

SF6-Free MV Switchgear Using Pure Air Nominated for Top Awards

- Schneider Electric's new SF6-free medium voltage switchgear is among three new products and solutions nominated for the prestigious HERMES Award
- The company's green and digital switching technology is also shortlisted for the Industrial Energy Efficiency Award
- The innovative new switching technology avoids the use of the SF6 greenhouse gas, instead using a revolutionary combination of pure air and vacuum interruption

Rueil-Malmaison (France), June 26, 2020 – Schneider Electric's innovative new SF6-free switchgear technology using pure air has been nominated for the world's most important industrial prize, the [HERMES Award](#). The new medium voltage switchgear, which uses pure air instead of the industry-standard SF6 greenhouse gas, is among the three contenders for this year's coveted recognition. Additionally, the new switchgear technology is among 15 finalists for the [Industrial Energy Efficiency Award](#).



The HERMES Award, a top international technology prize, honors outstanding products and innovative solutions. The Industrial Energy Efficiency Award (IEEA) recognizes exceptional energy efficiency made possible by manufacturers and utilities. Both are conferred annually by Deutsche Messe during the world's largest industrial fair, Hannover Messe.

"The industrial and energy worlds are clearly focused on energy decarbonization and efficiency, and I'm honored to see Schneider Electric in the spotlight. We know that the future is green and digital, and it's a pleasure to receive this confirmation that we are leading the way," said Frederic Godemel, Executive Vice - President Power Systems at Schneider Electric.

The switchgear nominated for the awards uses the company's new [shunt vacuum interruption \(SVI\) technology](#) combined with pure air insulation, which enables the avoidance of SF₆ while maintaining the advantages of the compact physical footprint, cost-effectiveness, and trusted operating mode of traditional SF₆-based equipment. Schneider Electric has reported successful pilot projects of the new SF₆-free medium voltage range at numerous electric utilities, including [E.ON](#) in Sweden, [EEC Engie](#) in New Caledonia, and [GreenAlp](#) in France, with more being energized on a regular basis, including in private power networks for commercial and industrial applications.

The winner of the HERMES Award and the IEEA will be announced on July 14th during the [HANNOVER MESSE Digital Days](#), in lieu of an announcement at the cancelled Hannover Messe event.

About Schneider Electric

At Schneider, we believe **access to energy and digital** is a basic human right. We empower all to **make the most of their energy and resources**, ensuring **Life Is On** everywhere, for everyone, at every moment.

We provide energy and automation digital solutions for efficiency and sustainability. We combine world-leading energy technologies, real-time automation, software and services into integrated solutions for Homes, Buildings, Data Centers, Infrastructure and Industries.

We are committed to unleash the infinite possibilities of an open, global, innovative community that is passionate about our **Meaningful Purpose, Inclusive and Empowered** values.

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