

Name: Mag. Stefan Zach

Education: Degrees in History and Public Communication

Job Title @ EVN: Head of Corporate Communication

Languages: German, English and French

Personal Motto: "Start your day with positive energy"

Number of Employees @ EVN: 7007

- What drives you personally and **EVN** as an energy company?

The efficient use of energy!

- How do you see the development of renewable energies in Central and Eastern Europe?

The trend is clear. Some regions do a great Job, e.g. Lower Austria.



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- Where do you see the most potential?

This is not a question of "either/or. We need all kinds of renewable energies (Photovoltaics, Wind, Water,...), energy efficiency, sector coupling, etc.

- What are you currently working on?

The steadily development of renewable energies.

- What challenges do you face?

One main topic is the development of renewable energies without forgetting the security of supply.

- As public acceptance within the population is always a big issue and factor, how do you see the developments in

Central and Eastern Europe concerning the realization of renewable energy projects?

There are hardly no projects without protesting residents, citizens' initiatives or NGOs. That affects our projects and the duration of proceedings enormously.

- In your experience, are there any peculiarities to pay special attention to when doing energy business in Central and Eastern European countries?

The energy business is in a continuous change. To act in an unstable environment is a challenge you have to cope with.



Fotocredits: EVN / Matejschek

- Which impacts from the current Covid19-Crisis do you expect for your activities or already suffer from?

Until now, we could show that **EVN** is a crisis-proofed partner.

Nevertheless, the Covid19-Crisis brought us a boost in digitalization, especially concerning customer interface and collaboration.

- What do you want everybody to know about EVN?

That **EVN** is the owner of the safest Nuclear Power Plant in the world: the NPP Zwentendorf.

- Do you have an anecdote or a lesson learnt from doing energy projects you want to share with the audience?

Do not have a referendum after you have built a Nuclear Power Plant.

- If we do the interview again in five years, where does EVN stand then? What is your vision for the future?

EVN will be more digital, more efficient and more sustainable.

- How does a day at the office usually look like for you?

newspapers, mobile phone, coffee

- Can you describe to our readers a little bit what you do in your free time to relieve the stress of everyday working life?

Running, running, running.

Thank you very much for the interview and your time!

If you would like to find out more about the company and its businesses please visit [EVN Group](#)

Sun power instead of nuclear power: You want to see what a great attraction **EVN** has turned the former Zwentendorf nuclear power plant into. Then you can't afford to miss out on a visit. More information is available [here...](#)

If you like, what we are doing and want to stay informed about renewable energies development in CEE countries please look at:

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Energy in Central & Eastern Europe

Corporate Profil EVN:

Based on state-of-the-art infrastructure, **EVN** provides its home market with electricity, natural gas, heat, drinking water and wastewater treatment, waste incineration and related services from a single supplier. Furthermore, the company operates cable TV and telecommunications networks and offers various energy services for private and business customers as well as municipalities as part of its portfolio.

The energy business abroad includes retailing electricity in Germany, Bulgaria and Macedonia, and natural gas in Croatia. Additionally energy business includes electricity production in Macedonia, Bulgaria, Albania and Germany. Further business activities **EVN** pursues are the production and retail of heat in Bulgaria, the procurement of electricity, natural gas and other primary energy sources, and the trade of electricity and gas on wholesale markets.

Based on the acquisition of a German environmental services group in 2003, **EVN** significantly expanded its product portfolio and geographical outreach. It managed to build up and integrate a second strategic pillar of its business operations, the Environmental Services segment. **EVN** boasts extensive expertise in the planning and construction of drinking water supply, wastewater treatment, desalination, thermal waste and sludge utilisation plants with the experience of 100 environmental projects carried out in its markets.

Nearly 4.8m customers placed their trust in the safe and reliable energy and environmental products and services offered by **EVN** during the 2019/20 financial year. In addition to the customers supplied directly by **EVN**, the plants built by **EVN**'s environmental services business provide drinking water supplies, wastewater disposal and thermal waste utilisation for customers in various European countries.

In total, **EVN** is currently active in 14 countries. The share of Group revenue generated outside Austria amounted to 51.4% during the 2019/20 financial year (previous year: 44.4%).

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