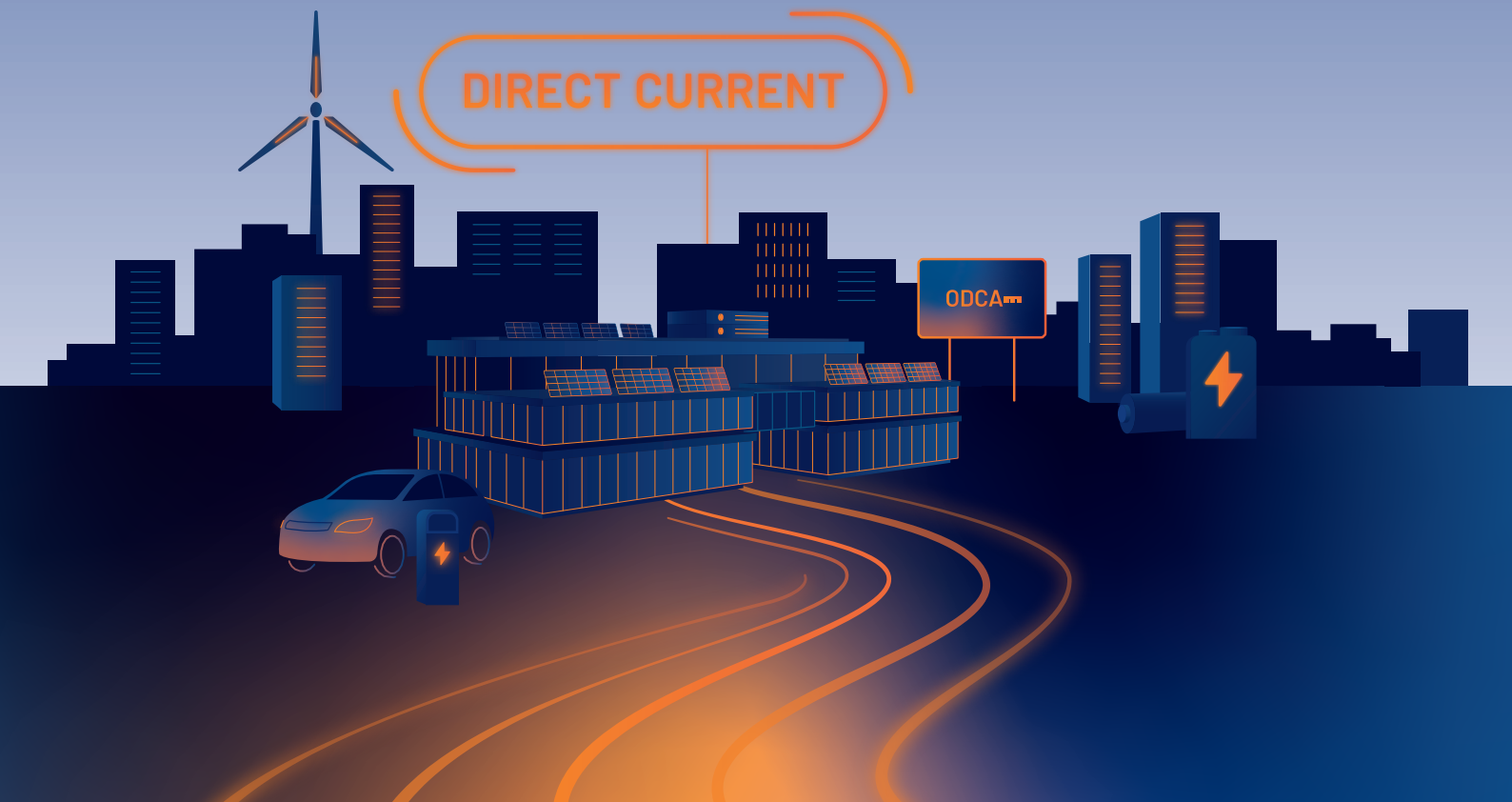
ODCA
direct current by zvei

ODCA Membership Guide

Electrification of the energy system – become our next Member

WE CAN DO BETTER – WITH DC!



About ODCA

Open Direct Current Alliance

The Open Direct Current Alliance (ODCA) aims to foster the development and implementation of direct current (DC) power systems in various sectors. ODCA brings together a diverse range of stakeholders including organizations from component suppliers, lighting, planning, engineering as well as machine building and operating sectors, along with academic institutions, government bodies, standardization organizations, and end users. The alliance's primary goal is to promote the widespread adoption and integration of DC to improve energy efficiency, reliability, profitability, and sustainability.

The overarching Objective of ODCA

is to contribute to a sustainable world by establishing an international DC ecosystem. We strive to ensure comprehensive understanding and transfer of DC knowledge to facilitate the success of DC technology in various sectors.

We

1. **Promote DC Grids:** Advocate for the benefits and potentials of DC in various applications.
2. **Develop Standards and Best Practices:** Create and disseminate standards and best practices for implementing DC grids.
3. **Facilitate Collaboration:** Foster collaboration among industry players to accelerate the development and adoption of DC technologies.
4. **Provide Education and Training:** Offer educational resources and training programs to support the understanding and deployment of DC grids.

Three strategic goals of ODCA are:

1. **Evaluate**: Assess key capabilities of DC applications through proof-of-concept projects in real-world implementations.
2. **Build a Global Network:** Develop a scalable, global ecosystem for DC installations by engaging with industry leaders and certification bodies.
3. **Offer Market Insights:** Provide accurate market forecasts and assessments to inform strategic planning and investment decisions.

Global Partners

ODCA collaborates with international organizations to extend its reach and influence. This global network includes partnerships with DC-focused entities in various regions, ensuring a broad impact and fostering international cooperation. This global partner network consists of international companies and organizations, currently from Austria, China, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Netherlands, Japan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, and United States of America.

The Structure of ODCA

Board

The ODCA Board comprises high-level representatives from member organizations. The Board meets regularly to discuss strategic direction, and to provide guidance to the alliance's organizational bodies.

Plenary Sessions

ODCA Plenary Sessions are held semi-annually, bringing together representatives from member companies to share results, discuss ongoing work and projects, as well as new items.

General Assembly

The General Assembly convenes annually to elect the Chair, Vice-Chair, Board members, and Working Group Chairs. It is the official voice of ODCA members and approves the annual budget and other key decisions.

The working groups

Experts of our members collaborate in 6 working groups (see graphic and next page).

ODCA office

We have a central office with currently three full-time and two part-time experts.

The relationship between ODCA and ZVEI

Legally, ZVEI (Electro and Digital Industry Association in Germany) is the hosting organization of ODCA. It provides the infrastructure for global cooperation and supports pre-competitive sharing and collaboration in compliance with European Union laws.

ODCA Working Groups

The Working Groups consist of individuals from the members. Every Working Group has a Chair and a Vice-Chair. The groups collaborate on work items, which are selected by the Working Group itself, the plenary, and the board. An active contribution of the members in the working groups is appreciated.

Working Group 1: Open Technology

This group is dedicated to cross-sectoral responses on technical direct current (DC) topics, to pave the way for a manufacturer-independent DC grid by exploring technology, identifying gaps, and finding innovative solutions.

Working Group 2: Research

This group serves as the central hub for connecting the ODCA with the research community by exploring, monitoring, and guiding DC research topics and filling-in the gaps in technology knowledge and driving innovation.

Working Group 3: Use Cases

This group plays a pivotal role in analyzing and supporting potential use cases for Direct Current by demystifying DC technology and dispelling fears that potential users may have. DC technology is not just a dream—it's a reality that offers numerous advantages across various sectors.

Working Group 4: Transfer

This group accelerates the market adoption of DC by converting research and technical outputs into targeted education and practical tools, coordinating across working groups to deliver curricula, tutorials and training formats for planners, integrators, installers, and end users.

Working Group 5: Communication

This group is the central conduit for both internal and external communication and connects the dots within the ODCA with initiating suitable promotional measures and material.

Working Group 6: Partner Management

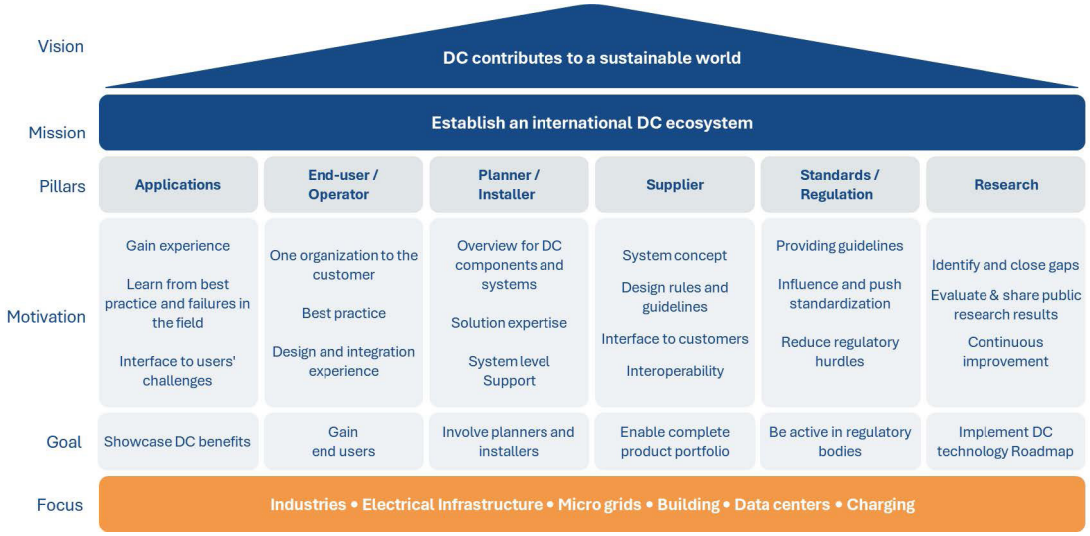
This group focuses on strategic collaboration with partners and effective partnership management by interacting with other initiatives and organizations and establishing liaison activities.

ODCA Membership Benefits

ODCA is open to all organizations actively supporting its objectives.

Companies from various sectors are welcome to join our alliance to help shape the future DC ecosystem while preparing themselves in good time for the disruptive changes accompanying DC.

1. **End-users, planners, and installers** are welcome to be early adopters and benefit of our large network and solution providers.
2. **Manufacturers, machine builders, and research institutions** benefit from learning and influencing upcoming requirements for DC applications.



Become a member and benefit in various ways

Prepare for Future Changes

Stay ahead of disruptive technological changes and ensure your requirements are considered in future standards.

Shape the market

Contribute to the development of a new market framework for DC technology at an early stage.

Gain insights

Benefit first-hand from latest developments to create innovative DC use cases.

Advance Knowledge

Enhance technological and industrial expertise through collaboration with global experts.

Connect Globally

Engage with international DC networks and contribute to global standards and initiatives.

ODCA Membership Fees

The annual fees are based on each member's global revenues, i.e. of their entire organization or corporation, not of individual divisions or subsidiaries. New members who join after June 30th receive a discount of 50 %. Fees are reduced by 50 % for end users of DC technology who are not manufacturers of DC equipment. For more details, please consult the table below as well as the Subscription Scheme in Annex A4 of the membership package.

Category	Global Turnover	Annual fee
1	up to 50 million €	2 500 €
2	50-250 million €	5 000 €
3	250-500 million €	15 000 €
4	500-1000 million €	25 000 €
5	more than 1000 million €	35 000 €
6	Universities / Institutes	2 000 €

How to become a member

Please request our membership package by contacting **odca@zvei.org** which has two parts:

1. **Membership Application (please complete and return):** Application form, Data sheet, Permission to use the logo.
2. **General Information (for your information):** Presentation on ODCA, Internal rules of procedure, Membership fees, Statutes, Internal guidelines.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

ODCA
Amelia-Mary-Earhart-Str. 12
60549 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

+49 69 6302-324
odca@zvei.org

ODCA Members

As of February 2026

ODCA
direct current by zvei

ODCA Membership Guide
Electrification of the energy system – become our next Member

Contact
ZVEI e.V.
ODCA
Amelia-Mary-Earhart-Str. 12
60549 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
+49 69 6302-324
odca@zvei.org

Published by
ZVEI e. V. – Electro and Digital Industry Association (www.zvei.org);
Open Direct Current Alliance, a Working Party of ZVEI e.V.

Last updated in February 2026

Scan for more information or visit
www.openDCalliance.org

© ZVEI
The work, including all of its parts, is protected by copyright. Any use outside the strict limits of copyright law without the consent of the publisher is prohibited. This applies in particular to reproduction, translation, microfilming, storage, and processing in electronic systems. Although ZVEI has taken the greatest possible care in preparing this document, it accepts no liability for the content.