

German Transportation Delegation in New York: Smart Transportation Forum highlights solutions for a more innovative transportation sector

Smart transport solutions have taken on an integral role for many nations in their quest to develop sustainable, manageable transportation infrastructures. And there is no denying that energy efficiency applications must be a key component of this mix.

With that in mind, a delegation of five German companies traveled to New York City from March 18 to March 22, 2019 for a one-week program focused on energy efficiency in the transportation sector. The trip was organized by the GACC NY in conjunction with *energiewaechter* GmbH and sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

An intensive exchange of ideas and experiences, as well as valuable networking opportunities underscored the delegation visit, which kicked off with a briefing at the GACC NY office. On March 19, 2019, more than 90 public and private sector experts - as well as other interested stakeholders from the transportation sector - joined the German visitors at the German House in NYC for the ***German American Smart Transportation Forum***.

The event demonstrated the considerable interest in New York to implement transportation solutions that will keep up with the state's changing transportation landscape. Jens Janik, Deputy Consul General, German Consulate General New York, and Susanne Gellert, Vice President GACC NY, welcomed the guests. Max Gruenig of *energiewaechter GmbH / Ecologic Institute* US spoke on *Energy Transition Made in Germany* and moderated the conference.

The strides New York State is making on mobility innovation were highlighted in a presentation by Adam Ruder, Program Manager for Clean Transportation at New York State's Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The specific hurdles and opportunities NYC faces in transportation were addressed by Michael Replogle, Deputy Commissioner for Policy, New York City Department of Transportation.

In addition to the US speakers, representatives of the visiting German delegation were given the opportunity to present their companies' unique approaches to smart transportation challenges.

Next on the agenda was a spirited *The Grid* panel discussion on the NYC Ecosystem. The panel was introduced by Melissa Guinan of the New York City Economic Development Corporation, and featured Miriam Roure, Program Director at URBAN-X, Natalia Quintero, Program Director at the MTA Transit Tech Lab, Dr. Yury Dvorkin, Assistant Professor at New York University and Sander Dolder, Vice President at New York City Economic Development Corporation. The discussion was moderated by Simon Sylvester-Chaudhuri, Managing Director of CIV:LAB. The GACC NY recently joined The Grid, which is a member-based partnership network for New York's

urban tech community. The goal of the network is to link organizations, academia and local tech leaders, so they can collaborate by sharing knowledge and resources.

In the days after the forum, the companies of the German delegation engaged in valuable networking opportunities and one-on-one meetings with relevant corporate and civic groups in the New York City Metro region, organized by the GACC NY. These encounters allowed the German group to build worthwhile relationships in their efforts to enter the US market and expand their business activities

The delegation's experience was so well received by its participants that similar projects to introduce and establish German technologies in the US market are being planned within the context of export energy initiative solutions.

To view presentations from the German delegation and all expert speakers from Germany and the US, please visit our event website:

<https://mychamber.gaccny.com/events/details/german-american-smart-transportation-forum-410>

Photos from the March 19, 2019 event at the German Consulate in New York can be found in our [Image Gallery](#).

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