



Digitally connected

## Land of Industry 4.0 and Digital Enterprise

## Industry 4.0

Niedersachsen is one of Germany's most dynamic manufacturing locations for both major companies and SMEs, home to such global players in automotive and aerospace as Volkswagen, Continental and Airbus. In these and other sectors, supply and value creation chains have evolved that, thanks to their future-oriented configurations and thirst for innovation, are already working in the realm of 'Industry 4.0'.

### Intelligent Manufacturing

This standard is supported by specialist providers of automation and IT solutions such as the Hannover Centre for Production Technology (PZH) and the OFFIS Institute for Information Technology in Oldenburg, visionary driving forces of Intelligent Manufacturing in Niedersachsen.

### The Industry 4.0 sectors

Niedersachsen's enterprises are in the vanguard of digital data networking for logistics and mobility. The result: striking progress in modern traffic management, autonomous driving and car-to-car-communication. In 2017 Niedersachsen is setting up test track facilities to enhance the future prospects of the automobile industry through improvements to road safety and driving comfort.

Introducing smart grids and smart home technologies, developing new markets and business models, expanding intelligent energy systems ... Niedersachsen's energy sector is very well positioned for the future. The 'enera' project with 32 partners is showing the way forward in digitalised energy systems in Germany.

In agriculture the focus is on Farming 4.0; cloud systems, GPS and big data have established themselves in the agro-technology field – for example, the latest development at farm machine manufacturers Grimme: the 'Varitron' series with a new generation of self-steering potato harvesters.

## Digital enterprise

Niedersachsen can be proud of its lively diversity of digital developments and productions in diverse application fields:

- Gaming: a force for technical innovation in virtual and augmented reality, with tremendous potential for Industry 4.0
- Animation: At one of Germany's largest animation studios, in Hannover, computer-generated images are brought to life for major international film projects.
- On location: Niedersachsen is one of Germany's leading filming locations, where producers invest substantial sums to set their films in its uniquely diverse landscape.
- 'Meetup HANNOVR' – Europe's leading virtual reality network, based in Niedersachsen's capital.

## Digitalisation – key to success

Niedersachsen promotes many lighthouse projects for digitalisation: companies in Lüneburg and district have Germany's highest average digital sophistication. The State Government supports private enterprise with competence centres (SME 4.0), learning factories and networks that offer training, expert dialogue and project support. The Council for Information Infrastructures (RFII), the leading national think tank on the digitalisation of the economy, has been established at Göttingen University – and Niedersachsen's and the world's successes are regularly showcased at the CeBIT, HANNOVER MESSE and Agritechnica trade fairs in Hannover.

## Network Industry 4.0

'Netzwerk Industrie 4.0' is the central information source for experience and expertise exchange at State level; at specialist seminars, conferences and other events, it brings together partners from business, research and public administration. Niedersachsen's enterprises, especially SMEs, thus make the best possible use of the advantages to be gained from digitally networked processes and gather ideas and impetus for further innovation.

## Contact

We are your one-stop partner for all enquiries about entering the market and establishing your business in Niedersachsen.

We advise and support you with:

- information services
- location search
- investment realisation
- networking with public bodies, other enterprises, research and technology facilities.

Further information and success stories are on [www.invest-in-niedersachsen.com](http://www.invest-in-niedersachsen.com).

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Invest in



**Niedersachsen**

# Welcome to Niedersachsen!



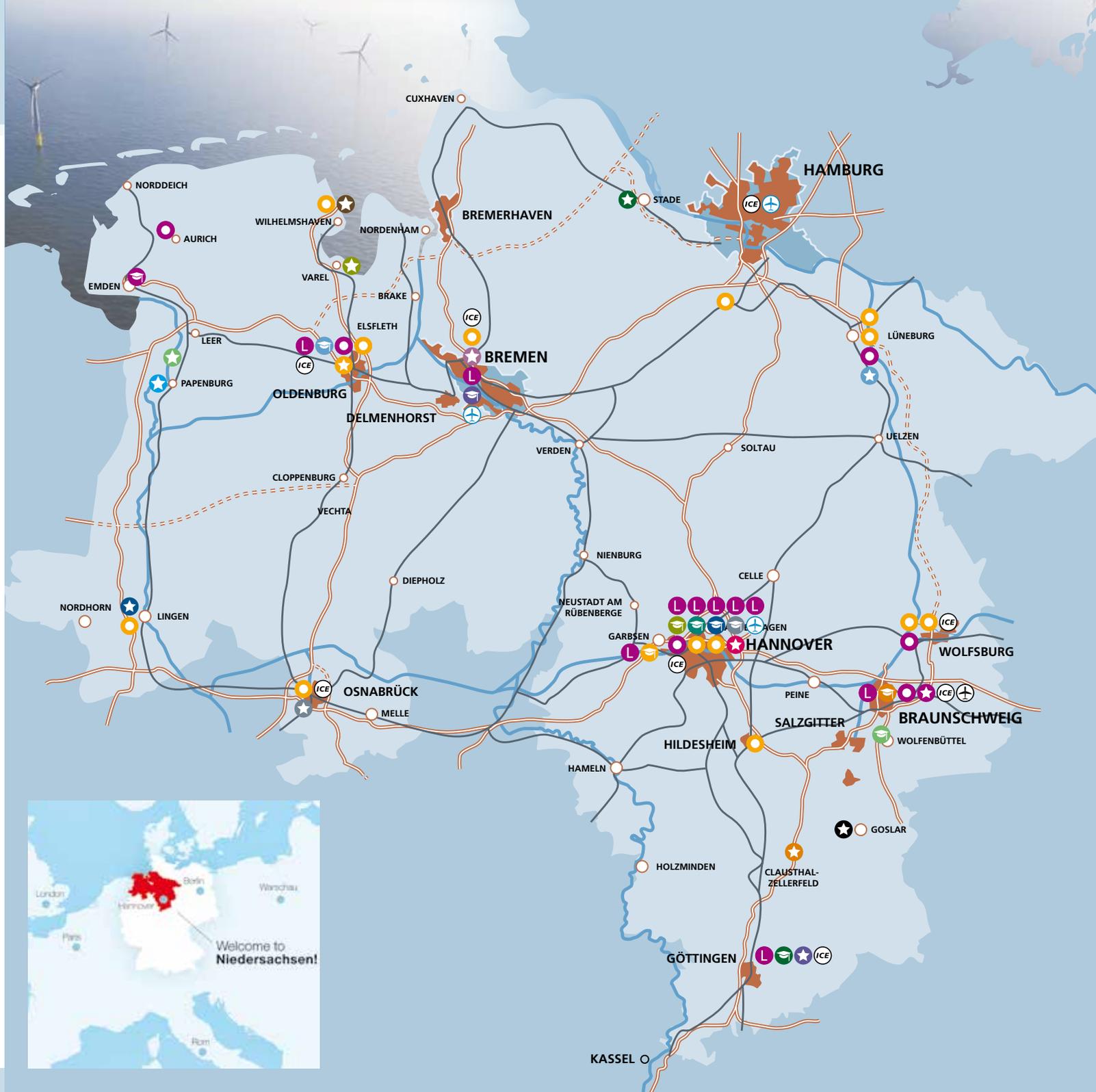
Digitalisation is everywhere, every day, changing our society at exponential speed, driving innovation in all sorts of business sectors and altering the way we live more and more.

The Niedersachsen State Government has established the framework for this fundamental transition in its 'digital.niedersachsen' strategy: measures in all areas to provide and exploit high-capacity total broadband coverage for the future of the State's economy and society. More than a billion euros investment in broadband have already been activated through funding programmes, to bring high-speed internet connection to every household and company by 2020. For creative enterprise start-ups and new business models, Niedersachsen's solid industrial background offers a powerful springboard, and ICT enterprises are growing here faster than other sectors.

Over to you! Take advantage of Niedersachsen's myriad potential and our digital expertise in planning and implementing your business vision. My staff will be pleased to advise and support you.

Yours,

Olaf Lies  
Minister for Economics,  
Labour and Transport of Niedersachsen



## Legend

### Networks and clusters

- ★ Production Innovations Network, Hannover, Hannover
- ★ BioRegion, Hannover
- ★ Network Industry 4.0 Hannover
- ★ Mechanical Engineering Future Alliance, Hannover
- ★ Niedersachsen Aviation, Hannover
- ★ Hannover IT, Hannover
- ★ Robotation Academy, Hannover
- ★ MSS – Entrepreneur Support, Hannover
- ★ HannoVR, Hannover
- ★ indy 4, Hannover
- ★ SME 4.0 competence centre, Hannover
- ★ Competence centre for digital applications in craft trades at Heinz-Piest-Institut für Handwerks-technik, Hannover
- ★ Competence centre for digital applications in craft trades, Northern Showcase, at the Federal Technology Centre for Electronics and Informatics (BFE) in Oldenburg
- ★ Association of Niedersachsen Technology Centres (VTN), Oldenburg
- ★ Nordwest.Digital, Oldenburg
- ★ InnovationsCentrum Osnabrück
- ★ Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Industry 4.0 network, Osnabrück
- ★ Niedersachsen Recycling Cluster for Economically Strategic Metals (REWIMET), Goslar
- ★ ITS Automotive Nord, Braunschweig
- ★ IT Innovation Cluster, Göttingen
- ★ Dialogue-Work-Future network, Lüneburg/Wolfsburg
- ★ MEMA metalworking and mechanical engineering network, Meppen
- ★ Harzer IT network, Clausthal
- ★ CFK Valley, Stade

### Research institutes and universities

- ★ Machining Innovations Network, Varel
- ★ SME 4.0 – Agentur Cloud, Lingen
- ★ JadeBay, Wilhelmshaven
- ★ Ems-Achse Papenburg
- ★ Industry 4.0 competence network, Bremen
- ★ University of Applied Sciences Emden, Leer
- ★ Bremen Institute for Production and Logistics (BIBA GmbH)
- ★ OFFIS Institute for Information Technology, Oldenburg
- ★ Göttingen Sociology Research Institute at Georgia Augusta University Göttingen (SOFI)
- ★ Niedersachsen learning factory for resource efficiency (NiFaR)
- ★ Braunschweig Technical University – IWF (energy efficiency)
- ★ Hannover Production Technology Centre (PZH)
- ★ L3S research centre
- ★ Hannover Institute for Integrated Production (IPH)
- ★ Hannover University of Applied Arts and Sciences (HSH)
- ★ Laser Zentrum Hannover e.V. (LZH)

### Makerspaces/Fablabs

- ★ Makerspaces
- ★ Coworking Spaces

### Learning factories

### Infrastructure

- ★ Airport
- ★ Braunschweig Research Airport
- ★ High-speed rail station
- ★ National highway
- ★ National highway in planning
- ★ Important long-distance rail route