

Paris, April 12, 2012

Mersen to supply components for the most powerful offshore wind turbines ever built

Mersen has been chosen by REpower, one of the world's leading manufacturers of onshore and offshore wind turbines, to supply signal transmission systems for the Thornton Bank wind farm located 28km from the port of Ostend (Belgium). This wind farm will eventually comprise 48 giant turbines, each with 6.15 MW in unit capacity—the most powerful built to date. The first of the 48 nacelles was installed on March 21.

The signal transmission systems are key components of a wind turbine's electrical system because they directly affect performance and thus availability levels. The signals they carry control the pitch motors and also deliver information back from sensors in the blade area, such as fatigue and vibration data.

Mersen's systems were chosen for this project because they meet the specific requirements of offshore facilities and are suited for high-power installations. The Group's key strength is that it has designed a hybrid approach combining graphite brush and wire contact technologies in the same signal transmission system. As a result, its systems can carry both analog and digital signals via all the communication protocols used in the market.

This project establishes Mersen ideally in the burgeoning market of offshore wind turbines.

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About Mersen

Global expert in materials and solutions for extreme environments as well as in the safety and reliability of electrical equipment Mersen designs innovative solutions to address its clients' specific needs to enable them to optimize their manufacturing process in sectors such as energy, transportation, electronics, chemical, pharmaceutical and process industries.

The Group is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris – Compartment B

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