

3DSE Wins Best of Consulting Mittelstand Award for the Second Consecutive Year

The 3DSE Management Consultants GmbH (3DSE) has once again been recognized as one of Germany's top consulting firms in 2024. 3DSE was awarded the Best of Consulting Mittelstand Award by WirtschaftsWoche – securing 1st place in the Sustainability category for its evaluation of the economic viability and risks of a sustainable hydrogen infrastructure with Stadtwerke Stuttgart,. Additionally, 3DSE earned 2nd place in the Operations category, further highlighting the company's excellence in developing efficient and forward-looking operational processes.



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Munich, November 25, 2024 – The Best of Consulting Mittelstand Award by WirtschaftsWoche honors outstanding consulting projects in the mid-sized business sector. In the Sustainability category, 3DSE impressed with a comprehensive approach to the economic evaluation and risk modeling of an innovative energy infrastructure project, securing 1st place for the second consecutive year.

Sustainable Energy Infrastructure as a Key to the Energy Transition

In the underlying project, Stadtwerke Stuttgart (SWS) is developing, designing, and building a future-oriented "hydrogen system." The aim of the project was to create infrastructure that enables the production and distribution of green hydrogen while also providing significant impulses for the energy transition. Both ecological and economic perspectives were integrated to ensure long-term viability. The project not only addressed the urgent challenges of the energy transition but also supported regional development and the establishment of sustainable technologies.

Consulting with a Systematic Approach: 3DSE as a Partner for Innovation

A key factor in the successful realization of such a project is a thorough business evaluation and analysis of the influencing factors and risks that specifically address uncertainties in the energy market. 3DSE's approach was based on a systematic risk assessment using a specifically developed reference model. This model allowed for the identification, modeling, and assessment of key risk factors that are critical to the long-term sustainability of the project. A detailed economic analysis complemented the risk assessment and tested the robustness of the

business case. The business case was iteratively refined and improved. The goal was to provide a solid decision-making foundation for stakeholders, offering planning security while also highlighting additional market potential. "We not only addressed the risks but also identified concrete improvements and action options to respond to the changing market and regulatory conditions," explained Dr. Stefan Wenzel, founder and CEO of 3DSE, who received the award last night in Düsseldorf alongside Dr. Armin Schulz.

A Contribution to Sustainable Transformation

The recognition of the project clearly demonstrates that sustainability and economic success can go hand in hand. It is an acknowledgment of the strategic and innovative vision of Stadtwerke Stuttgart and the targeted, adaptable consulting approach of 3DSE. "This award makes it clear that sustainable transformation is not contradictory to economic success," Dr. Wenzel added.

The award-winning hydrogen project serves as a role model for the energy sector and underscores how collaboration and innovative approaches can successfully shape the energy transition. With the support of 3DSE, Stadtwerke Stuttgart is making a significant contribution to sustainable transformation, setting important impulses for the future.

Double Recognition as Motivation for the Future

In addition to the 1st place in the Sustainability category, another project by 3DSE was also awarded. The successful project work on Operational Excellence with an international premium motorcycle manufacturer received 2nd place in the Operations category from the expert jury. This double recognition underscores 3DSE's versatility and innovative strength, confirming the company's ability to successfully address challenges in diverse fields like sustainability and operations.

About 3DSE

3DSE Management Consultants GmbH collaborates with the world's leading technology brands to enhance their R&D competitiveness. It is the leading independent management consultancy for innovation and R&D in Central Europe.

With offices in Munich, Vienna, and Chicago, the company has successfully completed over 800 consulting projects for more than 80 international clients since its founding in 2001. Key focus areas include: agile systems engineering, R&D performance enhancement, modular product architecture, and disruptive innovations. Core industries include



automotive, aerospace, defense, industrial, transportation, electronics, health tech, and energy.

Additionally, 3DSE promotes cross-industry exchange through various event formats. In addition to expert forums in Munich, Hamburg, and Vienna, the company has hosted the R&D Management Conference (Germany's leading R&D conference) since 2016. In February 2024, the inaugural Women in R&D event also took place, which highlighted key technological issues from the perspective of women.

On the online platform F&E Insights, 3DSE also publishes in-depth digital content on current trends and topics in R&D.
www.3DSE.com