1. What do you see as the biggest smart grid industry challenge and how does GÖRLITZ contribute to the solutions?

GÖRLITZ has provided “smart” solutions to our customers for about four decades. However, during the last decade, change in the industry has accelerated. Industry players are looking for new technologies to assure reliable operation of their networks and/or enable new business models: the world of energy distribution and generation is becoming more digital, more decentralized, intermittent and with a need to de-carbonize.

In order to enable new business models and use smart systems to run existing infrastructure efficiently, data must be shared across utilities and IT systems. Many of our customers link the GÖRLITZ systems to SCADA systems in a bi-directional way. This enables the smart meter infrastructure to become their eye into the low voltage grid and in turn the control system uses the Meter Data Management System and the smart meters to switch distributed loads.

2. Could you provide some background information on the current utility projects GÖRLITZ is involved in and what is GÖRLITZ’ contribution is to the projects?

The Regulatory situation in some European countries allows DSO’s to actively control distributed loads and generation assets. In these countries, DSO’s have invested in OSGP based solutions to use the smart meter infrastructure to control these decentralized assets.

OSGP devices respond in near-real time and enable solutions for a variety of purposes: increase efficiency, lower costs, offer value-added services to customers and develop new business models. Delivering measurement data from the low voltage grid into the DMS system allows optimizing the capacity of the existing network and getting more information of the status of the network, e.g. monitor LV/MV transformer substations, and various other benefits. Implementing a Demand Response Management system facilitates new business models, while at the same time replacing the aging ripple control system. In addition, end-customers are more closely informed through web-portals and can change energy consumption behavior based on intelligent information.
GÖRLITZ, together with our sister company IDS and partners, implements the complete project; or we can provide consulting and together with our customers we expand functionalities as future use cases become feasible.

3. What is your view related to the Open Smart Grid Protocol (OSGP) to promote and advance the capabilities of innovative solutions for utilities?

Industry standards such as OSGP help assure that investments in long-term assets and infrastructure are future proof. Utilities expect that installed hardware devices have a long life and they also expect devices from different vendors to be interoperable. The Open Smart Grid Protocol (OSGP) provides such a foundation that ensures interoperability for future proof and state-of-the-art smart grid applications.

4. What will GÖRLITZ be showcasing at the EUW2018 - OSGP Alliance Pavilion and how does this contribute to the Energy transition?

We at GÖRLITZ have responded to our customers' wishes, and over the past few years, we have developed new and exciting uses cases for our solutions and products. In Germany, we are currently launching a Cloud based solution for micro-grids, and we are eager to find out at EUW if customers from other countries are interested in such services as well.

5. Who should be visiting the stand and why?

We welcome visitors from all different segments of the energy industry, be it long-term customers or new entrants in the industry. There is so much innovation and good ideas within the industry and we enjoy exchanging thoughts with technical minded as well as business-oriented people.