

Press Release

Vienna, 8 June 2020

ERIGRID 2.0 ENABLES OPEN ACCESS FOR RESEARCH ON ENERGY SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

AIT SmartEST lab is part of ERIGrid 2.0 and offers free physical and virtual access to young researchers and experts

Building on its successful predecessor project of the same name, ERIGrid 2.0 opens up and expands the research services and tools of its infrastructures, which are now also open to external users. The Center for Energy of the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology leads the European consortium of innovative research and development laboratories that offers young researchers and experts the research infrastructure of the ERIGrid partners for the development, testing and validation of modern power supply systems, the integration of renewable energies, the digitalisation of grids and smart energy systems. The project is based on holistic, cyber-physical validations of the power system, which can also be carried out in virtual environments. Access will be granted from 2020 to 2024.

Open access offers new opportunities for researchers and experts from industry

The current transformation and digitalisation of the energy system while ensuring security of supply require new approaches for the conversion, storage, and distribution of energy in different areas. "ERIGrid 2.0 opens the doors, so to speak, of Europe's best research infrastructures for young researchers to advance the development and validation of novel approaches and concepts for the integrated energy system of the future," explains Thomas Strasser, Privatdozent and Senior Scientist at the Center for Energy of the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology and coordinator of ERIGrid 2.0. "They will receive fee-free physical and virtual access for their research activities in the period from April 2020 to September 2024. Another important contribution of the project is education and training to train qualified staff for laboratories and infrastructure facilities," says Strasser.

AIT SmartEST laboratory is part of ERIGrid 2.0

With the SmartEST (Smart Electricity Systems and Technologies) laboratory, the AIT has a development platform for smart grid technologies and system architectures that is unique in Europe. Here, solutions and products from industry partners are tested, but also AIT innovations are developed that are later transferred to the market. Electrical energy storage systems and their current and future tasks in the energy system are currently among the technologies in demand. For the ERIGrid 2.0 project, controller, and power hardware-in-the-loop (PHIL) applications and the simulation of smart grid and smart energy systems scenarios (sector coupling) are of particular interest.

About the project

ERIGrid 2.0 (European Research Infrastructure supporting Smart Grid and Smart Energy Systems Research, Technology Development, Validation and Roll Out - Second Edition), led by the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology, is composed of 20 innovation partners from 13 European

countries to form a transnational platform for the benefit of research, industry and grid operators.
<https://erigrad2.eu/>

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EU research project ERIGrid 2.0 enables open access for young researchers on energy system infrastructure © AIT

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