

## Siemens Caring Hands donates large digital bundle to THW Foundation to fight the pandemic

- **Siemens Caring Hands makes tablets available to all local THW sections through the THW Foundation**
- **Devices are also to be equipped with cloud-based apps based on Siemens' Mendix software**
- **Civil defense and disaster control teams are to use tablets and software to respond to emergencies in a faster and more targeted manner**
- **Project is part of the COVID-19 relief fund set up by Siemens and is a key element of THW Foundation's PROGRESSUS initiative**

Siemens Caring Hands e.V. is making a long-term contribution to fighting the pandemic and is supporting the task forces of the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) in driving digital transformation with the help of the THW Foundation. This will simplify THW's work as a system-relevant organization in times of crisis. In total, Siemens Caring Hands is donating 668 tablets to THW Foundation, which in turn is making it possible to use these devices at all 668 local THW sections. Siemens Caring Hands is not only bearing the hardware costs, but is also making Siemens experts available as advisors to help put the devices into operation – for example, by helping with data protection issues and by equipping the tablets with additional cloud-based apps. These apps are being programmed for this specific purpose by Mendix, a Business Unit of Siemens Digital Industries and a global leader in no-code/low-code applications. To develop the apps, a multi-phase process has been established that enables THW to plan the low-code applications on its own according to its specific needs and to then develop the apps with the aid of a hackathon that Siemens will be holding at the end of April.

In this way, it will be possible, for example, to digitalize assignment processing and respiratory protection monitoring to enable more targeted and more reliable planning of deployments in times of crisis, such as the pandemic.

Cedrik Neike, member of the Managing Board of Siemens AG and CEO of Siemens Digital Industries, said: “For decades now, THW has been providing indispensable support for disaster relief. So, I’m very happy that we can help this highly appreciated organization to also drive their own digital transformation – in particular, during the pandemic. With our low-code applications, we’re enabling THW – and, above all, people without in-depth IT knowledge – to put digitalization to work in an easy way. These capabilities will be highly beneficial when it comes to providing targeted, rapid assistance in any kind of natural or civil disaster in Germany or abroad.”

At the initiative of Siemens AG and with the support of Siemens Caring Hands, a COVID-19 relief fund was established in March 2020 to provide charitable support to relief organizations and to people affected by the crisis worldwide. Siemens AG matched the amount donated by its employees. These donations have been used, and are being used, to support specific charitable aid projects in more than 38 countries and corona hotspots. In connection with its cooperation with THW Foundation, Siemens Caring Hands is assuming the costs for purchasing and setting up the tablets as well as most of the licensing fees. In this way, Siemens Caring Hands is ensuring that the apps can be used for at least three years. In total, therefore, the charitable association is providing the foundation with €566,000 in aid. Further cooperation is already in planning in order to also make a future long-term contribution to disaster relief.

“Siemens Caring Hands wants to use the donations made by Siemens AG and its employees to help mitigate the pandemic’s consequences. In total, Siemens and its employees have mobilized about €15.5 million for this purpose. I’m very grateful that we can now also make a substantial contribution to THW, which is playing such an important role in fighting the crisis,” said Prof. Dr. Christian Kaeser, Chairman of Siemens Caring Hands e.V.

This project is an integral part of THW Foundation's PROGRESSUS initiative, which is designed to enable THW to use digital solutions to provide assistance in a more efficient, targeted and rapid manner.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has shown how important connectivity is for enabling the structures and processes of an emergency response system to work successfully. For this reason, we cordially thank Siemens Caring Hands for its generous donation to the THW Foundation, which is an important component of THW's digitalization process. This extensive bundle of digital capabilities will make it possible to drive further progress in the digital transformation of disaster relief services. Within the framework of this project, a participative innovation process will empower THW's volunteers to use digital capabilities to independently support options for response operations, accelerate operational processes and improve both logistics and the flow of information,” emphasized Stephan Mayer, Chairman of THW Foundation.

Gerd Friedsam, President of the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief, added: “Digitalization is transforming society and civil defense and thus also THW. New hazards require innovative approaches backed by a digital strategy. The work that THW Foundation is doing in cooperation with Siemens Caring Hands to foster these approaches represents another step on THW's path into the digital future.”

This press release is available at <https://sie.ag/3vWERu>

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**Siemens AG** (Berlin and Munich) is a global technology powerhouse that has stood for engineering excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for more than 170 years. Active around the world, the company focuses on intelligent infrastructure for buildings and distributed energy systems and on automation and digitalization in the process and manufacturing industries. Siemens brings together the digital and physical worlds to benefit customers and society. Through Mobility, a leading supplier of intelligent mobility solutions for rail and road transport, Siemens is helping to shape the world market for passenger and freight services. Via its majority stake in the publicly listed company Siemens Healthineers, Siemens is also a world-leading supplier of medical technology and digital health services. In addition, Siemens holds a minority stake in Siemens Energy, a global leader in the transmission and generation of electrical power that has been listed on the stock exchange since September 28, 2020.

In fiscal 2020, which ended on September 30, 2020, the Siemens Group generated revenue of €57.1 billion and net income of €4.2 billion. As of September 30, 2020, the company had around 293,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at [www.siemens.com](http://www.siemens.com).

**Siemens Digital Industries (DI)** is an innovation leader in automation and digitalization. Closely collaborating with partners and customers, DI drives the digital transformation in the process and discrete industries. With its Digital Enterprise portfolio, DI provides companies of all sizes with an end-to-end set of products, solutions and services to integrate and digitalize the entire value chain. Optimized for the specific needs of each industry, DI's unique portfolio supports customers to achieve greater productivity and flexibility. DI is constantly adding innovations to its portfolio to integrate cutting-edge future technologies. Siemens Digital Industries has its global headquarters in Nuremberg, Germany, and has around 75,000 employees internationally.

**Mendix**, a Siemens business and the global leader in enterprise low-code, is fundamentally reinventing the way applications are built in the digital enterprise. With the Mendix platform, enterprises can "Make with More," by broadening an enterprise's development capability to conquer the software development bottleneck; "Make it Smart," by making apps with rich native experiences that are intelligent, proactive, and contextual; and "Make at Scale," to modernize core systems and build large app portfolios to keep pace with business growth. The Mendix platform is built to promote intense collaboration between business and IT teams and dramatically accelerate application development cycles, while maintaining the highest standards of security, quality, and governance — in short, to help enterprises confidently leap into their digital futures. Mendix's "Go Make It" platform has been adopted by more than 4,000 leading companies around the world.

**Siemens Caring Hands e.V.** is a charitable association that was founded at the initiative of Siemens AG in 2001. The association is especially active in providing support in major emergencies and pursues charitable and non-profit purposes. These include backing assistance for disaster victims, supporting fire / disaster / civil protection and promoting development of the public health system. The charity was established because Siemens AG Management and employees wanted to provide direct, uncomplicated assistance to victims of the September 11 attacks. Siemens Caring Hands also provided assistance in response to the massive tsunami in Asia in 2004, the historic flood in Germany in 2013 and numerous other natural disasters.

**THW Foundation**, the foundation of the Technisches Hilfswerk (THW) – "Technical Help Worldwide" – was established in 2004 to aid Germany's Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW). The organization supports civil defense and disaster control with the framework of THW, as well as the THW youth organization and technical relief provided outside Germany on behalf of the German federal government. Generous backing through monetary donations enables the foundation to provide long-term support for civil defense and disaster relief efforts provided by THW and for the advancement of volunteer work.