# **MVDC PLUS** Managing the future grid









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**Connecting weak or unstable grids** How will we integrate and stabilize grids?

### Challenges

- § Growing number of decentralized and volatile energy sources
- § Stabilize weak networks
- § Provide high-quality power supply
- § Optimize and control load flow
- § Serve spot markets

### Solution

MVDC

#### **Customer benefits**



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**Connecting weak or unstable grids** How will we integrate and stabilize grids?

### Challenges

#### **Solution**

- § Load flow control through MVDC: Connect grids via active elements that control load flow and provide reactive power
- § Decouple grids with different frequencies, voltage levels and quality with DC link

MVDC ----

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**Connecting weak or unstable grids** How will we integrate and stabilize grids?

Challenges	~	
Solution	~	

**Customer benefits** 



Simple integration of volatile energy sources



Safeguarding the power supply, power exchange between grids to optimize losses and asset utilization



Grid stabilizing, load flow control, grid independence.



Improved grid quality





**Bridge the distance** How should we connect islands, platforms, and remote areas?

#### Challenges

- § Connect remote energy loads (for example, islands, industries, small cities)
- § Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> footprint and prevent pollution (for example, diesel generators)
- § Distance of 110-kV AC lines limited due to reactive power losses

### Solution







#### **Customer benefits**



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#### **Customer benefits**





### **Bridge the distance**

How should we connect islands, platforms, and remote areas?

Challenges	~	
Solution	~	

**Customer benefits** 



Reduced costs for transport, storage, and maintenance for diesel generators, for example



Cost advantage due to higher efficiency compared with HVAC



Reduced CAPEX due to larger MV supplier base and commodities



Reduced visual and environmental impact (approvals and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction)



Increase power infeed How can we enhance existing infrastructure?

### Challenges

- § Increase rating of existing lines to satisfy growing power demand
- § Connect urban centers with outside transmission system
- § Improve grid stability without network expansion

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### Solution

Customer benefits

SIEMENS Ingenuity for life





# **Increase power infeed** How can we enhance existing infrastructure? Challenges ~ **Solution** § Convert from existing AC to DC system that enables greater power transfer § Improve grid stability with MVDC PLUS system that provides STATCOM functionality

### **Customer benefits**







**Increase power infeed** How can we enhance existing infrastructure?

Challenges	~	
Solution	~	

**Customer benefits** 



Avoid network expansions



Increased asset utilization by up to 20-80 percent more transmitted power



MVDC PLUS converters provide grid stabilization features



Obtain transmission autonomy in power ranges up to 150 MW How will we fulfil the enhanced tasks as a DSO?



**SIEMENS** 

Ingenuity for life











Obtain transmission autonomy in power ranges up to 150 MW How will we fulfil the enhanced tasks as a DSO?

Challenges	~	
Solution	~	

**Customer benefits** 



Be more independent of HV



More flexibility for line planning



Enhanced possibilities for integrating decentral energy supply





### **Reduce footprint**

What's the best way to make network upgrades with little visual impact?

#### Challenges

- § High visual impact of HV lines with large lattice structures
- § Public resistance against high voltage lines
- § Getting permits for new HV corridors is becoming nearly impossible

### Solution



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### **Reduce footprint** What's the best way to make network upgrades with little visual impact?

### Challenges

#### **Solution**

- § Medium-voltage level allows for lines with heights below the treetops (<15 m height)
- § Simple MV overhead lines require smaller corridors
- § MV overhead lines with wood poles or simple steel structures









### **Reduce footprint**

What's the best way to make network upgrades with little visual impact?

Challenges	~	
Solution	~	

**Customer benefits** 



Low visual impact



Faster and less complex implementation that speeds up construction and permitting



Get public acceptance for infrastructure upgrades



Lowering stranded planning investments





### Grids are facing new challenges from decentralization and renewables

Past: Unidirectional energy flow HV à MV à LV via alternating current (AC)



Underlying technology





### **MVDC PLUS combines the best of AC and DC transmission**





 $\sim$  Alternating current

Direct current

- § Simple design
- § Robust and reliable technology
- § Cheap and can be applied with no power electronics
- \$ Easy integration into existing transmission networks

- § Power transmission over long distances
- § Same power transfer at lower voltage level possible
- § No additional reactive power compensation equipment necessary
- § Facilitates connection of asynchronous systems
- § Seamless control of the active power flow
- § Low contribution to short-circuit currents





# Modular multilevel converter in MVDC PLUS ensures stable power quality



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# May I introduce myself? I'm cost-efficient and fast thanks to standardized type ratings



Converter tower with IGBT
Control & Protection

MVDC PLUS is based on HVDC PLUS technology, standardized for different type rates with positive impacts on costs and execution time



### **Converter tower with IGBT**





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### **Control and protection system**



Active power control Bi-directional power flow STATCOM operation AC voltage control Black start (\*) AC fault ride-through (\*\*)

Communication with SCADA via standard IEC telecontrol Separated process and service LAN Signal recording 1 ms time stamp Remote access routed through firewalls Terminal server (DMZ) optional

> \* Optional and customized \*\* Depending on DC line configuration

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## Control and protection system is based on SIMATIC processing systems and PLUSCONTROL

