

Black & Veatch 2021 Megatrends Report Illuminates Growing Importance, Complementary Nature of Electrification, Decarbonization

A joint report by Black & Veatch and Canary Media explores how the climate crisis is pushing decarbonization strategies in the race to net zero.

NEWS RELEASE BY BLACK & VEATCH

Northampton, MA | September 23, 2021 03:01 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Climate change no longer is a nebulous concept, as communities around the globe experience the devastating effects of rising temperatures and increasingly extreme weather events. To address this, policymakers, corporations and other stakeholders are plotting ambitious net-zero action, helping to establish electrification and decarbonization as the overarching “megatrends” of 2021, according to a new report from global engineering and construction leader Black & Veatch and Canary Media.

The report – -- describes how individuals, companies and nations are working to combat climate change by pairing electrification efforts with advanced decarbonization technologies as they work to invest in a sustainable, carbon-free future.

According to the report, the situation has reached critical mass, with the acceleration of global decarbonization efforts essential to staving off the burgeoning climate crisis. In the United States, the Biden administration has made ambitious net-zero commitments, with the goal of decarbonizing the electric grid by 2035. To get there, the administration is encouraging the American economy to lower its carbon intensity, especially when it comes to buildings, transportation and heavy industry. A combination of green hydrogen and battery energy storage shows great promise in this effort.

The report dives into the role of electrification, addressing the proliferation of the “electrify everything” approach. While electrification is effective in many areas – e.g., heating and cooling buildings and fuelling vehicles – it falls short when it comes to powering aviation and heavy-duty vehicles. This is where green hydrogen (hydrogen produced through the use of renewable energy) holds sway, and the complementary pairing of electrification with hydrogen technologies is a key tool that will propel the world closer to a zero-carbon reality.

“With extreme climate events becoming much more frequent, it is crucial that all members of our global society make concerted efforts to increase sustainability and

lower carbon emissions,” said Mario Azar, president of Black & Veatch’s power business. “As *2021 Megatrends: Electrification and Decarbonization* makes clear, the widespread adoption of renewables and green hydrogen to replace fossil fuels will be integral in the path to our carbon-free future.”

Editor’s Notes:

- Download the report.
- **Click here** to learn more about how Black & Veatch can help achieve your decarbonization goals

About Black & Veatch Black & Veatch is an employee-owned global engineering, procurement, consulting and construction company with a more than 100-year track record of innovation in sustainable infrastructure. Since 1915, we have helped our clients improve the lives of people around the world by addressing the resilience and reliability of our most important infrastructure assets. Our revenues in 2020 exceeded US\$3.0 billion. Follow us on www.bv.com and on social media.

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