

Munich/Bayreuth, Germany, July 25, 2011

Siemens Festival Night 2011: “Wagner for everyone” at the 100th Bayreuth Festival season

The Siemens Festival Night in Bayreuth on August 14, 2011, will be a unique Richard Wagner opera experience for everyone in the audience. To mark the festival anniversary, Siemens has doubled the size of the LED screen for the public viewing event to 180 m². This will enable ten thousand people to enjoy the music of Wagner to the full in the open air. Two public attractions will be offered in succession: first the brand-new “Ring” for children, then “Lohengrin” for everyone. Together they provide a full-day festival event for people of all ages in a relaxed summer atmosphere on the Bayreuth Festplatz.

The event will begin in the morning with the first showing of the 90-minute film of the “Ring des Nibelungen” production for children. Director Maximilian von Mayenburg has created a children’s opera from the tragic love story of Siegfried and Brünhilde in a magic world peopled by beautiful water sprites and sinister dwarves, with a golden treasure guarded by a dragon. After the public viewing, youngsters from the age of seven will have the opportunity to participate in the interactive Wagner program for children, where they will get a look behind the scenes of an opera production at five different stations. Theater people will work with the children, making, building, painting, composing and adjusting selected elements of the children’s opera.

This will be followed in the late afternoon by the live transmission of Hans Neuenfels’ sensational production of “Lohengrin,” which promises to be an extremely telegenic event. On the huge LED screen, which is double the size of last year’s and is one of the brightest outdoor video display panels available, the visual effects will be shown to their best advantage. The mixture of the colors in the individual LEDs ensures accurate, natural reproduction. The digital sound system specially adjusted in situ to the acoustic requirements of the Festplatz, with 86 active speakers in a staggered arrangement and a total output of 273,000 watts, also guarantees a high-quality musical experience.

Lohengrin can be watched live on the Internet at www.siemens.com/festivalnight for a fee of €14.90 with the option of calling up the recording one more time within the following 14 days.

Further information and press photos are available at www.siemens.com/press/festivalnight

Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering, operating in the industry, energy and healthcare sectors. For over 160 years, Siemens has stood for technological excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality. The company is the world's largest provider of environmental technologies. More than one-third of its total revenue stems from green products and solutions. In fiscal 2010, which ended on September 30, 2010, revenue from continuing operations (excluding Osram and Siemens IT Solutions and Services) totaled €69 billion and net income from continuing operations €4.3 billion. At the end of September 2010, Siemens had around 336,000 employees worldwide on the basis of continuing operations. Further information is available on the Internet at: www.siemens.com.