DR. WERNER PRUSSEIT: “TEST FOR SUPERCONDUCTING COILS WAS SUCCESSFUL.”

3.6 megawatt generator for EcoSwing project wind turbine takes shape

Ismaning, June 23, 2016 – The EU-funded EcoSwing project has been going for a year now. Its objective is to develop the world’s first superconductive generator for a commercial wind turbine and take it into use under real conditions. To this end, a consortium of nine partners from five countries came together under the leadership of Envision Energy, a world-leading Smart Energy solution provider. THEVA is on board as the superconductor supplier. The project is slated to end in 2019. Time to look at where things stand.

After the project’s first year, all partners met for a review in the Brussels office of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, with experts from the European Commission in attendance. The participants concluded that all milestones had been reached. As superconductor supplier, THEVA was able to ramp up production and provide sufficient quantities of high-quality material. For the large generator poles, the company developed a new process for making coils and potting. Functioning of the test coils was verified by the University of Twente in a dedicated test chamber built specifically for the purpose. THEVA CEO Dr. Werner Prusseit notes: “We are glad that our material and the coils passed all the tests. For us as a supplier of superconductor components, this is an important milestone for other applications as well.”

The other consortium members also reached their objectives. The tasks are distributed as follows: ECO 5 and Jeumont Electric developed the rotor and stator. Jeumont is also responsible for stator cooling and rotor assembly. SHI Cryogenics Group provides key components for cooling of the superconductive rotor. Delta Energy Systems designed a power conversion system specifically for the system. DNV GL advises on pre-certification issues and is working on standardizing the EcoSwing concept for wind energy operators. Fraunhofer IWES prepared the EcoSwing generator testing concept at its Dynamic Nacelle Laboratory (DyNaLab) in Bremerhaven. Envision Energy proposed a retrofit concept for installing all EcoSwing components into its Thyborøn turbine.

More information on the project can be found at http://ecoswing.eu/images/media/2016-05-23_EcoSwing_Annual_Review.pdf

EcoSwing has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 656024. “This text reflects only the opinion of the author. The Commission is not responsible for any use made of the contents.”
About THEVA

With 20 years’ experience in coating technology and equipment engineering, THEVA today stands for a unique approach in superconductor production. To get there the company invested in research and testing phases for over 15 years, supported since 2012 by Target Partners and the Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft. In 2016 eCapital and Bayern Kapital joined as investors. The new THEVA Pro-Line superconductors round out the company’s comprehensive portfolio of high-end coating and systems technology solutions.

THEVA Dünnenschichttechnik GmbH was founded in 1996 and today has about 50 employees. Headquartered in Germany, and with contacts in Asia, the USA and Russia, the company has a global presence for its customers.

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