

### 3rd Meggen Raw Materials Days

#### International Seminar and Conference of the BDG in Galileo-Park / Lennestadt-Meggen

The [BDG](#) (Professional Association of the German Geoscientists) invited its members as well as domestic and foreign guests to the third Meggen Raw Materials Days at the Galileo Park in Lennestadt-Meggen from September 13-15, 2017. During the three days a total of about 150 geologists from Germany, England, Bulgaria, Switzerland and the United States followed the invitation. Most of the participants were EuroGeologists, i. e. geologists from all over Europe who are certified by the [European Federation of Geologists \(EFG\)](#), and who are authorised to write reports and expertises to authorities, banks and stock exchanges worldwide and to sign them responsibly. On the first day, a seminar supported by [EFG's training endorsement programme](#) was offered for these participants in order to ensure the prescribed continuous professional development program.



On the following days of the conference, following the greetings of the mayor of the city of Lennestadt, Stefan Hundt, and the district government of Arnsberg, represented by Friedrich Wagner, head of Department 6 Mining and Energy in North Rhine-Westphalia (former Upper Mining Authority), the speakers presented topics on the classification of raw materials and certification of geologists as "Competent Persons", showing the classification scheme of the UN (UNFC) as well as the European Standard (PERC) and examples from smaller mining companies in the USA. The second focus concentrated on exploration of raw materials such as salt, lignite and lithium in Saxony, Ethiopia, Australia and in the German lignite district of Aachen/Cologne.

The second day of the conference was devoted to post-mining activities. After an introductory lecture by the responsible Mining Authority on this topic, which was mainly concerned with the termination of coal mining in the Ruhr area and the resulting consequences, but also with the remnants of metal ore mining. Further lectures on the rehabilitation of ore mines, nature conservation on mining sites, mine water treatment, risk management in abandoned mining, novel drilling techniques in the area of tailings piles and the problems in salt cavern construction followed. Regional focal points of the presentations were both in the USA and in Germany.



Based on the experiences of previous years, a discussion group of raw material geologists had once again emerged on the topics of the evaluation of raw material projects and the certification of geologists.

This year, the Galileo-Park in the Sauerland pyramids has again proved its worth as a conference venue in the immediate vicinity of the Sicilia shaft, the abandoned zinc-lead-pyrite-barite Sachtleben mine in Lennestadt-Meggen. The Meggen Raw Materials Days were decisively supported by the Lennestadt companies TRACTO-Technik GmbH and Sachtleben Bergbau Verwaltungs-GmbH, which ensured the organization, catering and the legendary barbecue party at the shaft.

Due to the great approval of the parties involved, the fourth Meggen raw material days at the same location have already been fixed for September 12-14, 2018. In addition, sponsors and organisers have given their approval for further events beyond 2018.