



## **Clean-up after roll-out of G3-PLC smart meters**

Sharing experiences among DSO's

G3-PLC Alliance

February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

## Introduction

- The objective of this webinar is to share experiences from DSO's about clean-up process
- addressing the following topics:
  - Describe one or two typical examples requiring clean-up:
    - Situation, problem
    - How is the process? How do you find the noise source?
    - Which measurements do you do with what equipment?
    - How does the team look like and what training did they get?
  - Filters
    - What kind of filters do you use?
    - How many filters were needed?
    - How do you deal with the customers?
  - What are lessons learned?

## DSO's attending

DSO	Presenters
Enedis (France)	Thibaut Mollier, Monitoring Expert, <a href="mailto:thibaut.mollier@enedis.fr">thibaut.mollier@enedis.fr</a> Rémi Dubaele, PLC Expert <a href="mailto:remi.dubaele@enedis.fr">remi.dubaele@enedis.fr</a>
EVN (Austria)	Wolfgang Lehner <a href="mailto:wolfgang.lehner@netz-noe.at">wolfgang.lehner@netz-noe.at</a> Nicole Gugerel, Smart Meter Operation Center <a href="mailto:nicole.Gugerel@netz-noe.at">nicole.Gugerel@netz-noe.at</a>
ST (Latvia)	Vilis Volcenoks, Senior Engineer <a href="mailto:vilis.volcenoks@sadalestikls.lv">vilis.volcenoks@sadalestikls.lv</a>



**Eskom  
(South Africa)**

**Gibelec  
(Gibraltar)**

**Electricity of  
Cyprus**

**Electric Energy  
Distribution  
Operator Romania**

**STEG  
(Tunisia)**

**Energie  
Steiermark  
(Austria)**

**Israel Electric  
Corporation**

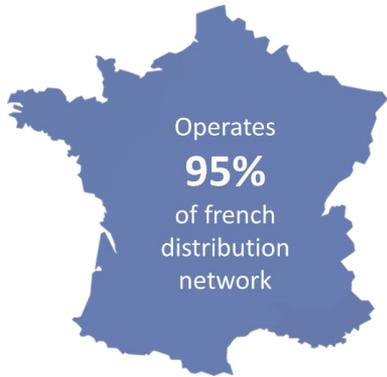
**G3-PLC  
Alliance**

# DSO experience with clean-up after G3-PLC roll-out

Enedis experience – Thibaut Mollier and Rémi Dubaele

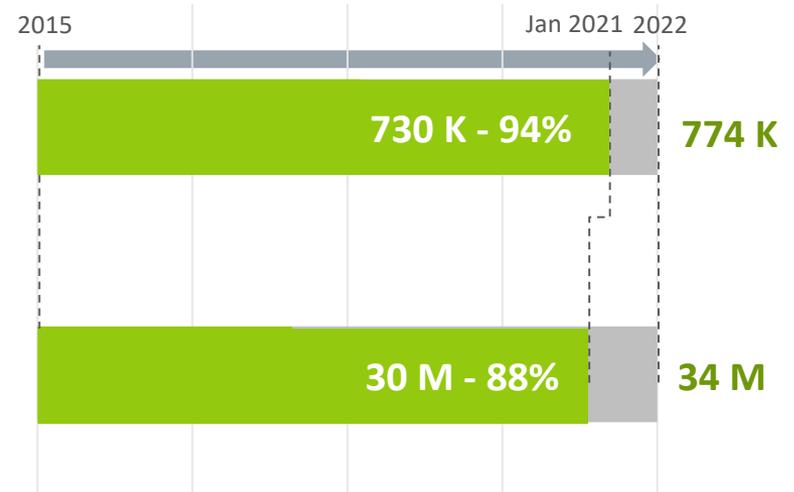
- Libre
- Interne
- Restreinte
- Confidentielle

# Enedis, the main french DSO, is responsible for rolling-out, operating and maintaining the smart-grid infrastructure and system

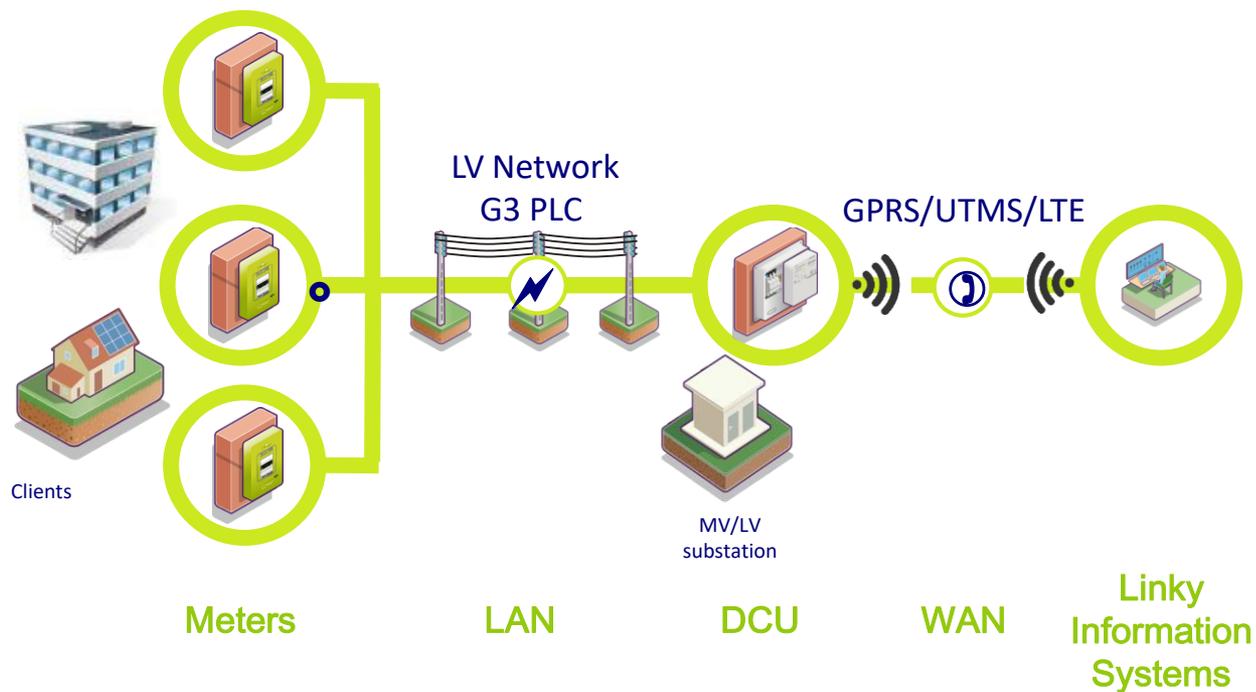


Distribution

## Mass roll-out



# A brief introduction to the Linky Advanced Metering Infrastructure

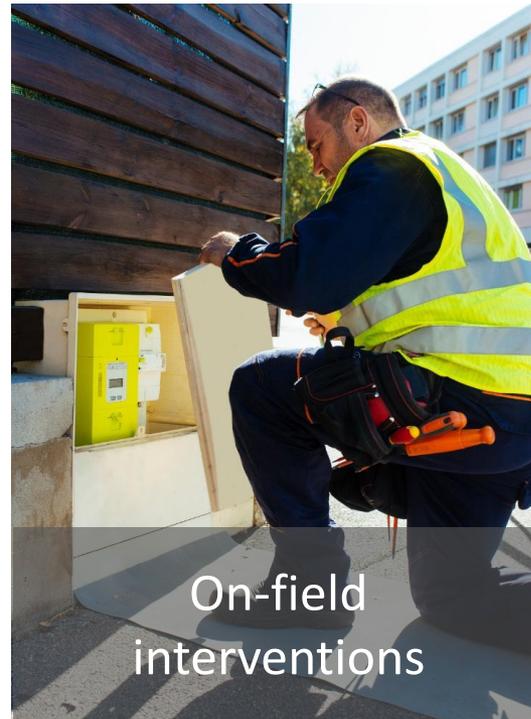
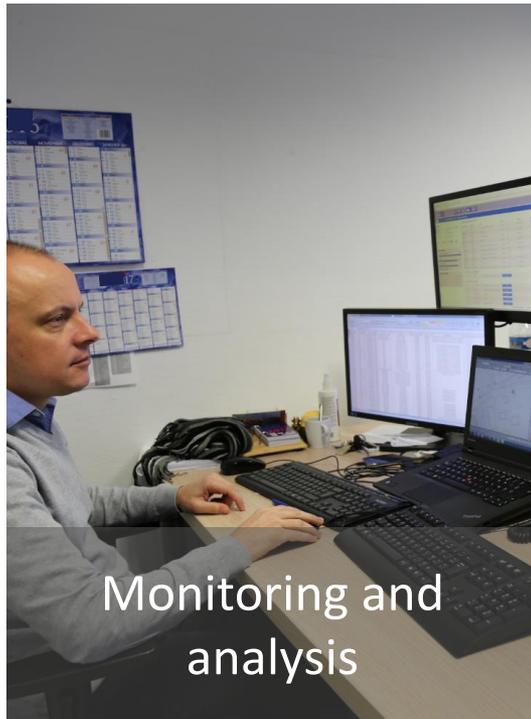


**>98%** DAILY  
COLLECTION RATE  
(11.59 PM)



**>3 billion**  
DATASETS  
COLLECTED /  
TRANSFERRED /  
STORED PER DAY

# Problem solving on PLC networks during and after roll-out



# Linky Sup : a dedicated tool to detect and treat incidents

The screenshot displays the Linky Sup software interface, which is used for monitoring and managing incidents. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Tableaux de bord (Dashboards):** Shows a 'Performance de collecte' (Collection Performance) chart with a value of 95.23% and a 'Succès des demandes SI' (IT Request Success) indicator.
- Dossiers d'analyse (Analysis Files):** A sidebar on the left lists analysis files, including 'Auto' (65%), 'Manuel' (Pris en charge), and 'Téléopérations'.
- Dossier d'analyse DA150131000029:** The main window displays the 'Historique des actions (2)' (Action History) for a specific analysis file. It includes a map of the area (La Loite, Les Grands Noyers) and a table of data points.
- Indicateurs (Indicators):** A section on the right shows 'Dysfonctionnements en cours (1)' (Ongoing Malfunctions) and 'Collecte primaire' (Primary Collection) metrics.
- Tableau de données (Data Table):** A table at the bottom lists 14 data points with columns for ID PDK, N° série C 0, Constructeur, PDK\_Moteur, PDK\_Cor, Statut C 0, Date de pose, Date de découverte, Date de dernière dét., Date de réco., and Date de dernière collect.

# A fleet of PLC-trained technicians



**~60 local technicians**  
not full-time / 38 700 employees

**Enedis workforce**  
not Telco specialists



**In-house**  
Training

**Theory and practice**  
experimental network



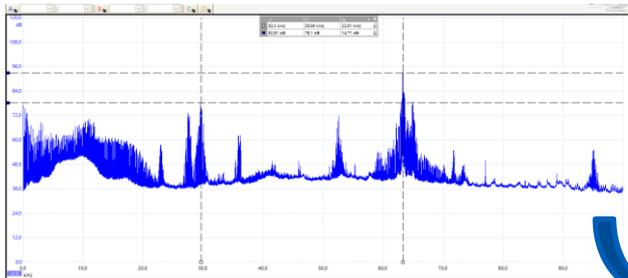
**3 days**  
training

Training started in  
**2016**

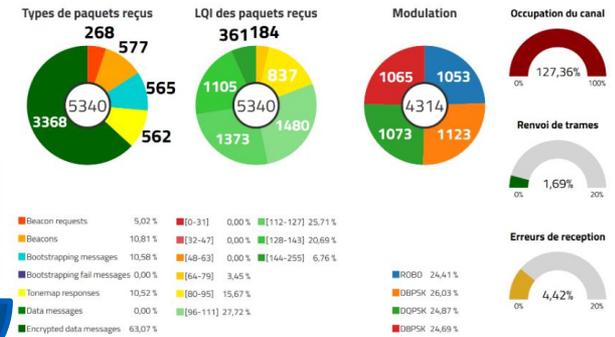
# An all-in-one toolcase to facilitate field interventions



Oscilloscopes



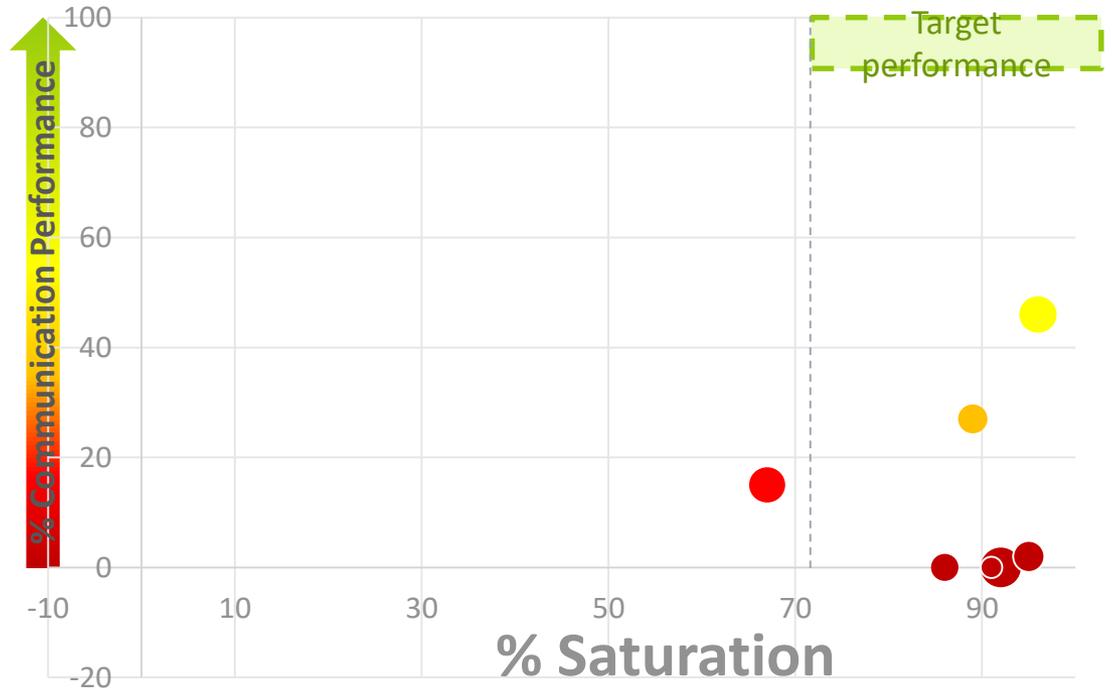
PLC Sniffer



# Case Study 1 : Filter the noise



## 7 substations with low performances detected



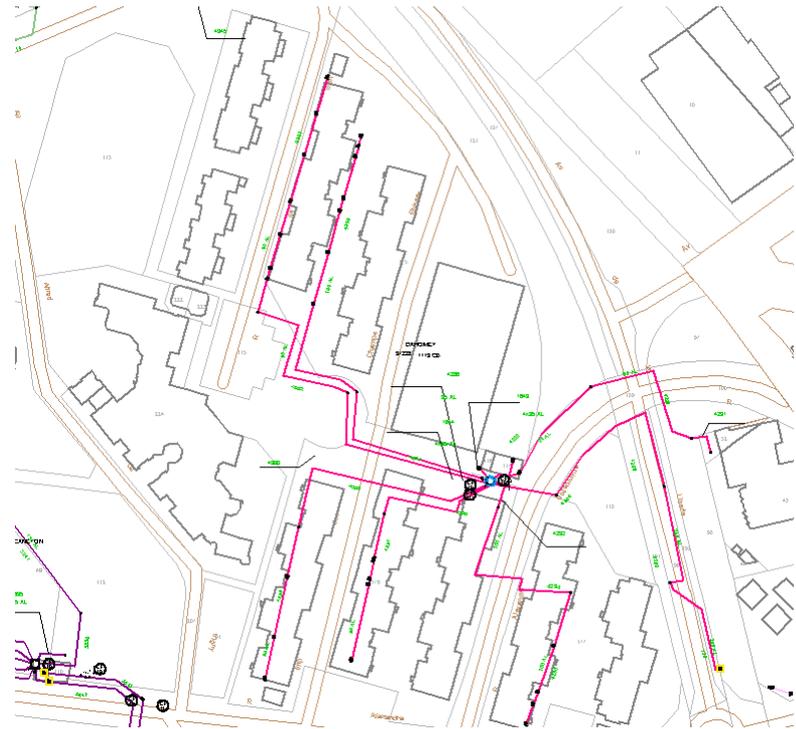
# Case Study 1 : Filter the noise

## In-room analysis

- DCUs are reachable, connected
- Collective Housing (urban development in the 70's / 80's)

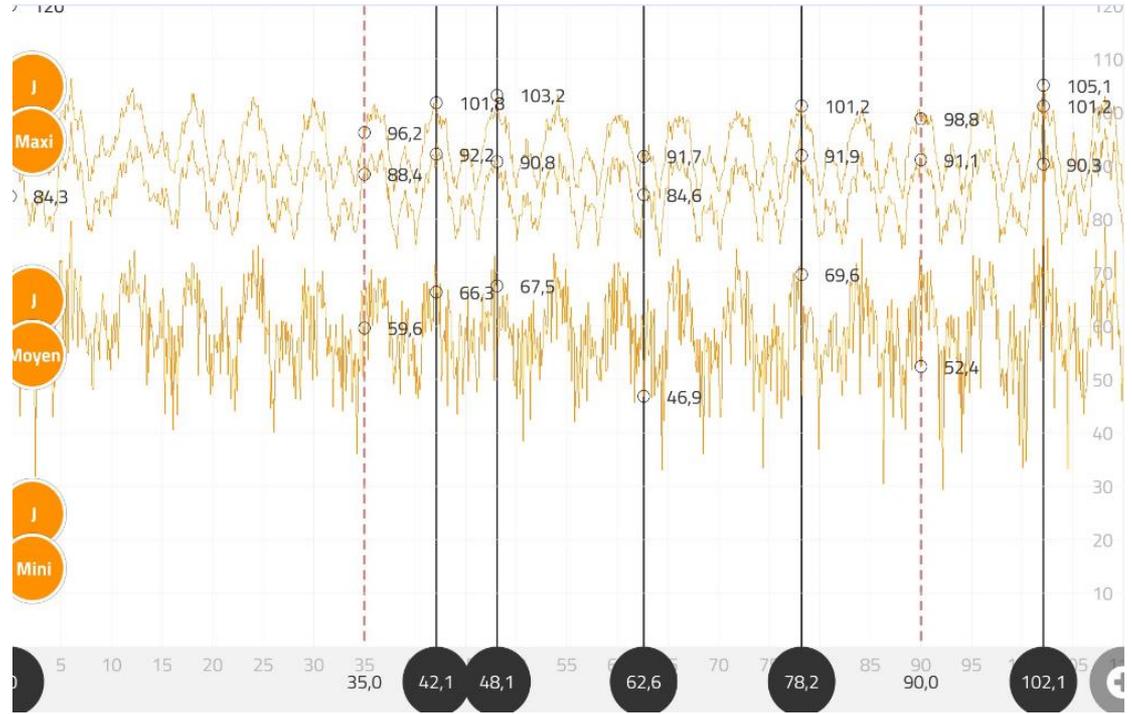


Noisy neighbour (s) ?  
District heating ?



# Case Study 1 : Filter the noise

- 
 Measure  
In the substation
- 
 Measure  
Close to the boiler room
- 
 Measure  
Close to the boiler room
- 
 Ask the operator  
to filter the noise
- 
 Performances  
went up



# Case study 2 : Saturation and PLC performance



Measure  
In the substation



Measure close to a  
feeder



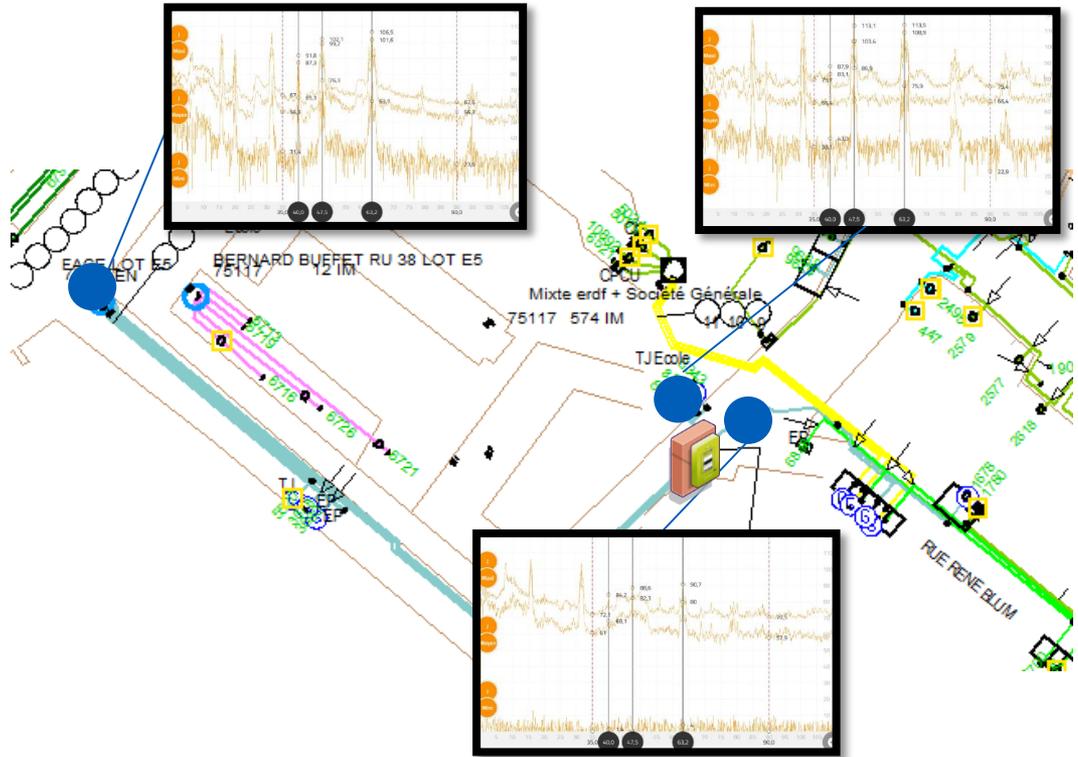
Measure close to a  
feeder



Install new meter



Performances  
went up





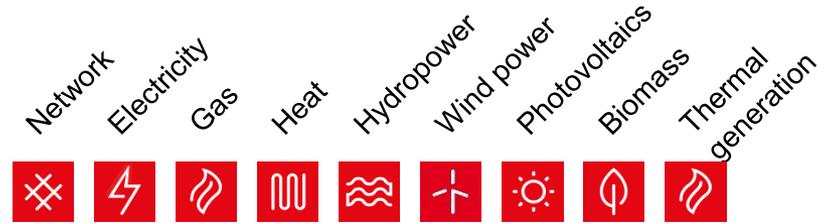
Thank you for your attention

# DSO experience with clean-up after G3-PLC roll- out in Lower Austria

03.02.2021

# EVN – Competence from Lower Austria

## Energy business in six countries



	Network	Electricity	Gas	Heat	Hydropower	Wind power	Photovoltaics	Biomass	Thermal generation
Albania					✓*				
Bulgaria	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
Germany		✓	✓		✓**				✓***
Croatia	✓		✓						
Macedonia	✓	✓			✓				
Austria	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

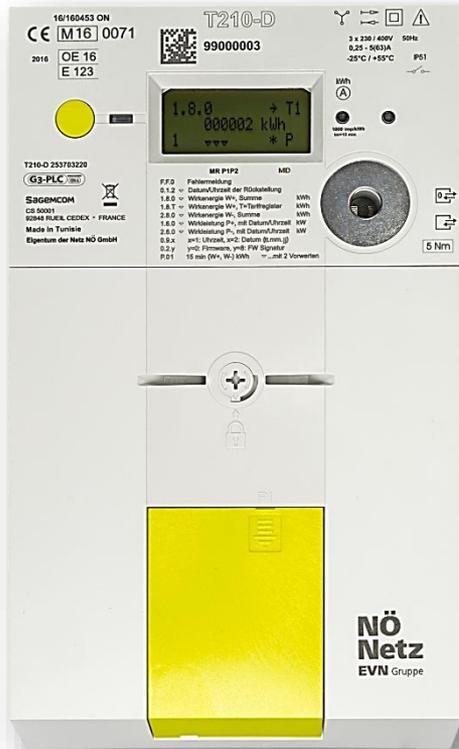
\* EVN stake: 50%

\*\* EVN stake: 13%

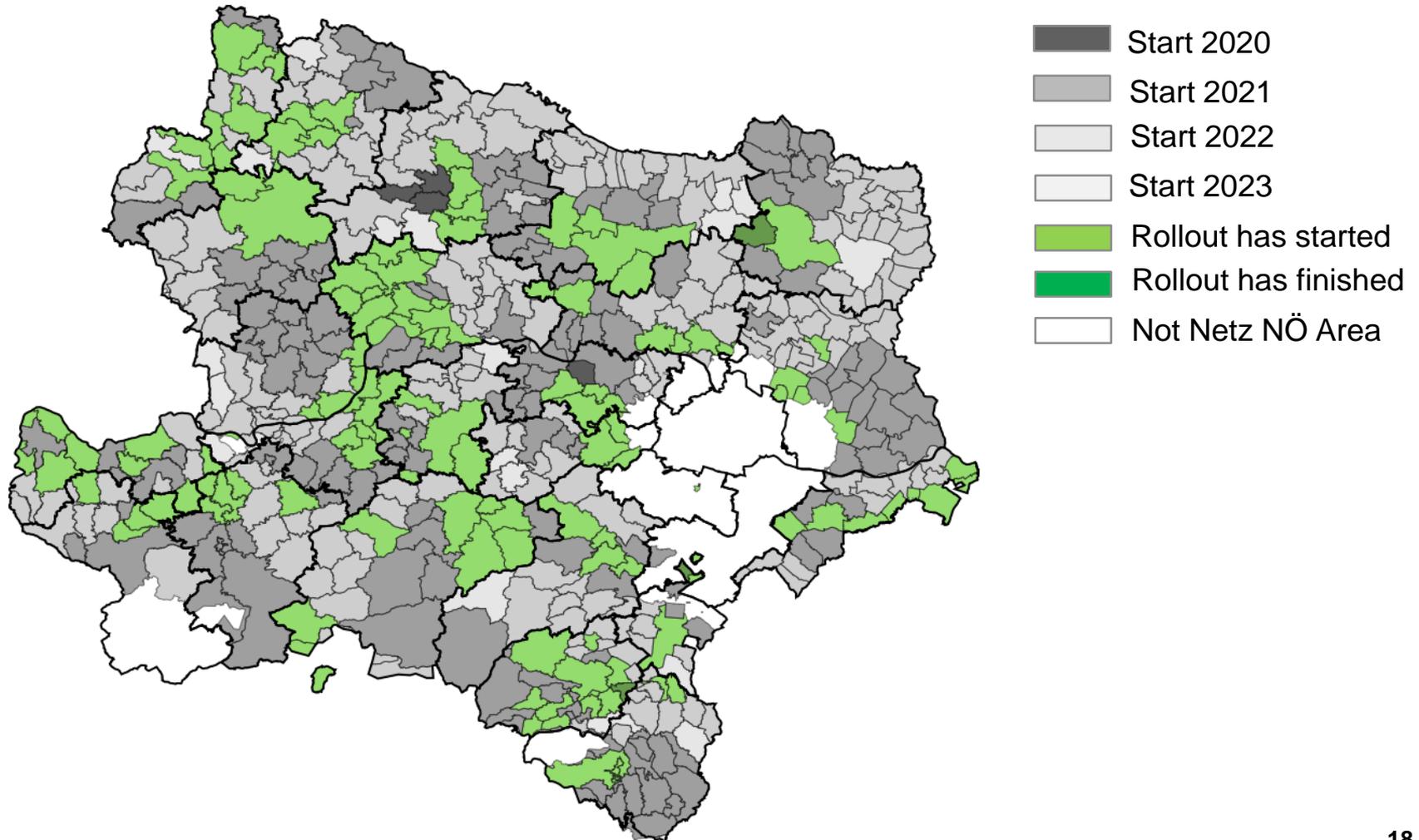
\*\*\* EVN stake: 49%

Netz Niederösterreich: DSO from Lower Austria

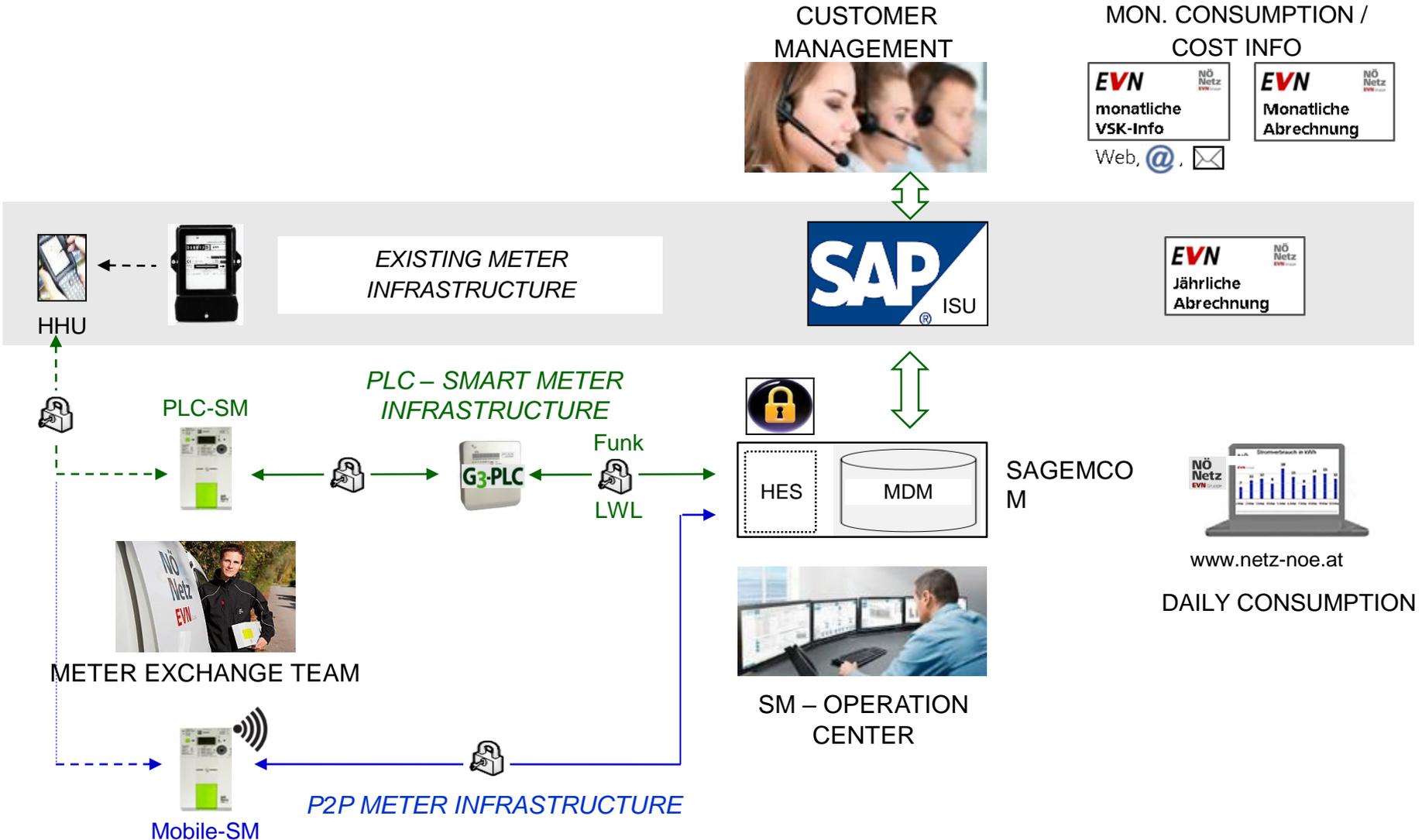
# Smart meter: Rollout



- On balance, 800,000 meters have to be replaced in Lower Austria
- 95 percent of all meters are legally required to be “smart“ by 2022. The rollout plans of the company Netz Niederösterreich are oriented to this.
- Long-term testing phase for system- and software suppliers
- Roll-out in Lower Austria started on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020
- Installed meter Feb 1<sup>st</sup>: 126.646
- Smart Meter PLC technology G3 FCC 150-480kHz



# Smart Metering infrastrukture



# EVN – Clean-Up Equipment and Training

- Which measurements do you do with what equipment?
  - PLT M1503 & Notebook
- How does the team look like and what training did they get?
  - At least one technician located in each service center in lower Austria
  - 1 day basic training about the topic in general (organization, documentation, PLC measurements, internal processes, ...)
  - Measurement device training at the handover of the devices
  - The first major clean-up job is accompanied by a technician from the technical department
  - Remote support from Operation Center every time



# EVN – Procedure & Example Emmersdorf

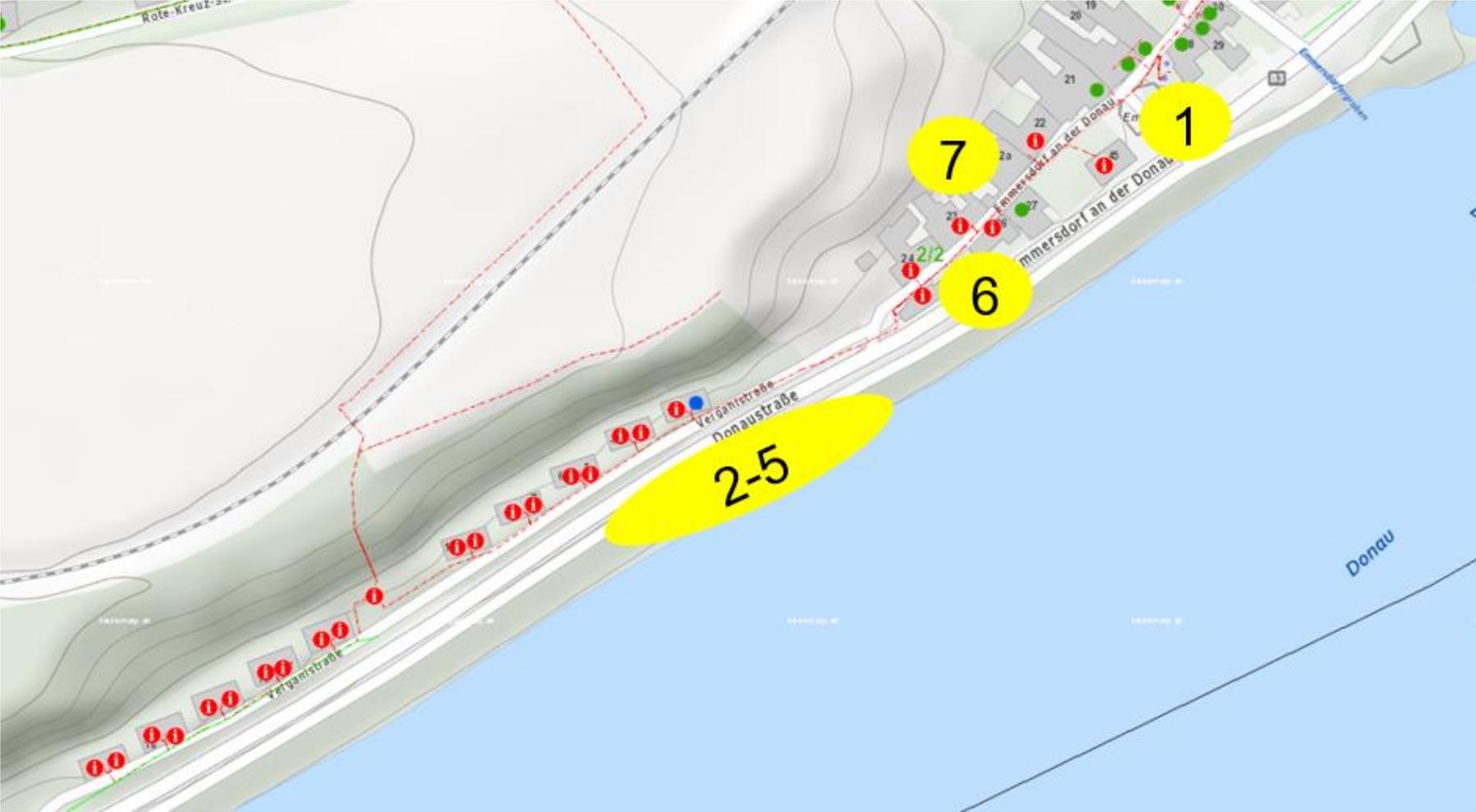
## Example 1 – situation and procedure

- Normal behavior for a PLC Measurement
  - comparing the noise level on different points in the grid, starting at the beginning of disturbance
  - switching off the customer to narrowing down to one customer plant
  - switch off circuits in the house, locate the noise
  
- 26 meters on a low-voltage branch were no longer accessible



# EVN – Procedure & Example Emmersdorf

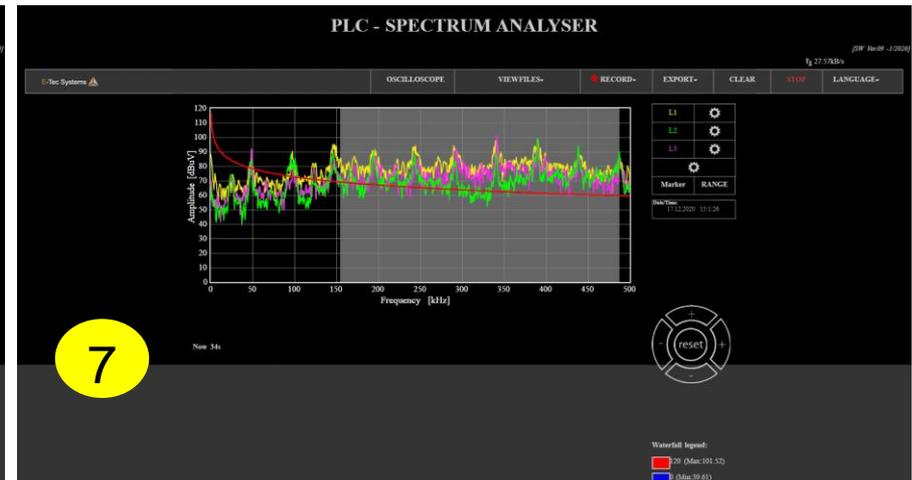
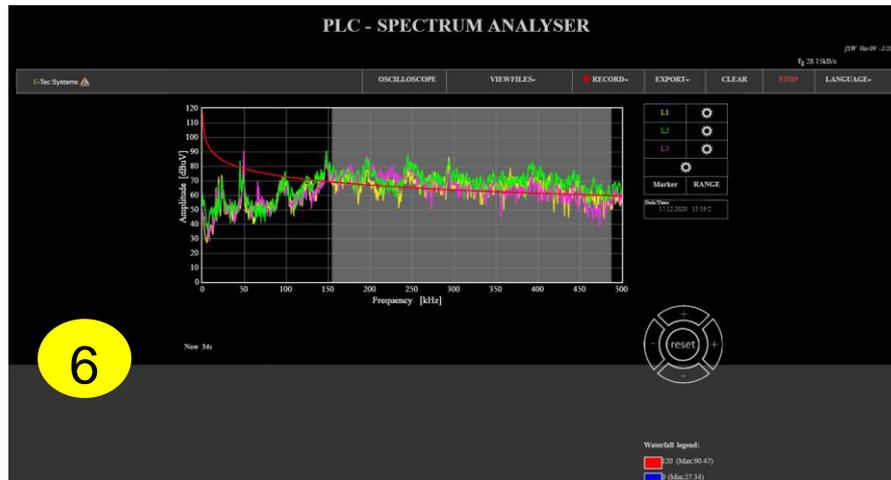
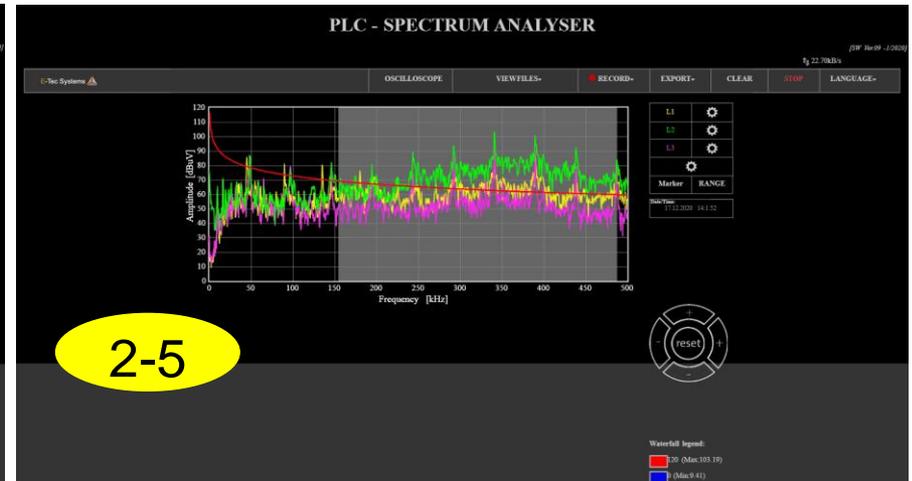
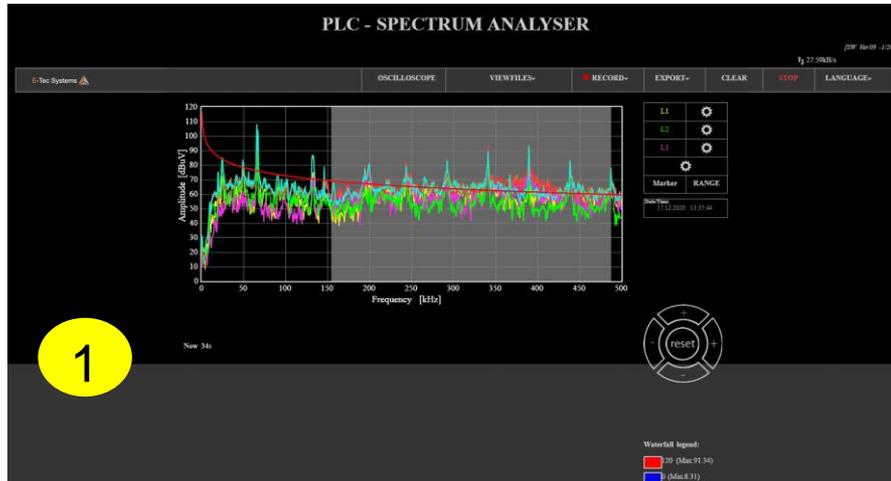
## Example 1 - measuring points



# EVN – Procedure & Example Emmersdorf

## Example 1 - evaluation

- comparison of the interference levels and their **characteristics**



# EVN – Procedure & Example Emmersdorf

## Example 1 – result and solution

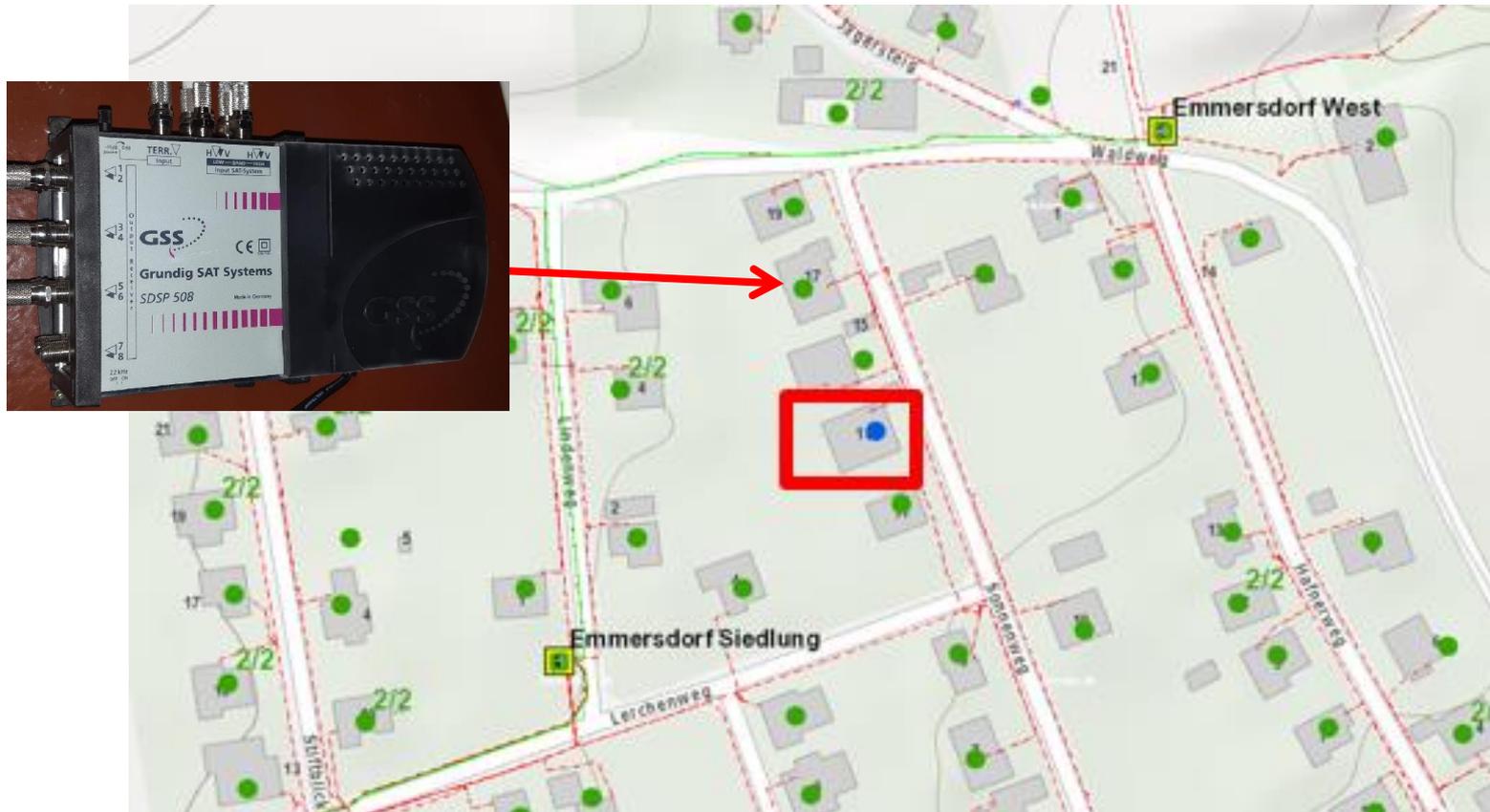
- interferer was a sat receiver, located near the beginning of the disturbance
- sat receiver removed from the grid



# EVN – Procedure & Example Emmersdorf

## Example 2 - situation

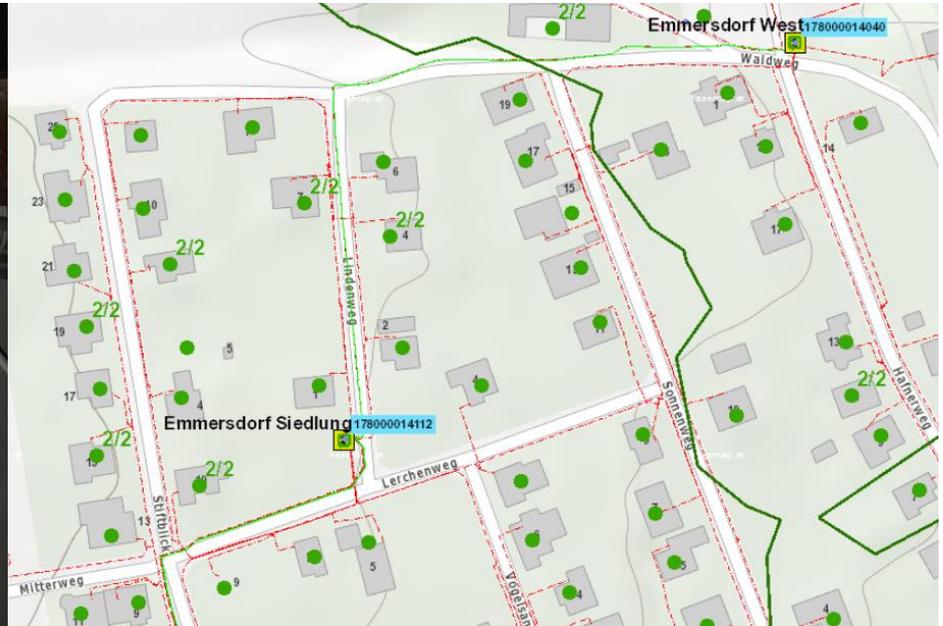
- 1 meter was not reachable
- Interference were detected 2 blocks beside



# EVN – Procedure & Example Emmersdorf

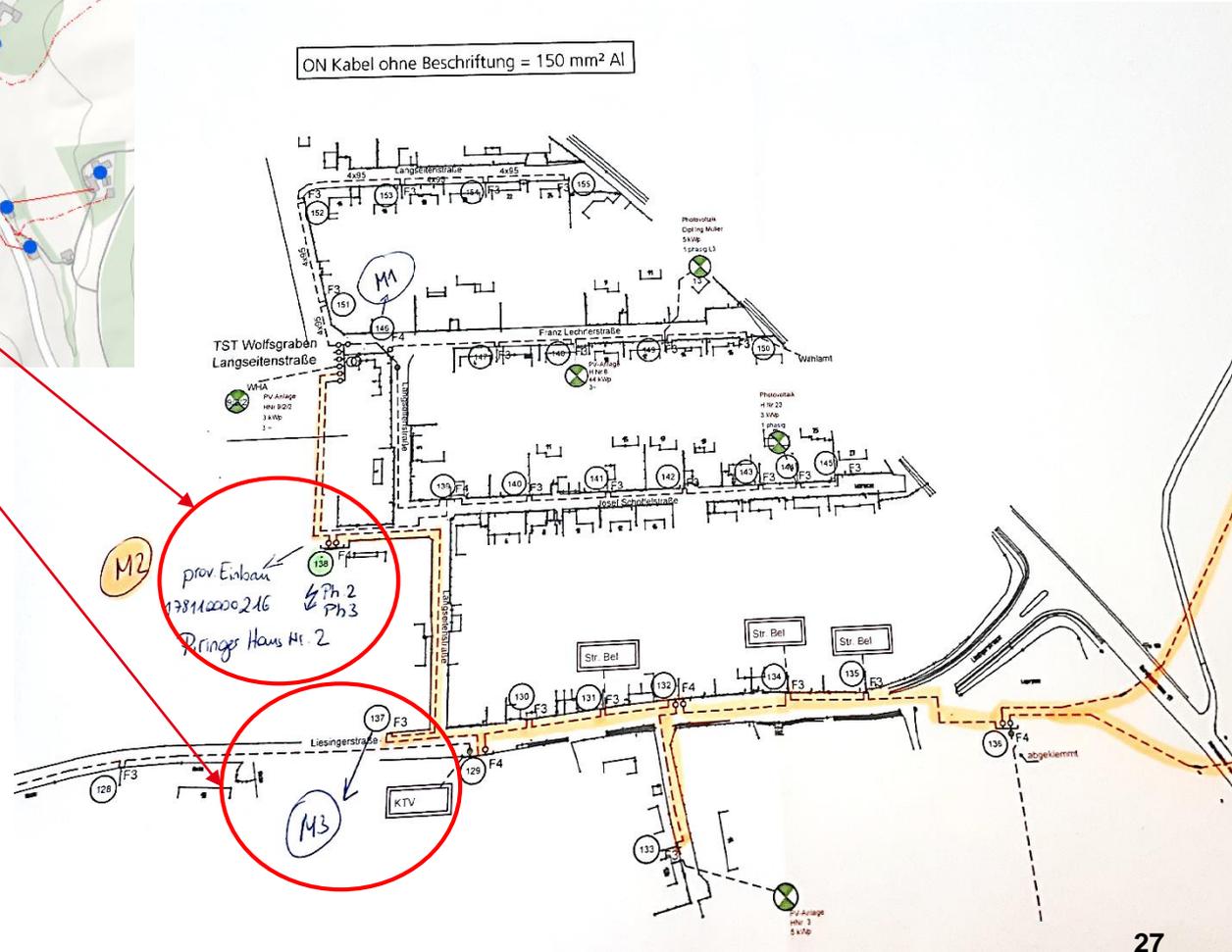
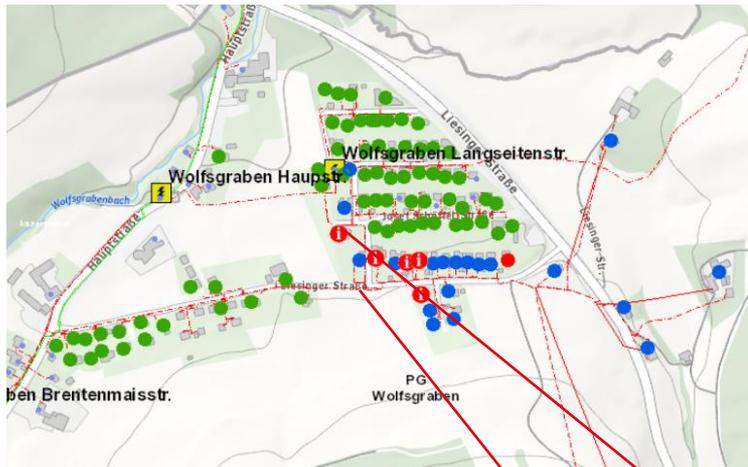
## Example 2 – result and solution

- PLC socket filter EICHHOFF F066-110/016-019 was installed



# EVN – Procedure & Example Wolfsgraben

## Example 3 – situation



# EVN – Procedure & Example Wolfsgraben

## Example 3 – result and solution

- 2 interferences in one household detected



# EVN – Filters and dealing with customers

- What Kind of Filters do we use?
  - PLC top-hat rail filter 16A **REO CNW163/16 & 161/16** (no experience)
  - PLC socket filter 16A **EICHHOFF F066-110/016-019**  
(6 PLC filters installed)
  - PLC main filters 63A **EICHHOFF F066-410/063-002** (no experience)
  
- How do you deal with the customers?
  - Customer device disturbs PLC network → PLC Filter will be installed for free
  - **Better way:** uninstallation of the device which disturb the PLC network
  - our assumption is based on defective devices, which would also damage other devices in the household in the long term
  - in case of customer complaints: Collection of all data f.e. device characteristics, CE mark, how often do the disturbances occur, ....



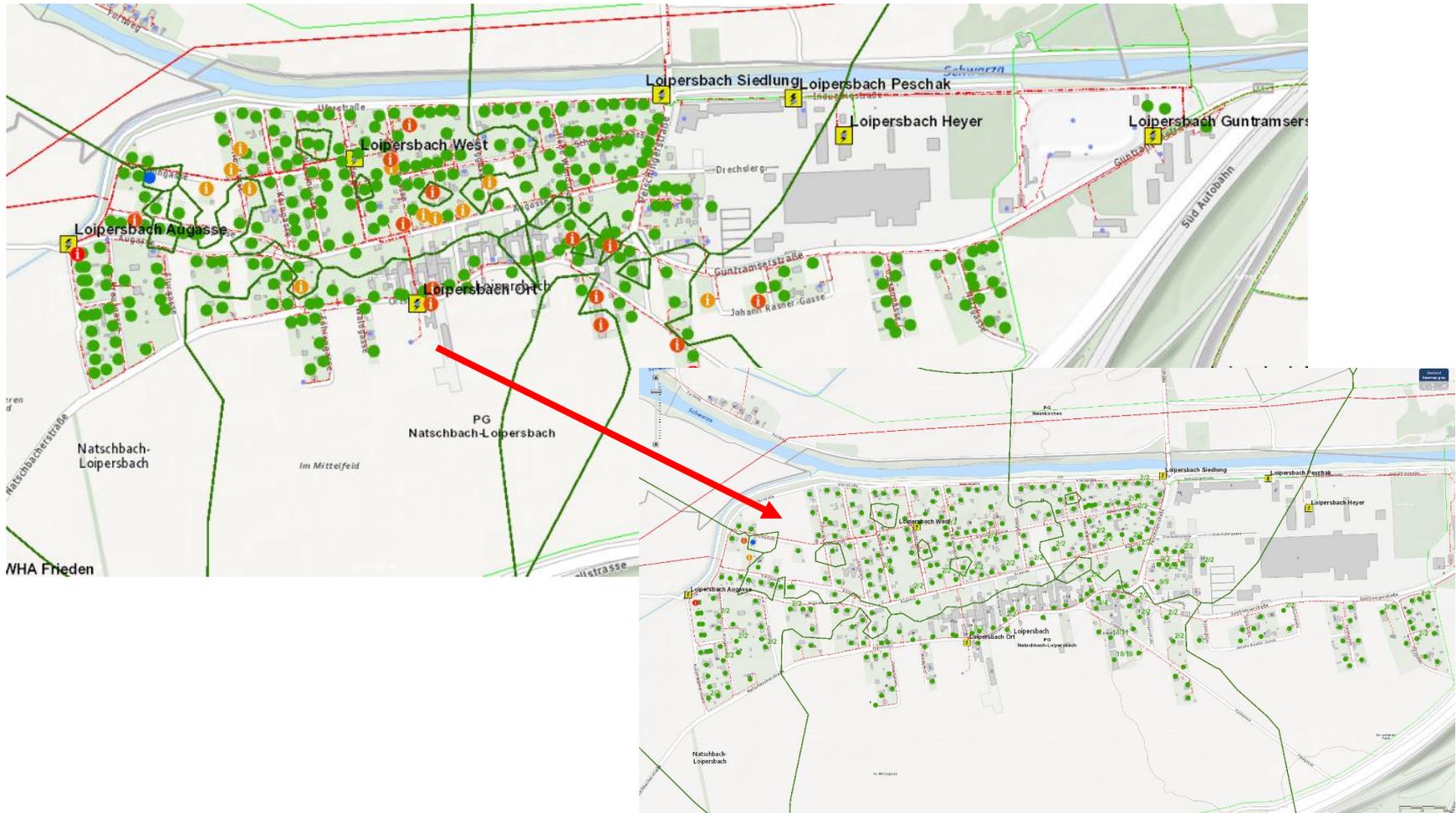
# EVN – What are your lessons learned?

- Rollout should be finished up to 95 - 100%, more meters may help to reach meters which didn't reach before



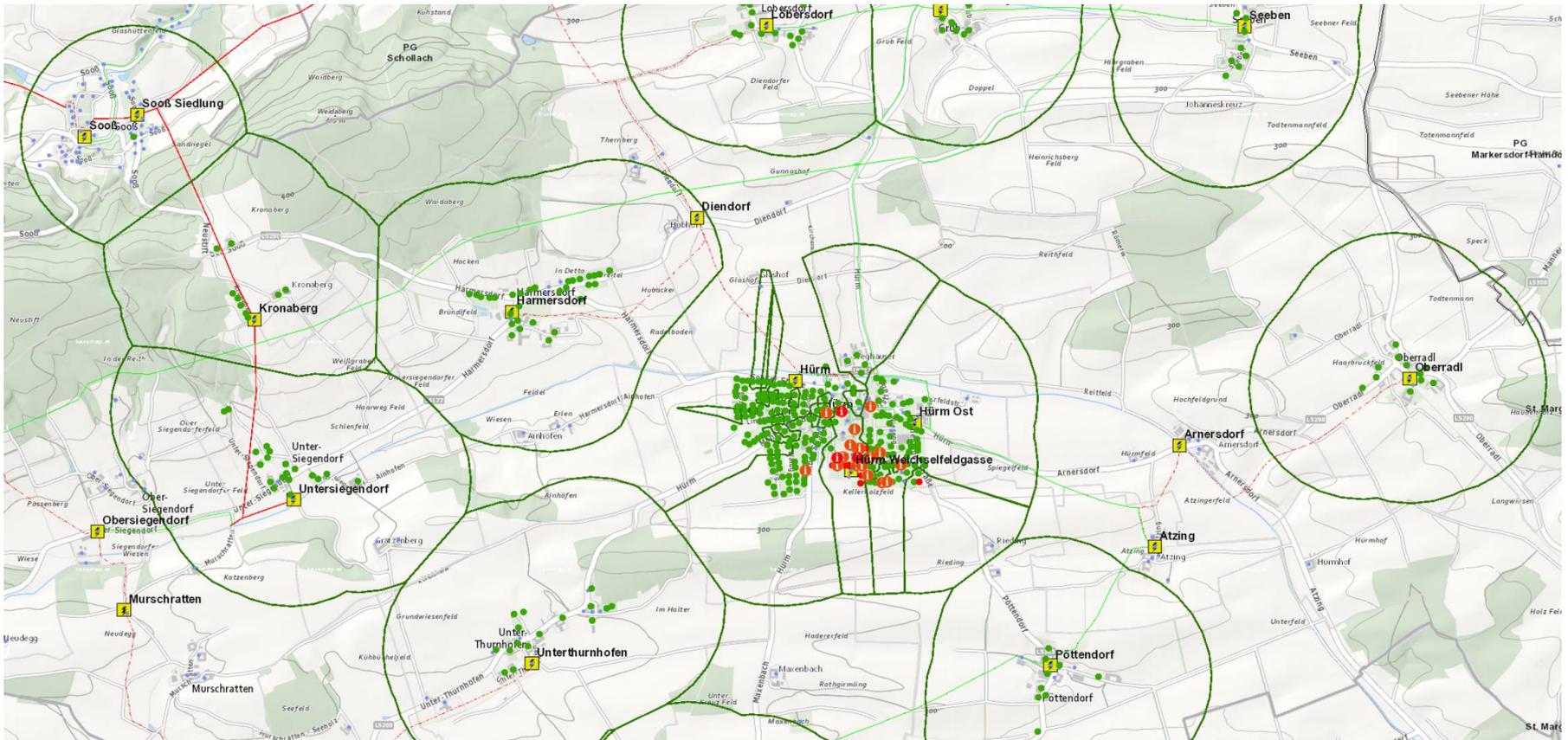
# EVN – What are your lessons learned?

- PLC organization of the grid needs time for stabilization (f.e. 6 weeks on the following pictures)



# EVN – What are your lessons learned?

- cross talking in areas with more than one Data Concentrator
- PLC communication works independent of the switching state of the low voltage grid



# EVN – What are your lessons learned?

---

- learning of such topics is only possible with experiences
- we believe that defective devices **or** devices without CE mark are the cause of interference sources

Thank you for your attention!



Wolfgang Lehner  
[Wolfgang.Lehner@netz-noe.at](mailto:Wolfgang.Lehner@netz-noe.at)



Nicole Gugerel  
[Nicole.Gugerel@netz-noe.at](mailto:Nicole.Gugerel@netz-noe.at)



February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

"DSO experience sharing:  
clean-up after roll-out of G3-  
PLC smart meters"



# Smart meter roll-out

Installed till Y2022  
**1 096 000**

Installed so far  
**79%**

Execution plan Y2021  
**1 000 000**



Target:



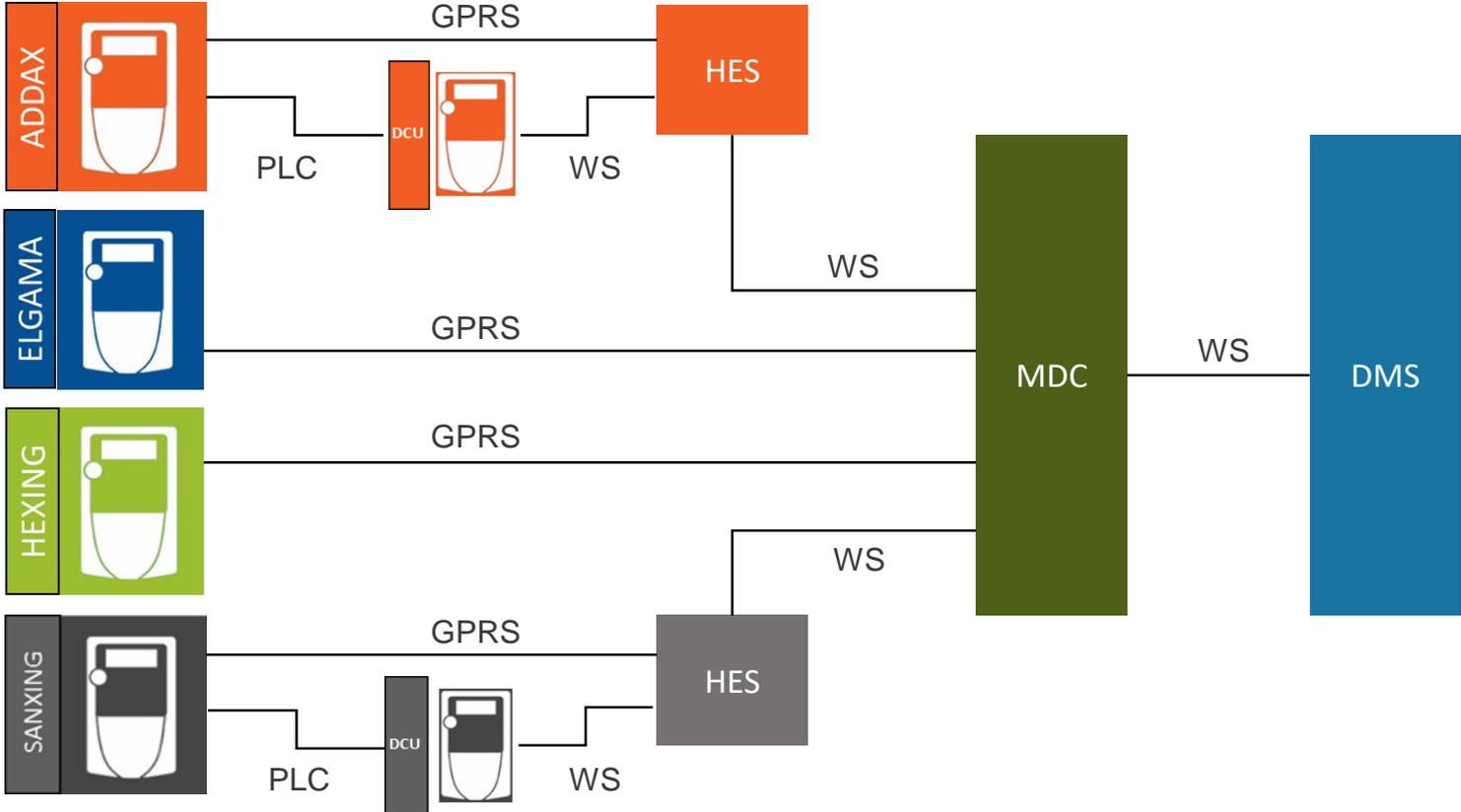
80% PLC smart meters



20% point-to-point meters (GPRS)



# Smart meter system high level architecture





# Two typical examples requiring clean-up.

First example :



Solution:



Second example:



Solution:

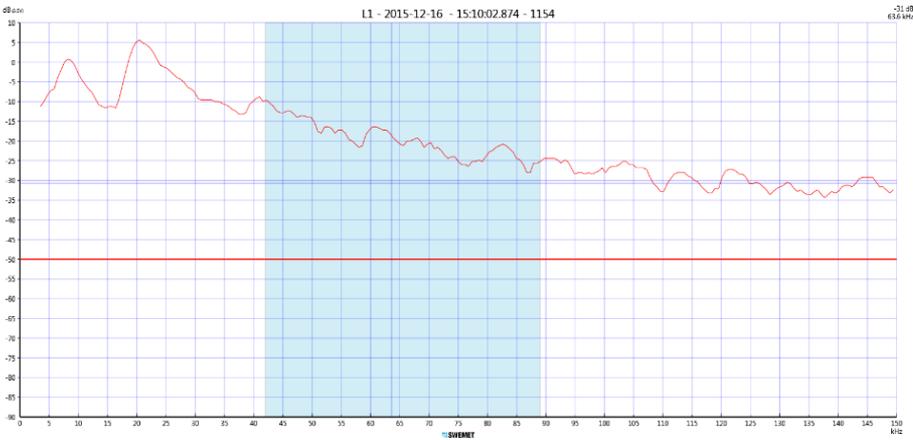


Replace

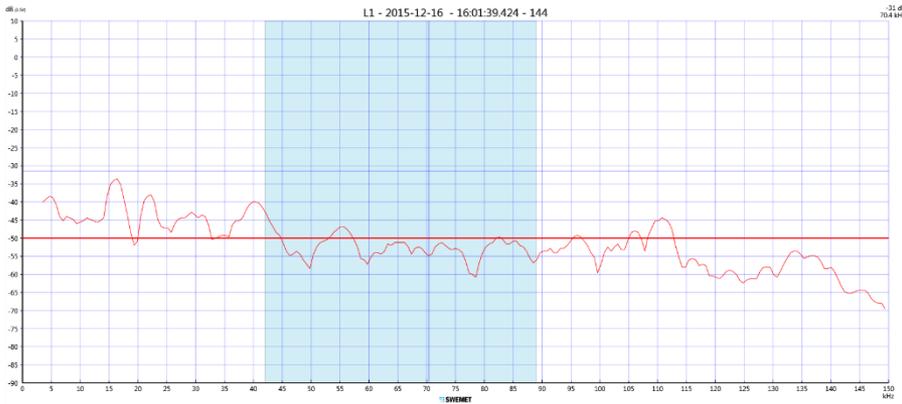
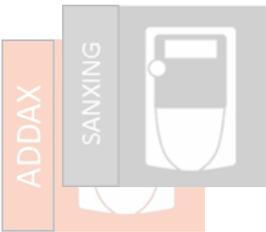


# EST Smart meter readings & notifications – challenge

Challenge: PLC meter fast and reliable reading & notification delivery depends on noises in LV network

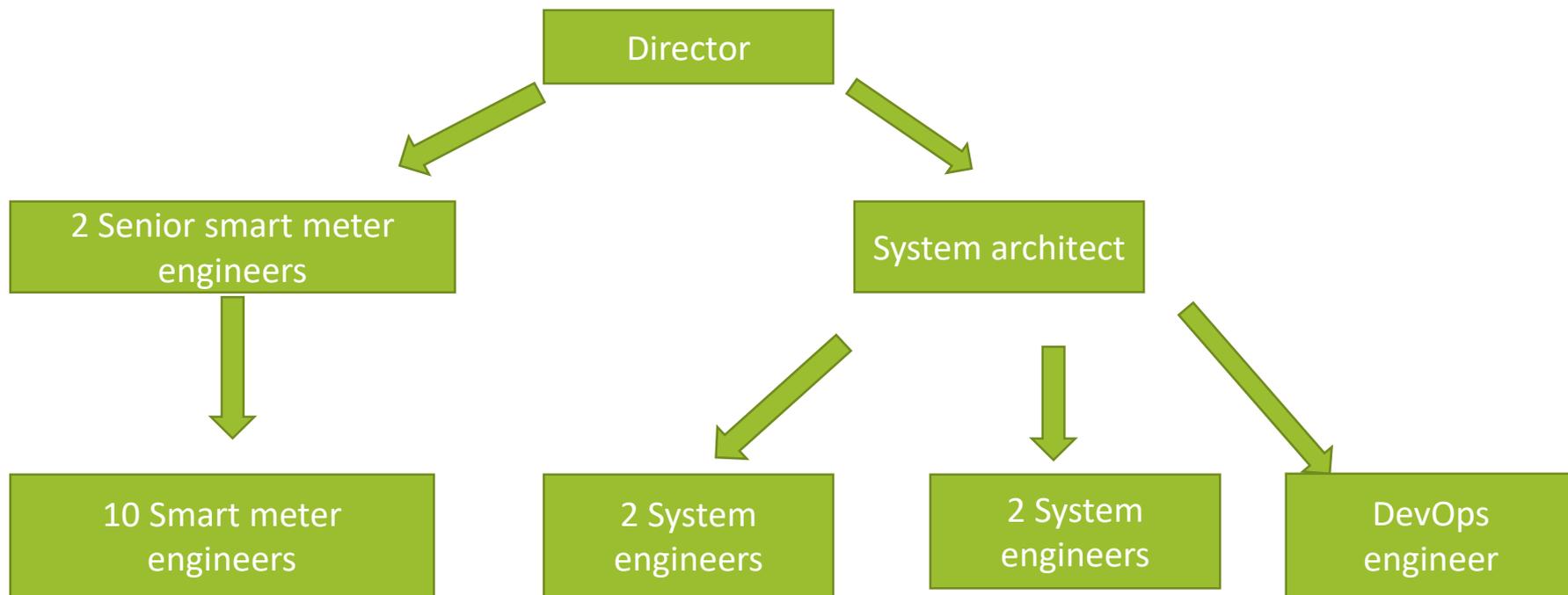


without &  
with noise filter





# Smart meter troubleshooting team





How we get better?



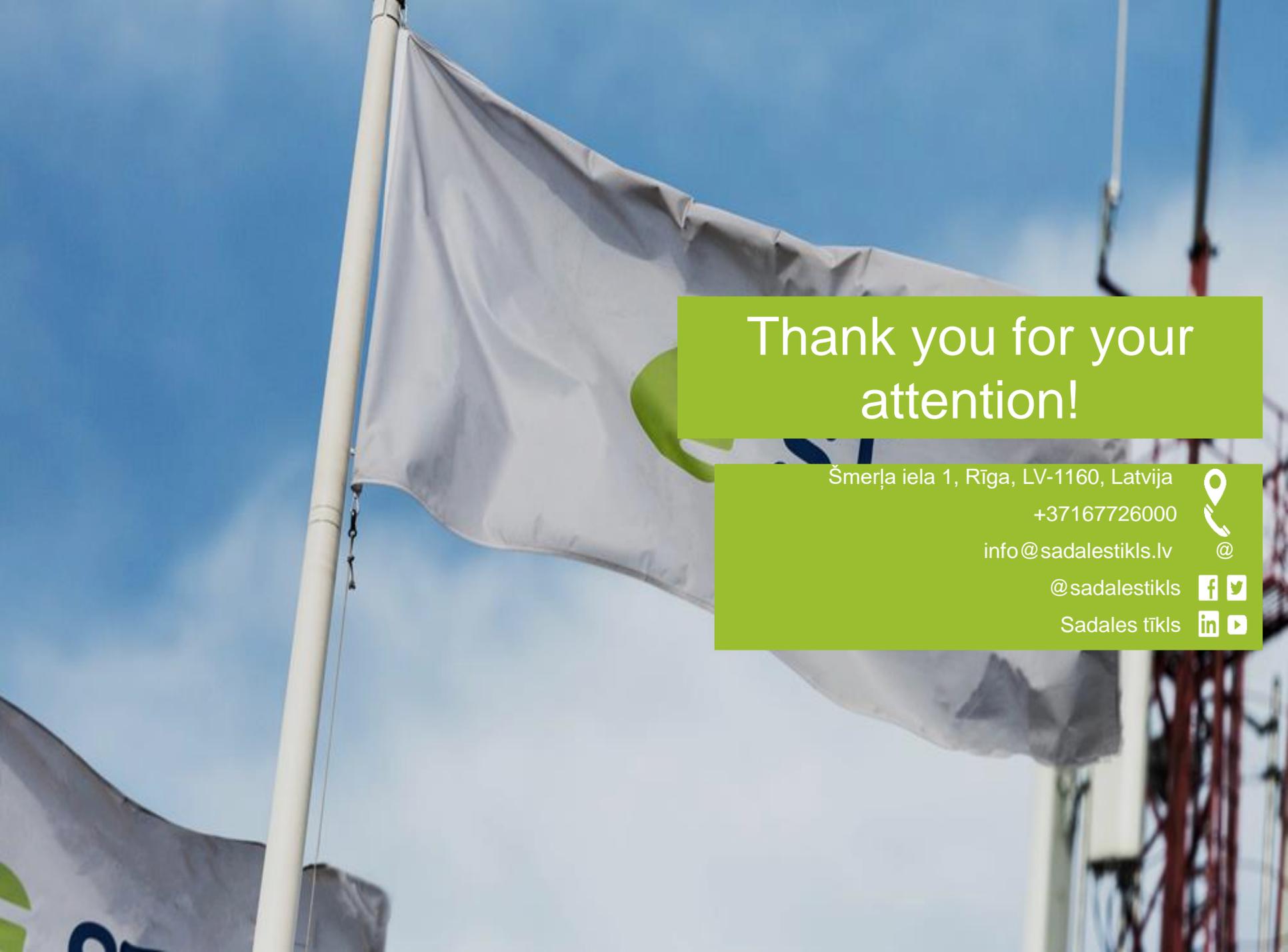
## Emikon PLC filters



## Capacitors







Thank you for your  
attention!

Šmerļa iela 1, Rīga, LV-1160, Latvija

+37167726000

info@sadalestikls.lv

@sadalestikls

Sadales tīkls



## Discussion



## Discussion

- Is this kind of information sharing useful for you?
- G3-PLC Alliance can organise future sessions to share experiences on the same or a related topic
- We will also try to organise a DSO meeting during European Utility Week in November 2020 in Milan!

# Thank you very much for your attention!

- For further information please contact the presenters or [generalsecretary@g3-plc.com](mailto:generalsecretary@g3-plc.com)
- Visit us at [www.g3-plc.com](http://www.g3-plc.com)
- Follow us on LinkedIn!

