

**IKT-Association of Network Operators**

*IKT-Förderverein der Netzbetreiber e.V.*

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# **IKT-Association of Network Operators**

*IKT-Förderverein  
der Netzbetreiber e.V.*



IKT-Förderverein der Netzbetreiber e.V.  
Exterbruch 1 ■ 45886 Gelsenkirchen ■ Germany

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Email: [info@ikt.de](mailto:info@ikt.de) ■ [www.ikt.de](http://www.ikt.de)  
Register of Associations: Gelsenkirchen VR 1538

Chairman: Dipl.-Ing. Hans-Joachim Bihs  
Managing Director: Dipl.-Ök. Roland W. Waniek

# **IKT-Association of Network Operators**

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(IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure)  
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### **What is the IKT?**

The IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure is a neutral, independent and non-profit research institute. It is oriented towards practical applications and works on issues surrounding underground pipe construction. Its key focus is centred on sewage systems. IKT provides scientifically backed surveys and advice. You can find information on its projects at: [www.ikt.de](http://www.ikt.de)

### **Network Operators Are Majority Shareholders**

IKT has been established in the year 1994 by the University of Bochum, Germany. The initial funding for setting up the institute has been provided by the Ministry for the Environment of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany's largest federal state. However, IKT is not owned by the Government or by the university. Its owners are two associations which are again non-profit organizations of their own:

- IKT-Association of Network Operators: members are ca. 130 cities. They hold together 66.6% of IKT.
- IKT-Association of Industry: members are ca. 70 companies. They hold together 33.3% of IKT.

### **IKT-Association of Network Operators**

The IKT-Association of Network Operators represents the combination of interested cities, municipalities and water associations towards whose assignments and activities the institute is oriented. There is a special link to these which is permanently reinforced by the association: on the one hand the members are 2/3 majority shareholders of the IKT and ensure that the IKT can research, test and monitor in a neutral and independent manner at all times. At the same time, they can directly incorporate their issues in IKT's work.

### **Mission and Objectives**

- To promote and advance research and testing activities aiming at technical innovative, high-quality, client and environmental friendly, economically sustainable underground utility infrastructure.
- To be a forum for discussion, exchange of experiences und forming of opinion between network operators and IKT.
- Non-profit organisation according to German law, no commercial objectives

### **IKT-Association of Industry**

It is not only network operators which play an important role for the work of the IKT, but also companies in construction and industry as well as engineering consultancies, service providers, institutes and organisations. Without their products and services pipelines could not be built, renovated or operated. In order to integrate them in the work of the IKT, the IKT-Association of Industry holds a third of the IKT shares. Its members incorporate their subject matter and expertise into the work of the IKT and are involved in relevant projects.

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### **Rapport to IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure Ltd.**

- Association of Network Operators is main shareholder of IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure Ltd.
- Holds 2/3 of shares of IKT Ltd. Remaining 1/3 of shares are held by IKT-Association of Industry.
- Association oversees that IKT fulfils its tasks and work neutral and independently.
- Hereunto the IKT-Association of Network Operators is represented by three delegates on the supervisory board of IKT Ltd.

### **Members**

- Public operators of public utility networks (water, sewer, gas)
- Private operators of public utility networks
- Individuals as honorary members

### **Customers are Shareholders**

This shareholder structure reflects the target orientation of the IKT activities. The IKT is primarily oriented towards issues and problems of network operators. This results from the founding assignment of the institute in 1994, this being to provide research results and insights for an environmental and citizen-oriented construction, renovation and maintenance of public utility networks. The IKT provides further aid for business for testing and experimenting with new products and processes. To this extent, the two most important customer groups of the IKT are also its shareholders.

### **Neutrality and Independence**

This structure ensures the neutrality and independence of the IKT. The economic side of the institute is monitored by a supervisory board comprising nine members, some of them representatives from science and ministries. However, in compliance with the statutes, this may not exert any influence on the results of the research projects.

### **Benefits of Membership**

- Extensive and detailed information on forthcoming, on-going and completed research projects of IKT
- Defining IKT's research programme by proposing one's own topics of interest
- Active involvement in IKT projects
- Discussion and exchange of ideas and experience between members
- Free copies of all IKT reports (not yet all available in English)
- Discount on all IKT seminars and conferences

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## **Board of Directors**

elected on November 21, 2016

Chairman:	Ltd. Baudirektor Hans-Joachim Bihs Wirtschaftsbetrieb Hagen – WBH AöR
Dep. Chairman:	Dipl.-Ing. Ulrich Stachowiak Abwassergesellschaft Gelsenkirchen mbH
Assessors:	Dipl.-Ing. Jürgen Rolf Braun Stadtentwässerung Düsseldorf
	Carsten Glänzel Stadt Balve
	Dipl.-Ing. Thomas Lammering Stadt Detmold
	Dr.-Ing. Gerhard Meier Wolfsburger Entwässerungsbetriebe
	Dipl.-Ing. Maren Reimann Göttinger Entsorgungsbetriebe
Managing Director: (according to statutes)	Dipl.-Ök. Roland W. Waniek IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure

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### Members

as of January 2018

- Abwasserbeseitigung Rendsburg
- Abwasserbetrieb der Stadt Billerbeck
- Abwasserentsorgung Salzgitter GmbH
- Abwassergesellschaft Gelsenkirchen mbH
- Abwasserverband Starnberger See
- Abwasserzweckverband Obere Bille
- Amperverband K.d.ö.R.
- ASK Kamp-Lintfort
- Berliner Wasserbetriebe
- Eigenbetrieb Abwasserbeseitigung der Stadt Northeim
- Eigenbetrieb Straubinger Stadtentwässerung und Straßenreinigung
- Emschergenossenschaft
- Entsorgungs- und Servicebetrieb Bocholt
- Entsorgungsbetriebe Speyer
- Entwässerung Stadt Witten
- Erftverband
- EUV Stadtbetrieb Castrop-Rauxel
- Gelsenwasser AG
- Gemeente Almere
- Gemeente Arnhem
- Gemeente Steenwijkerland
- Gemeinde Blankenheim
- Gemeinde Grünwald
- Gemeinde Herzebrock-Clarholz
- Gemeinde Holzwickede
- Gemeinde Jüchen
- Gemeinde Roetgen
- Gemeinde Schwanau
- Gemeindewerke Schlangen GmbH
- Gemeindewerke Wachtberg, AöR
- gKu VE München-Ost
- Göttinger Entsorgungsbetriebe
- Große Kreisstadt Fürstfeldbruck
- Hamburger Stadtentwässerung AöR
- Innsbrucker Kommunalbetriebe AG
- Landeshauptstadt Kiel
- Landeshauptstadt München
- LINEG Linksniederrheinische Entwässerungs-Genossenschaft
- Linz Service GmbH
- NEW Niederrhein Energie und Wasser AG
- Ruhrverband
- Samtgemeinde Wathlingen
- Schwalmthalwerke AöR
- SEM Stadtentwässerung Mülheim an der Ruhr GmbH
- Stadt Ahaus
- Stadt Alsdorf
- Stadt Altena
- Stadt Backnang
- Stadt Bad Honnef
- Stadt Balve
- Stadt Bergisch Gladbach
- Stadt Bielefeld
- Stadt Bochum
- Stadt Datteln
- Stadt Detmold
- Stadt Dinslaken
- Stadt Elmshorn
- Stadt Erkelenz
- Stadt Frankenthal (Pfalz)
- Stadt Frankfurt am Main
- Stadt Freudenberg
- Stadt Gütersloh
- Stadt Herford
- Stadt Herten
- Stadt Hilden
- Stadt Iserlohn
- Stadt Kaarst
- Stadt Kierspe
- Stadt Korschenbroich
- Stadt Lübbecke
- Stadt Meerbusch
- Stadt Monschau
- Stadt Neuss
- Stadt Nürnberg

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- Stadt Olpe
- Stadt Plettenberg
- Stadt Püttlingen
- Stadt Radevormwald
- Stadt Recklinghausen
- Stadt Regensburg
- Stadt Rietberg
- Stadt Rinteln
- Stadt Rosenheim
- Stadt Stuttgart
- Stadt Vellmar
- Stadt Vlotho
- Stadt Willich
- Stadt Würselen
- Stadtbetrieb Abwasserbeseitigung Lünen AöR (SAL)
- Stadtentwässerung Augsburg
- Stadtentwässerung Garbsen
- Stadtentwässerung Hemer SEH
- Stadtentwässerung Mannheim
- Stadtentwässerung Peine
- Stadtentwässerung Reutlingen
- Stadtentwässerung Schwerte GmbH
- Stadtentwässerungsbetrieb Düsseldorf
- Stadtentwässerungsbetrieb Lüdenscheid – AöR
- Stadtentwässerungsbetrieb Paderborn
- Stadtentwässerungsbetriebe Köln, AöR
- Stadtverwaltung Erfurt
- Stadtverwaltung Menden
- Stadtverwaltung Riedstadt
- Stadtwerke Aachen AG
- Stadtwerke Arnsberg GmbH
- Stadtwerke Baunatal
- Stadtwerke Brilon AöR
- Stadtwerke Essen AG
- Stadtwerke Kevelaer
- Stadtwerke Neuenrade AöR
- Stadtwerke Raunheim
- Stadtwerke Singen
- Stadtwerke Sundern
- Städtische Betriebe Minden
- Städtische Werke Magdeburg GmbH
- Technische Betriebe Leverkusen
- Technische Betriebe Rheine AöR
- Technische Betriebe Wilhelmshaven
- Technische Werke Burscheid AöR
- Technische Werke Emmerich am Rhein GmbH
- Thames Water Utilities Ltd., London
- Verbandsgemeindewerke Kirchheimbolanden
- Verbandsgemeindewerke Winnweiler
- Wirtschaftsbetrieb Hagen
- Wirtschaftsbetrieb Mainz
- Wirtschaftsbetrieb Porta Westfalica
- Wirtschaftsbetriebe Duisburg
- Wolfsburger Entwässerungsbetriebe AöR
- WTE Betriebsgesellschaft mbH
- Wupperverband
- Zentraler Betriebshof der Stadt Marl
- Zweckverband Ostholstein
- Zweckverband zur Abwasserbeseitigung am Tegernsee
- Zweckverband zur Abwasserbeseitigung im Hachinger Tal

Latest update on: [www.ikt.de/mitglieder](http://www.ikt.de/mitglieder)

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### STATUTES

#### §1 Name, Location, Registration, Financial Year

1. The association is named "IKT-Förderverein der Netzbetreiber" (IKT-Association of Network Operators).
2. It is entered in the register of the Local Court Gelsenkirchen. After registration "e.V." (registered association) is added to its name.
3. The fiscal year is the calendar year. The first short fiscal year ends on December 31, 2004.
4. The association is located in Gelsenkirchen (Germany).

#### §2 Purpose of the Association

1. Purpose of the association is to promote science, research, education and environmental protection on the total territory of underground infrastructure and to promote the scientific debate between science and operators of supply and disposal systems, and other infrastructure of underground.
2. These objectives are pursued through appropriate activities of the association. These include in particular scientific conferences, seminars, meetings, etc., which are open to scholars, practitioners and students. And the scientific results are made available to the public in an appropriate manner.
3. The purpose of the statutes is pursued in particular by idealational and financial support of the work of IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure. For this purpose the association participates in the IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure. The association, individual association members or others don't have any influence on the working results of the IKT. The association will ensure at any time, that IKT performs its work in a neutral and independent manner.
4. The association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section "tax-privileged purposes" of tax regulation. The association acts selfless; primarily it pursues non-profit purposes.
5. The association's funds may be used for statutory purposes only. Members do not receive dividends and or any other payments from the funds of the association.
6. No person may be favoured by expenditures, that are not purpose of the association, or disproportional high remuneration.

#### §3 Liability, Assets and Reserves

1. The association shall be liable only with its assets. A personal liability of its members does not exist.
2. In case of dissolution or termination or loss of tax-privileged status of the association its assets have to be transferred to the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia, which has to use them directly and exclusively for the promotion of science in the field of underground infrastructure features. Decisions on the future application of funds may be carried out only after approval of the tax office. The members are not entitled to the association's assets.
3. The association shall not accumulate assets to a extent, that even temporarily exceeds assets required or necessary for commitments means, for purposes that are not determined by § 2 of the statutes (special-purpose assets). A special-purpose-asset in this meaning should be used for further promotion of the work of IKT and its sponsoring company. The creation of reserves must comply with the requirements of § 58 No. 6 and 7 Abgabenordnung (i. e. German Tax Code). With an increase in reserves specific intended use must be reported.

#### §4 Membership

1. The association has a) regular members and b) associate members.
2. A regular member may be any natural or legal person who operates a public supply or disposal network or who is willing to promote the association's purpose. The Board of Directors

decides on the application of membership. The applicant must be informed in writing of any rejection, the reasons must be given. The applicant has the right to put an objection to the decision. In the case of renewed rejection, the General Assembly decides on the request.

3. Associate membership may be granted to natural persons who have acquired special merits for the purpose of the association or the science or the practical development in the field of underground infrastructure features. The award will take place on recommendation of the Board of Directors by the General Assembly.

#### §5 Rights and Obligation of Members

1. Regular members are entitled to request and to vote at the General Assembly.
2. Regular members are obligated to pay annual membership fees. The level of contributions is fixed by the General Assembly and may be staggered. In special cases, the Board of Directors is authorized to reduce or to adopt the membership fee.
3. Membership fees are annual fees and due on July 1st each year. As the membership starts after July 1st the amount of the first membership fee is calculated in proportion to the remaining month of the fiscal year.

#### §6 Termination of Membership

1. Membership terminates by
  - a) death;
  - b) for legal persons by order of liquidation or insolvency proceedings;
  - c) dissolution of the association;
  - d) withdrawal;
  - e) exclusion.
2. The withdrawal has to be explained in writing within a period of six months to the end of the calendar year to the Board of Directors.
3. The exclusion of individual members can be done by resolution of the General Assembly if the member has behaved harmful to the association or with more than two years' contributions is in arrears. The exclusion is done by a decision taken by a two-thirds majority vote of the General Assembly. The member can lodge a written appeal against the decision within a period of one month after receipt of the notice to the Board of Directors. The General Assembly decides on the appeal.
4. In the case of termination of membership a repayment of donations made to the association as well as any other kind of claim against the association's assets are excluded.

#### §7 Organs of the Association

Organs of the association are the General Assembly and the Board of Directors. For special tasks within the meaning of § 2, the General Assembly can set up other committees that don't have organ properties.

#### §8 General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall decide on all matters of the association, unless there are matters of the Managing Director or the Board of Directors.  
In particular the General Assembly is responsible for:
  - a) the election of members of the Board of Directors;
  - b) approving the annual report of the Board of Directors and the financial statements drawn up by the management and the budget;
  - c) the relief of other bodies of the association;
  - d) the election of auditors;
  - e) the decision on the appeal according to § 6 (3);
  - f) fixing the membership fees according to § 5 (2);
  - g) amending the statutes;
  - h) dissolving the association.
2. The General Assembly is to convene by the Board of Directors at least annually. The meeting shall be convened in writing, stating the agenda, there is a period of four weeks



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followed. Further General Assemblies shall be convened at the Board of Directors decision or at justified and written request of at least 40% of the regular members.

3. The chairman of the General Assembly is the chairman of the Board of Directors, in his absence, another member of the Board. If the Board of Directors is unable to participate, the members shall select a chairman from among themselves to be the chairman for the meeting.
4. The duly convened General Assembly constitutes a quorum independently from the number of the attending voting members. Decisions are taken by simple majority vote, unless otherwise required by law or statutes. Each voting member has one vote. Elections shall be decided by simple majority, abstentions are not considered in the calculation. In case of a tie, the Chairman of the General Assembly shall decide by pulling a lot.
5. A non-attending member may grant another member authority. Accordingly the Board of Directors has to be informed in writing at the latest five business days before the meeting.
6. In urgent cases, decisions may be taken by written procedure. The necessary steps are caused by the Board of Directors. If a member objects to the decision in writing, the template should be treated in the next General Assembly.
7. The resolutions of the General Assembly shall be recorded in a written transcript, which shall be signed by the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman or the Directing Manager and the recorder, determined by the Board of Directors. The members are entitled to consult the transcript.

### §9 Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors is composed of five members. Its members are:
  - a) the Chairman;
  - b) the Deputy Chairman;
  - c) three other members of the association (Assessors).
2. The Board of Directors shall take its decisions by a simple majority of the votes cast. It has a quorum if at least three members are present. In case of a tie, the vote of the Chairman shall be decisive. Meetings of the General Assembly shall be recorded in a written transcript.
3. The term of office of the elected board members shall be four years. The Board of Directors will remain in office until the next Board of Directors is elected according to the statutes. Re-elections of the Board of Directors are allowed. If a member of the Board drops out during the term of office, the Board shall elect a substitute for the resigned Board member for the remaining term of office.
4. The Board of Directors is responsible for:
  - a) the management of the operative business within the budget;
  - b) the judicial and extrajudicial representation of the association;
  - c) establishing the budget of the association;
  - d) the hiring and firing of employees of the association;
  - e) other functions assigned by this statute;
  - f) the report to the General Assembly on the activity of the association.
5. The liability for the actions of the Board of Directors in relation to the association's assets is limited to the amount of the association's assets. The Board of Directors may only enter into obligations for the association limited to the association's assets. Its authority is limited to the extent explicitly.
6. In legal transactions the association is represented jointly by two members of the Board of Directors. One of the two board members shall be the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.
7. The members of the Board of Directors act voluntarily.

### §10 Management

1. The association has a Managing Director. The Managing Director is ordered and send to the Board of Directors by

the IKT - Institute for Underground Infrastructure gGmbH, registered at the Commercial Register of the Local Court Gelsenkirchen under HRB 1884. He participates in the meetings of the Board in an advisory capacity, unless he is member of the Board of Directors himself.

2. The Managing Director of the association has the following responsibilities:
  - a) management of the daily affairs of the association on behalf of the Board or Directors;
  - b) maintenance of relations with agencies of the state, which are interested in the organisation's objectives and tasks, business enterprises and associations at home and abroad;
  - c) reporting on the economic development of IKT - Institute for Underground Infrastructure gGmbH and on its scientific research activities;
  - d) administrative support of the association's organs, committees and bodies.
3. The Manager may receive a compensation for his activities. The Board of Directors shall make a decision about this. A compensation for his activities as a board member is not granted.

### §11 Committees

To address specific issues committees can be formed on proposal of the Board of Directors and decision of the General Assembly.

### §12 Amending the Statutes and Resolution of the Association

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly on amendments of the association's statutes require a two-thirds majority of the members present at the General Assembly.
2. Decisions on the dissolution of the association can only be taken at a General Assembly specially convened for this purpose; they require the approval of three-quarters of all voting members of the association. If a dissolution of the association can not be decided, because there are less than three-fourths of the total votes of all members represented in the meeting, a new General Assembly may be convened, which must take place within four weeks after the first meeting. This General Assembly can, regardless of the votes represented decide the dissolution with a three-quarters majority of the votes cast. This is to be mentioned in the convocation.
3. In case of dissolution the Board of Directors appoints the liquidator.

### §13 Final Clauses

1. Decisions, that retroactively change, add, include or delete a clause of the statutes on tax benefits, have to be communicated to the responsible tax office for approval and must be carried out only after approval or after proposal of the tax office so that no tax benefits are affected.
2. The Board of Directors is authorized to amend the association's statutes as far necessary to enter the association register or to confirm the non-profit status.

### CONTRIBUTION RULES

as of January 1st, 2006

Municipality / City Council	by residents	annual membership fee
small	< 20.000	300 EUR
medium-sized	20.000 – 100.000	400 EUR
large	> 100.000	500 EUR
Associations and Private Sector		1.500 EUR

please fax to: +49 209 17806-13

or send by mail:

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D – 45886 Gelsenkirchen  
Germany

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## Membership Application

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Network Operator

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Department

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Street, P.O. Box

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City, Postal Code, Country

Represented by:

---

Academic Title

First Name

Name

---

Position

Phone

Fax

---

Email

Municipality / City Council with \_\_\_\_\_ residents

Private Sector

**Membership fee:**

Municipality / City Council	< 20,000 residents	300 Euro per year
	20,000 - 100,000 residents	400 Euro per year
	> 100,000 residents	500 Euro per year
Private Sector		1,500 Euro per year

**We hereby apply for membership in the IKT-Association of Network Operators.**

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Date

Stamp

Authorised Signature

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First Name and Name in Block Letters