

Festo Launches a Clean Energy Initiative at Its North American Regional Service Center in Mason, Ohio

Electricity generated by solar panels will add to the local energy pool – enough to power 359 Ohio homes for a year.

Festo, a global leader in industrial automation controls and systems and industrial training systems, announced today the launch of a clean energy project at its North American Regional Service Center along I-71. Roof-mounted solar panels will supply 48% of the facility's electricity requirements – 2.6 million kilowatt hours (kWh) – after completion of the project, which is slated for next year. One of Ohio's leading solar power companies, Kokosing Solar Power, Athens, Ohio, is the project's general contractor.

“Every kilowatt hour of electricity generated by sunlight at the Festo North American Regional Service Center is an additional kilowatt hour added to Duke Energy's pool of electricity for local consumers and businesses,” said Jose Luis Esparza, Head of Non-Production Material Procurement, Festo North America. “The added energy to the grid from this project will be equivalent to the electricity used by 359 homes in a year.”*

While traditional power plants emit greenhouse gases during electricity generation, photovoltaic panels do not. The solar panel project at Festo Mason will reduce CO₂ emissions by 1,841 metric tons annually. This reduction in CO₂ is equivalent to the carbon sequestration of a 2,000-acre forest.* Additional benefits of cleanly generated electricity include water savings, lower stress on the power grid, and reduced cost of generating and distributing electricity. Solar and wind projects support job growth in the clean energy industry.

Built in 2015 and expanded several times since, the Festo Regional Service Center is the North American distribution hub for Festo's globally manufactured automation products. The facility, which employs 350 people, also assembles custom orders and builds unique products for North American customers. Festo Didactic, the learning arm of Festo, builds hands-on systems that community colleges utilize to train the next generation of manufacturing and processing technicians.

Festo's automation technology is so crucial in automotive, food, medicine, and packaged consumer goods plants that the company was designated as an essential business during the pandemic. Festo is one of the top 15 employers in Mason.

Headquartered in Esslingen, Germany, Festo is a family-owned \$3.9 billion business employing more than 20,000 people in 60 countries. Festo celebrates its 100th anniversary next year.

[Sustainability is firmly anchored in Festo's corporate strategy.](#) In 2024, the company joined the [World Resources Institute Science Based Targets Initiative \(SBTi\)](#), which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. Also in 2024, Festo global operations offset 100% of its direct carbon emissions and achieved CO₂ neutrality for indirect emissions. Festo plans to generate 25% of its electricity through solar power by 2030. The Mason solar power initiative has been funded by a grant from the Festo family.

18. September 2024

Responsible
according to press
law:
Christian Österle



Download/View press
release and press
images.

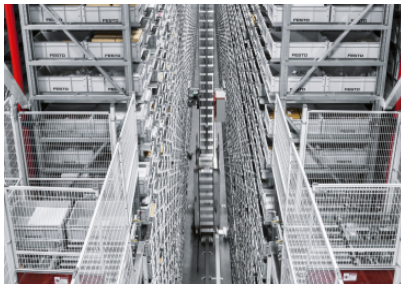
***Equivalencies calculated by the Environmental Protection Agency Greenhouse Gas Equivalency Calculator.**

Press Images



Festo North American Regional Service Center

Solar panels will be installed on two of the three buildings at the Festo North American Regional Service Center. Electricity generated by solar panels will add to the local energy pool – enough to power 359 Ohio homes for a year.



The Mason Regional Service Center is the North American distribution hub for Festo's globally manufactured automation products. Shown here is the automated storage and retrieval system, which is 35 miles long end-to-end. The new clean ...



Many automation components are custom assembled, as shown here, while other parts are manufactured at this Festo facility. Festo's automation technology is so crucial to the economy that the company was designated an essential business ...