

TRANSFORMERS MAGAZINE

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Dear readers,

This edition of Transformers Magazine is a testament to the dynamic evolution of the energy and transformer sectors, highlighting innovation, resilience, and forward-thinking leadership. From advancements in technology to the critical role transformers play in the energy transition, our interviewees and authors offer a comprehensive look at the challenges, opportunities, and successes shaping our industry.

Our interviewees and authors offer a comprehensive look at the challenges, opportunities, and successes that are shaping our industry

Interviews in this issue offer a perspective on leadership and innovation. We open with insights from CIGRE's **Michel Augonnet**, who highlights the importance of smart and expanded grids. As the world accelerates towards cleaner energy sources, grids must rise to the occasion and ensure that they are not the weak link in this global energy transformation. **Lorenzo Prieto** of Hitachi Energy shares how their commitment to pioneering spirit has driven their technology leadership for over three decades. **Vinamra Agarwal's** story of transforming a family business into an international transformer manufacturer shows how small players can grow with the right strategy. **Jörn Clasen** tells the story of Krempel, which has established itself as a trusted name in many sectors.

Our columns delve deeper into the intricacies of the industry, with **Tony McGrail** warning of the dangers of oversimplification in complex systems and **Vitaly Gurin** and **Marius Grisar** tracing the evolution of transformer insulation fluids. **Vitaly Gurin** complements this by exploring the "art and science" of transformer insulation, highlighting the advances that have shaped today's solutions.

The articles present real-world applications of cutting-edge technologies. Hitachi Energy illustrates the sustainability potential of electrified rail transport, while Siemens Energy demonstrates the transformative power of on-site transformer repair. Amorim Cork Composites showcases how cork-based solutions are helping to manage transformer noise and vibration with environmentally friendly materials.

In the Industry Navigator 2024 conference coverage, Siemens Energy provides insights into the push to decarbonise the energy infrastructure, highlighting the need for collaboration, standards development, and proactive maintenance to future-proof operations in a world increasingly reliant on transformers.



Other articles highlight magnetic shunt topologies and how Europe's decarbonisation efforts are reshaping the landscape of distribution transformers amid supply chain challenges.

As we prepare for the Industry Navigator 2025 conference in Dubai on 9-11 April 2025, this issue sets the stage for the future of transformers. On a recent visit to the conference venue - the Raffles Hotel - I was struck by how extraordinary it is. Although I travel a lot and usually regard hotels as mere stopovers, the Raffles stands out. Its impeccable design and welcoming staff create an atmosphere that truly feels like home.

The Dubai conference offers unparalleled opportunities for sponsors and delegates alike. The venue combines elegance with state-of-the-art conference facilities, providing the ideal setting for high-level networking and collaboration. The timing of the event, immediately following the Middle East Energy exhibition, ensures that delegates can maximise their trip to Dubai. Sponsors will have the opportunity to host exclusive workshops, product launches, and private customer events using the hotel's meeting rooms and terraces. Sponsors from previous conferences have reported significant benefits, with many securing new customers as a result of their participation. The conference aims to share knowledge and to set the course for the future. Transformers Magazine's Quiz League also provides a unique platform to inspire the next generation of professionals and great visibility for sponsors.

The Industry Navigator 2025 conference in Dubai is a prime opportunity to build partnerships, drive business development, expand your network and shape the future of the transformer and switchgear industry

Bringing together industry leaders, decision-makers and innovators, this prestigious event is a prime opportunity to build partnerships, drive business development, expand your network and shape the future of the transformer and switchgear industry by addressing emerging challenges and trends.

We hope you enjoy reading and learning more about the latest industry trends.

Yours sincerely,

Mladen Banovic, Editor-in-Chief