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Retrofitting earthing systems: a breeze with the DEHN earth rod set.

Retrofitting earthing systems in existing buildings poses challenges for owners and specialised companies. A functioning earthing system is essential, especially when it comes to renovations, energy modernisations or the installation of photovoltaic systems, wall boxes and heat pumps. However, many existing buildings lack proof of standard-compliant earthing or use outdated systems such as water pipe networks. In addition, limited space, sealed surfaces and difficulty accessing the soil often make conventional retrofitting a complex and costly undertaking. With the new D18014 earth rod set, DEHN provides a practical solution specially developed for the requirements of renovating existing buildings.

To comply with standards, the electrical installation must be equipped with a functional earthing system that safely conducts fault currents to earth, thereby ensuring its safety and functionality. It protects people from hazards, such as lightning exposure, and prevents fires. In Germany, an earthing system is a standard requirement for electrical installations, especially in new buildings. But owners of existing buildings often deliberate on whether retrofitting is mandatory when they embark on a renovation or modernisation project. Although there is no general obligation to renew the entire electrical installation in older buildings, newly installed or modified system components, such as technical extensions relating to renewable energies, must comply with the applicable safety and technical standards. The relevant standards for the installation of an earthing system are DIN VDE AR-N 4100 and DIN 18014.

Press release



The D18014 earth rod set from DEHN contains all the necessary components for the professional installation of earth rods and is particularly suitable for new buildings and existing buildings with limited soil or minimal excavation possibilities. Whatever the season, the earth rod solution ensures and maintains stable earth resistance regardless of weather conditions or soil moisture. The set meets all relevant standards by complying with the requirements of DIN 18014 and the applicable VDE specifications. Its versatility makes it suitable for a variety of applications, including partial renovations, selective upgrades, installation inside the building or a complete renewal of the earthing system.

The set consists of five earth rods, each 1 metre long, to be inserted into the ground. A driving spike makes it easier to drive in the rods. The earth rods are connected to the connecting cable (round wire 8-10 mm or cable 16-50 mm²) without a cable lug using a connection clamp. This establishes a secure connection between the earthing system and the main earthing busbar (MEB) of the electrical installation. For buildings with a foundation area of up to 200 m², two sets are required to meet the normative requirements. Installation involves minimal disruption of existing outdoor facilities. Only two small excavation sites and wall bushings are necessary.

[Technical details can be found here.](#)



Standardised, efficient and easy to install: The D18014 earth rod set from DEHN for retrofitting earthing systems
Photo: DEHN SE

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About DEHN SE

DEHN is a leading, international family-owned electrical engineering company based in Neumarkt, Germany. With its comprehensive portfolio, DEHN addresses the megatrends of our time – from e-mobility and renewables to the protection of critical infrastructure. The company offers solutions and services for lightning and surge protection as well as safety equipment – fields in which, with more than 900 patents and utility models, DEHN is a leading innovator. The company's products protect people and buildings, systems and telecommunications technology, process industry, alongside photovoltaic systems and wind turbines.

With more than 2,500 employees worldwide, DEHN achieved revenue of around 465 million euros in the fiscal year 2024/2025. Alongside more than 115 years of experience, this constant growth is based on the highest quality standards and a consistent orientation towards customers and markets worldwide.