be one of the reasons that success in the field was inevitable.

Fengler says, “One of the first commercial hydroelectric power stations was built in Germany as early as in the 18th century contributing to the industrial growth of the country. The nation’s culturally deep-rooted consciousness about the preservation of nature translates into strong sustainability targets which are realised through a combination of precision engineering excellence and innovation power. This ultimately has led to the leadership of Germany in green technology early on and still drives innovation in fields ranging from renewable energy to sustainable energy storage solutions such as theion’s sulfur-based battery technology.”

With Germany leading the way with its sustainable solutions, experts from the country are contributing in different aspects.

During the recent Future Hospitality Summit World UAE 2024, Dr Martin Šoltés, Founder and Managing Director, EVUM Motors was keen to share his knowledge with the delegates from around the hospitality world.

“Speaking at the Future Hospitality Summit World in the UAE was a unique opportunity for us to share our vision of eco-friendly mobility, work, and energy solutions, where the vehicle becomes a multifunctional tool. We believe this summit was an ideal platform

to contribute to the sustainability of the hospitality industry. Our vehicle offers a sustainable and energy-efficient solution by combining mobility, clean energy, and work efficiency, which aligns closely with the UAE’s sustainability goals. We believe that by integrating these elements, we can contribute significantly to the UAE’s vision of reducing carbon emissions, promoting green energy, and fostering more sustainable business operations across various sectors.”

Thanks to the number of leading experts in German innovation working in the region and the commitment and foresight of the UAE government, it can only lead to an auspicious, sustainable, future. Thus, whether it’s through emissions-free mobility, renewable energy projects, smart cities, or eco-friendly engineering solutions, Germany’s leading companies are momentarily paving the way for a greener planet. ■

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