GERMAN DATACENTER ASSOCIATION

German Datacenter Talents & Impact Awards

Five Years of the German Datacenter Association Awards

This year, the German Datacenter Association (GDA) will present its sponsorship awards for the fifth time, marking an anniversary of supporting young talent and recognizing innovation within the data center industry. Since 2022, the association representing the data center sector has been awarding a prize for outstanding academic theses.

Since last year, the awards have been expanded to additionally recognize innovative projects, companies, and institutions that are actively shaping the future of the data center industry. In particular, the **German Datacenter Talents & Impact Awards** highlight synergies that connect the data center industry with other sectors and drive sustainable progress.

The official award ceremony will take place on **September 17, 2026**, the second day of the **German Datacenter Conference**, during the gala evening.

Target Groups for the German Datacenter Talents & Impact Awards

The expanded awards address a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including students, startups, scale-ups, data center operators, planning offices, construction companies, technology providers, research institutions, and public entities such as cities and municipalities.

Four Award Categories Reflecting Industry Diversity

1. **Young Talents** – Supporting young academic talent
   (former GDA Young Talent Award)
2. **Community Engagement & Social Impact –** Initiatives that foster cross-industry collaboration and social responsibility, driving the market forward.
3. **Sustainability & Green Data Center** – Sustainable solutions for an environmentally friendly industry
4. **Innovation & Future Technologies** – Cutting-edge technologies and pioneering ideas

Visibility for Industry Innovation and Sustainability Efforts

The awards emphasize public recognition and access to a strong network: Winners will present their projects to an esteemed audience during the German Datacenter Conference evening event and receive opportunities to further develop their work in GDA workshops or deep dives. The awarded projects will also be professionally prepared as case studies and published through GDA—providing a powerful platform for reach and credibility. Additionally, the Young Talents category includes prize money to serve as starting capital for professional careers in the data center industry.

The German Datacenter Talents & Impact Awards highlight innovations, promote best practices, and drive momentum for a sustainable future in the data center industry.

Detailed information about the award topics, application process, and the jury of the GDA Award is available at **award.germandatacenters.com**