

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate publication!

Innovative underground grid connection is perfect for e-mobility

Bayernwerk commissions Langmatz EV charging station with underground distribution system solution for pilot project

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 21 August 2019 – The rapidly growing expansion of charging infrastructure means that planners, municipalities and grid operators are facing significant challenges. These include increasingly restricted spaces, the aim of providing architectures that integrate seamlessly into cityscapes, and security concerns when setting up connection cabinets. In an unprecedented unique pilot project, Bayernwerk and Langmatz have jointly designed a technical underground distribution system solution. An ideal location for the project was identified by the municipality of Oberammergau and Ammer-Loisach Energie; both drivers of sustainable mobility in the Zugspitz region.

“It was important for us to collaborate with partners who could guarantee that the project would run smoothly. Up to the current milestone, we have been thoroughly satisfied that everything has worked out so well with the energy provider, the grid operator and Langmatz,” emphasises Arno Nunn, Mayor of Oberammergau. Ludwig Fischer, Head of Technology at Langmatz, claims that not being forced to install overground control cabinets in sensitive locations and on protected sites of historic significance is a real advantage for municipalities and grid operators, not to mention the operators of the charging stations. “In future, this will enable all charging infrastructure projects to be realised irrespective of the built environment, security concerns and available installation space.”

Stefan Drexler, Key Account Manager for Municipalities at local grid operator Bayernwerk Netz GmbH, sees underground distribution system solutions as the way forward – not only for the e-mobility sector, but for all manner of municipal installations, whether optical fibre, Wi-Fi or other critical infrastructure. He delivers the following verdict: “Combining an EV charging station with a retractable yet accessible manhole seems to me to be a perfect solution in the age of the ‘smart city.’”

The electric charging station manufactured by Mennekes is supplied with green energy by local power supplier Ammer-Loisach Energie, whose Managing Director Jürgen Hitz also delivers a positive summary

of the progress of the project so far: “All companies involved are impressed by this ingenious technical solution. This was apparent throughout the process; from the installation of the manhole system by Freitag, installation of the power meter by Bayernwerk to commissioning by Ammer-Loisach Energie.”

The Langmatz EK 880 underground distribution system is a fully-fledged service connection based on tried-and-tested polycarbonate manholes. As such, it replaces overground cabinets. The distribution system, which remains accessible at all times for authorised personnel, can be easily opened and serviced thanks to gas pressure dampers, has enough installation space for a service connection box and a meter panel for direct measurement, and also features all the necessary electrical protection equipment. Furthermore, a submersion hood makes it impervious to flooding, while protection against vandalism and unauthorised access is also provided.

The pilot project in Oberammergau is a good example of how an underground grid connection can provide a future-proof power supply while blending seamlessly into sensitive locations in towns and cities, such as protected, historic sites at which overground control cabinets are not permitted to be installed.

Further information can be found at: <https://langmatz.de/en/>



Image captions:

Figure 01: Pictured (from left to right): Arno Nunn (Mayor of Oberammergau), Stefan Drexl (Key Account Manager for Municipalities and Partnerships at Bayernwerk Netz GmbH), Daniel Knoblich (Construction Supervisor at Freitag Montagegesellschaft mbH & Co. KG), Josef Daisenberger (Grid Services for Southern Upper Bavaria, Bayernwerk Netz GmbH), Ludwig Fischer (Head of Technology at Langmatz GmbH). (Photo: Langmatz)

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