



Smart-home solutions for intelligent sanitation concepts – digitalisation and connectivity in drinking-water installations

Frankfurt am Main, 26 January 2021.

Intelligent sanitation fittings are setting new standards thanks to digitalisation. Smartphone apps not only increase product functionality but also make them much easier to use. At the same time, the individual fittings are more than the sum of their components. Through digitalisation and connectivity, the various parts combine to make intelligent drinking-water systems – for greater comfort, efficiency and hygiene.

Applications for the smart home are growing in popularity. Although they are still primarily to be found in the fields of entertainment, communication, energy management and security, drinking-water installations also offer a considerable potential, albeit one that has so far been rarely been exploited to any degree.

“Today, fittings can deliver much more than just water. They are digital, high-tech products that offer an impressive demonstration of the sector’s innovative power. Manufacturers of brand-name products are focusing more and more on people and their needs. Their aim is to create genuine added value, to offer greater convenience and to increase both health and vitality”, explains Wolfgang Burchard, Managing Director of Germany’s VDMA Fittings association and spokesperson of the [Blue Responsibility](#) initiative.

Manufacturers interconnect fittings with each other and make them controllable via smartphones, thus enabling the user to centrally regulate, for example, the flow rates and temperatures of shower, washbasin and kitchen fittings. Thus, bathtubs can be filled with water of the desired temperature at the click of a mouse while smart-control solutions in the kitchen ensure that hot water is available for the pot straight from the fitting. But that is not all: intelligent sanitation concepts mean house owners can automatically be sent notifications to their smartphones as soon as the system detects unusually high water consumption or a blocked pipe, so they can take all the steps necessary to repair the fault without delay.

Hygiene in corona times – drinking-water technology is the key

The corona pandemic has not only reduced the pace of life in many respects. The circulation of drinking water has also been slowed considerably. With many facilities being closed and the number of people in the office having been reduced significantly, numerous buildings have had none or hardly any water flowing through their pipes. And this is a problem because, if water stagnates, biofilms can form and provide a potential

breeding ground for harmful pathogens and bacteria. Anyone wanting to prevent this must also ensure that a basic rule of hygiene is not broken even in unused or little-used buildings: water must flow. For, when our most important resource is in motion, it is difficult for biofilms to form and the danger of water contamination is reduced significantly. In this case, too, digitalisation is the key to optimum water management. For instance, hygiene systems permit drinking-water installations to be flushed regularly or spontaneously, to counteract the formation of pathogens and bacteria. A click on the manufacturer's app is all it takes to start pumps, activate valves and open taps. The temperature can also be regulated, thus permitting the installation to be flushed with hot water if required. Thanks to these measures, it is possible to reduce the danger of legionella, which multiply most rapidly when the water temperature is between 25 and 55 °C.

Important in this connection is not only the individual fittings but the whole system. For this reason in particular, manufacturers of brand-name products have their eye on the drinking-water installation as a whole. Combining hardware and software, they offer innovative solutions that guarantee excellent drinking-water quality even in times of an international pandemic.

ISH digital offers additional information and innovative products for drinking-water installations at www.ish.messefrankfurt.com

Free Virtual Online Event by Messe Frankfurt and BUILTWORLD:
'Building Technology Experts: Smart Solutions for Drinking Water Hygiene'

Online panel discussion (in German) with experts
from 08.00 to 09.00 hrs on Thursday, 28 January 2021.

Don't miss it – from home for free!

Register now:

<https://www.builtworld.com/event/Building-Technology-Experts-Smart-Loesungen-fuer-Trinkwasserhygiene>

ISH digital
The world's leading trade fair HVAC + Water

ISH digital will be held from 22 to 26 March 2021.

Press releases & images:

www.ish.messefrankfurt.com/press

Social media:

www.ish.messefrankfurt.com/facebook

www.ish.messefrankfurt.com/twitter

www.ish.messefrankfurt.com/youtube

www.ish.messefrankfurt.com/linkedin

www.instagram.com/building.technologies.messeffm

**Contact:**

Antje Schwickart
Tel.: +49 69 7575-6474
Antje.Schwickart@messefrankfurt.com

Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH
Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage 1
D-60327 Frankfurt am Main

www.messefrankfurt.com

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

Messe Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organiser with its own exhibition grounds. The Messe Frankfurt Group employs around 2,500* people in a total of 30 subsidiaries. The company generated annual sales of approximately €250* million in 2020. Even in difficult times caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we are globally networked with our industry sectors. We have close ties with our industry sectors and serve our customers' business interests efficiently within the framework of our Fairs & Events, Locations and Services business fields. One of the Group's key USPs is its closely knit global sales network, which extends throughout the world. Our comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organising and running their events. We are expanding our digital expertise with new business models. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. Headquartered in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent).

For more information, please visit our website at: www.messefrankfurt.com

* preliminary figures 2020