

BERLIN LEADS THE WAY TO A GREEN FUTURE

GREENTECH FESTIVAL's second edition will take place on **16-18 September 2020** with visitors gathering to celebrate future-forward technologies and initiatives that will help our planet. With the motto **#celebratechange** and a growing community of participants and supporters, the festival was an enormous success in its debut year:

May 23–25, 2019 – the weekend of the European elections, and Berlin was a shining green light. The former Berlin Tempelhof Airport was transformed into a venue for a sustainable future, which visitors could experience up close during **the three-day festival**. With a diverse program and the Formula E Berlin E-Prix, the GREENTECH FESTIVAL attracted a huge turnout of visitors. With the slogan 'celebrate change', the festival celebrated **green technologies**, a **sustainable lifestyle** and honored world-leading innovators of sustainability.

On Friday 23rd, the festival was officially opened by **H.K.H. Crown Prince Haakon of Norway** and the **Federal Transport Minister, Andreas Scheuer**. They were invited by the former Formula 1 world champion **Nico Rosberg**, who, together with the entrepreneurs **Marco Voigt** and **Sven Krüger**, founded the event. "Green technologies are our future," said Rosberg, "With the GREENTECH FESTIVAL, we are now making this future tangible and aim to further inspire people around the world to keep developing sustainable innovations." The first event of its kind, the festival boasted an impressive variety of events and activities.

The first GREEN LEADERS CONFERENCE was held on May 23rd. More than 1,000 participants engaged in a series of **keynote speeches, workshops and panel discussions** to address the **most pressing issues of our time**. Over 60 leading figures and experts from all over the world provided food for thought and made suggestions for solutions.

Among **the top speakers and panelists** were:

- Prof. Johan Rockström – internationally renowned climate researcher
- H.K.H. Crown Prince Haakon of Norway
- Asher Jay – National Geographic Explorer
- Fridays for Future student representatives
- Violeta Bulc – EU Transport Commissioner

"Tomorrow's mobility will depend on the choices we make today. That's why events like the GREENTECH FESTIVAL are so important as we need to work together for an efficient, emission free, safe and inclusive mobility system for the future," said Bulc following the two-day conference.

Another major element of the three-day festival was the GREENTECH EXHIBITION on May 24th and 25th, where **80 international exhibitors** presented the newest products and prototypes that combine technological progress and sustainability.

Guests got to experience exhibitors including:

- Volocopter
- Ehang
- Deutsche Bahn
- Google
- Harley Davidson
- Automobili Pininfarina Battista

The festival's founding partners, Deutsche Bahn and Allianz, provided hands-on experiences to visitors with the DB Ideas Train and Allianz Explorer Camp. The patron of the festival, German Federal Minister of Transport, Andreas Scheuer, is especially aware of the importance of the **key topic of mobility**: "We have a clear goal. Together we want to shape the mobility of the future. From car sharing to air taxis and E-scooters, the GREENTECH FESTIVAL is making it possible to experience the world of tomorrow. As the patron, I'm particularly excited that we're making these ideas available to the public and discussing what's coming and how we're going to deal with it together."

The biggest highlight of the GREENTECH FESTIVAL was the presentation of the GREEN AWARDS to the greenest visionaries of the year. On May 24th, the green carpet was rolled out for the 12th year in a row, and over 1,000 distinguished guests gathered at Tempelhof Airport to celebrate this year's award winners with a spectacular stage show.

Award winners 2019:

- **Ann Makosinski** – inventor of the Hollow Flashlight
- **Cyrill Gutsch** – founder of Parley for the Oceans
- **Dr. Shimrit Perkol-Finkel** – founder of ECOConcrete
- **Ferguson Marine** – development of the HySeas III, a ferry that runs solely on renewable sources
- **Paul Polman** – former CEO of Unilever and implementer of their Sustainable Living Strategy
- **Plastic Bank** – reducing plastic waste by turning plastic into currency
- **Skipping Rocks Lab (now NotPla)** – created a biodegradable packaging for liquids
- **Yara International & Kongsberg** - the world's first autonomous, zero-emission container ship

Singer NENA surprised everyone with a medley of her most famous hits and captivated the audience. "We're here to celebrate future technologies and show people how exciting a sustainable lifestyle can be," said co-founder Marco Voigt, "We're overwhelmed by the positive response and look forward to establishing the GREENTECH FESTIVAL further as a global hub for green and sustainable technologies in the coming years."

The climate-neutral GREEN VIBES concert on the first evening of the festival was a real highlight. True to the slogan 'celebrate change,' the British indie-pop band Bastille brought the party spirit to the stage with music from their new album *Doom Days* - the 2,000 lucky fans attending had won their tickets through Telekom Street Gigs.

ABOUT GREENTECH FESTIVAL

With the motto #celebratechange, GREENTECH FESTIVAL brings people from all over the world together to be inspired by green, future-forward technologies that facilitate a sustainable lifestyle. The festival premiered in 2019 and will celebrate its second edition this year. From June 19–21, Berlin Tempelhof will



become a melting pot for the technologies, ideas and people who are leading the way towards a greener future. As the first festival of its kind, it combines the largest exhibition of green technology to date, a conference featuring prominent forward-thinkers and the ceremony for the GREEN AWARDS.

Find more information here:

<http://www.greentechfestival.com/en/home>

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Press Contact:

Irmina Kaniewski

Mobile: +49 176 433 244 61 | Phone: +49 30 240 87 82 – 10

press@greentechfestival.com