Making Responsibility Visible

Messe Düsseldorf Publishes Second Voluntary Sustainability Report

With its second voluntary sustainability report, Messe Düsseldorf shows how it embeds sustainability in its strategy and achieves tangible progress across the four dimensions of Planet, People, Performance, and Governance. Among other things, the report highlights significant reductions in emissions, the expansion of renewable energy, and Messe Düsseldorf's role as an international platform for sustainable solutions.

Düsseldorf, October 07, 2026. Messe Düsseldorf takes responsibility beyond legal requirements: With its second voluntary sustainability report, the company demonstrates how it is consistently advancing sustainability in its core business, its processes, and as an employer. Although the company is not subject to mandatory sustainability reporting requirements, it transparently discloses its sustainability activities and progress in accordance with the EU's new voluntary reporting standard VS (Voluntary Standard).

Sustainability as a strategic commitment

As an organizer, employer, regional economic factor, and international multiplier, Messe Düsseldorf has responsibilities on many levels. Sustainability is therefore firmly embedded in the company's strategic development. Its sustainability strategy encompasses the four dimensions Planet, People, Performance, and Governance, with a total of 13 focus topics. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals serve as a guiding framework.

"We made a conscious decision to report in accordance with the new Voluntary Standard. In doing so, we create transparency and comparability – and underline the high standards we set for our sustainability efforts. For us, the key is not to treat sustainability as an isolated project, but as a shared responsibility: in our

operations, for our employees, and at our events," says Marius Berlemann, Managing Director of Messe Düsseldorf.

Tangible progress across all four dimensions

A particularly important achievement can be seen in climate protection: From the 2019 baseline to 2025, Messe Düsseldorf reduced its Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions – which consist primarily of emissions from heating and electricity consumption – by 62 percent.

Key contributors to this reduction include the use of green electricity, the energy management system that has been established for many years, and the continuous modernization of infrastructure.

At the same time, Messe Düsseldorf significantly expanded its data basis: For the first time, the 2025 greenhouse gas inventory also includes the relevant Scope 3 categories, covering additional indirect emissions associated with its business activities. This provides a clearer picture of the main sources of emissions and further potential for reduction.

The new photovoltaic systems installed on the roofs of seven exhibition halls send a strong signal for the expansion of renewable energy: installation began in 2025 and was completed in July 2026. Covering an area of around 79,000 square meters, the systems have a combined peak output of 5,450 kWp.

Messe Düsseldorf has also implemented concrete measures in the areas of diversity and inclusion, governance, mobility, resource conservation, and employee development. The Proud@MD network, established in 2025, sends a clear signal in support of diversity, while the Code of Conduct introduced that same year provides a binding framework for acting with integrity, fairness, and responsibility. The new mobility budget supports more sustainable commuting. In addition, water dispensers in the cafeteria have reduced the transport of bottled beverages by around 63,000 bottles compared with 2023. Around 400 participations in the company's Academy programs are strengthening its culture of learning and development.

International platform for sustainable solutions

In the Performance dimension, Messe Düsseldorf leverages its particular strength as a platform: Their events address future-oriented topics, raise the visibility of sustainable solutions, and at the same time strengthen Düsseldorf as a business location. They bring together companies, research institutions, associations, and international communities and provide a stage for key future issues. Examples from the reporting year illustrate the breadth of this contribution – from boot's ocean tribute award for marine conservation and the SAVE FOOD Design & Sustainability Awards to the special shows on the circular economy at K 2025.

The second voluntary sustainability report serves both as a status report and a starting point. Messe Düsseldorf will continue to systematically assess its environmental impacts and further develop measures for the more conscious use of resources and the integration of sustainability into its own operations and event formats.

"We are proud of the progress we have achieved together and will build on it. Going forward, we will continue to reduce our resource consumption, make sustainable issues and solutions at our trade fairs even more visible, and use our international reach to advance the transformation together with our clients and partners. In this way, we are taking responsibility for a future-proof trade fair industry," explains Andrea Eppert, Director Corporate Social Responsibility at Messe Düsseldorf.

Sustainability Report 2025 for download

<Link>

The Messe Düsseldorf Group

Messe Düsseldorf is among the most successful trade show organizers worldwide. It hosts around 40 trade shows, including 20 leading international ones, at its 613,000-square-meter exhibition center in Düsseldorf, Germany. Across 18 halls, international market leaders and top decision-makers of various sectors get together every year in order to present and discover innovations, to exchange ideas and to network. Messe Düsseldorf's sectors of expertise include: "Machinery, Plants and Equipment," including metallurgy and foundry technology (inter alia drupa, K, interpack, glasstec, wire & Tube); "Retail, Trades and Services" (EuroShop, EuroCIS, ProWein); "Health and Medical Technology" (MEDICA,

COMPAMED, REHACARE, A+A); “Lifestyle and Beauty” (BEAUTY, hair Düsseldorf, The Art of Beauty & Health); “Leisure” (boot, CARAVAN SALON); and “Mobility” (XPONENTIAL Europe, Flotte!). Completing this lineup are numerous conventions, corporate events, conferences and meetings by subsidiary Düsseldorf Congress. Abroad, Messe Düsseldorf organizes more than 80 events. The corporate group’s global network encompasses 78 foreign representatives for 142 countries – including seven international subsidiaries.

Media Contact:

Messe Düsseldorf
Dr. Andrea Gränzdörffer
Head of Corporate Communications/Press Spokesperson
Tel.: +49 (0) 211/4560-555
E-mail: GraenzdoerfferA@messe-duesseldorf.de