

Netiquette of the GTI-Forum

In order to render communication in this forum as agreeable and profitable as possible for all participants, we would like to ask you to observe the following etiquette:

Please bear in mind that not all of the participants may be speaking German!

The GTI forum would like to offer customers (and guests) from any country the opportunity to participate. Therefore, the surface inscriptions will be kept either in English or bilingual. Communication is subject to the following rule: Replies ought to be kept, wherever possible, in the language of the initial (first) contribution, or in English.

Please note that we personalise all contributions!

Being as it were the operator, GTI decided to attribute each contribution to the actual author (meaning, not to a given alias). For this reason, participants will be unable to modify the entries in the corresponding fields of the user profile. Note: Only the identity of registered users (not those of guests) is verified!

Please keep it brief!

Please keep your contributions as brief as possible. This will raise the willingness of others to read your contribution. Moreover, you will help to minimise transmission times and –costs. For the same reason, please abstain from including voluminous attachments.

Please make sure you do have something new to say!

Please make sure before composing your contribution that the things you wish to say have not already been verbalized in another contribution.

Please tend to your "subject" line!

Please pay particular attention to the subject line (also called "regarding" or "topic"). Here, you should describe the contents in few words so that readers can decide more quickly whether your contribution is of interest to them or not.

Please do not send any advertisements!

If you do, keep a low profile. Contributions having solely advertising contents that are entirely unconnected to the other contributions would be considered a nuisance by the other participants, and will possibly be deleted from the list by the operator.

Please show respect in dealing with your conversation partners!

Please phrase your contribution, comments and replies in such a form as you would use to address a given recipient "face to face." Do not use rhetorical figures like irony or sarcasm unless they can be recognized as such, for instance when so-called emoticons are used, such as e.g. :-) or ☺.

Please mind formal propriety!

Please invest some effort into the formal propriety of your contribution. While doing so, correct spelling should be paramount among your responsibilities. Capitalization is considered to mean a utterance in raised voice, and accepted only in cases that do call for raising your voice. Exclusive use of lower case letters or acronyms will diminish the legibility of a given text, while the use of paragraphs and punctuation will enhance it. You should make do

without German vowel mutations ("umlauts") unless you are 100 percent sure that your reader has the German character set at his or her disposal. Quotes and references should be attributed to their respective sources and highlighted.

Please observe the law!

Please observe the legal parameters regarding data protection or copyrights, and comply with the terms of usage, when composing your contributions and e-mails.

Please be discrete!

Practising discretion is one of the principal preconditions for successful and respected contributions. Do not refer to other contributions without being certain of the author's consent, and do not pass on any information that is not intended for the public.