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JOINT PRESS RELEASE

13 December 2010

3E, Alstom Grid, CG Power Systems, CMI, DEME Blue Energy, Eurogrid International and SAG, sign a preliminary cooperation agreement to foster the development of future offshore grids in Europe

Seven European companies active in the electricity transmission industry, including system operations development, financing, installation, operation and maintenance of such systems, and/or of renewable energy generation signed on December 9 a preliminary cooperation agreement aiming at bundling competences and strengths to actively contribute to the development of future offshore grid infrastructure, more specifically in the North and Baltic Seas, the English Channel, the Celtic Sea and the Irish Sea.

3E, Alstom Grid, CG Power Systems, CMI, DEME Blue Energy, Eurogrid International (a holding company of Elia and IFM), and SAG are each in their specific areas actively involved in enabling the development and integration of renewable energy, especially offshore wind and wave and tidal energy, in regard of the European energy and climate protection targets.

The seven companies are now joining forces to boost the development of appropriate transmission infrastructure for the integration of renewable energy generated at sea. In particular, they wish to work out opportunities together for jointly developing, operating and investing in targeted projects in the North and Baltic Seas, the English Channel, the Celtic Sea and the Irish Sea, in addition to providing joint combined services, products and investments to develop, operate and maintain the required marine infrastructure.

The cooperation agreement demonstrates the strong support of each company for the initiatives already taken by the European, national and/or regional authorities to enhance the development of offshore wind generation and shows the willingness of the sector to proactively and clearly contribute to the "North Seas Countries Offshore Grid Initiative", the Memory of Understanding recently signed by the Ministers of the North Seas Countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom.



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About the companies

About 3E

3E is a Brussels based international research and engineering company specialized in renewable energy. 3E is actively involved in defining the strategy and technologies required to enable the transition to an intelligent, cost-effective renewable powered energy future. The company is leading research on offshore grid topology and design, energy economics and network intelligence for grids with high penetration of renewables. Day to day, 3E also accompanies stakeholders in the development and control of wind and solar energy projects worldwide and provides products and services to optimize energy consumption and improve energy system performance.

3E is a key contributor to the European and Belgian blueprints for Northern European offshore grids. A member of Friends of the Supergrid the company is also currently working on the European project OffshoreGrid (www.offshoregrid.eu).

About Alstom

Alstom is a global leader in the world of power generation, power transmission and rail infrastructure and sets the benchmark for innovative and environmentally friendly technologies. Alstom builds the fastest train and the highest capacity automated metro in the world. It provides turnkey integrated power plant solutions and associated services for a wide variety of energy sources, including hydro, nuclear, gas, coal and wind, and it offers a wide range of solutions for power transmission, with a focus on smart grids. The Group employs 96,500 people in more than 70 countries, and had sales of over €23 billion* in 2009/10. (*Pro forma figures)

Alstom Grid, the newest sector of Alstom, formed following the recent acquisition of AREVA's Transmission activities on 7 June 2010, has over 100 years of expertise in electrical grids. Whether for utilities or electro-intensive industries or facilitating the trading of energy, Alstom Grid brings power to their customers' projects. Alstom Grid ranks among the top 3 in electrical transmission sector with a sales turnover of approximately €3.5 billion in 2009. It has 20,000 employees and over 90 manufacturing and engineering sites worldwide. Its four main business areas are Products, Systems, Automation and Service. At the heart of the development of Smart Grid, Alstom Grid offers products, services and integrated energy management solutions across the full energy value chain—from power generation, through transmission and distribution grids and to the large end user.

About CG Power Systems:

CG Holdings Belgium and CG Power Systems Belgium are world leaders in the design and manufacture of three-phase distribution and power transformers, and a fast growing competitor in the market of substations, integrated solutions and services. CG's transformers, systems and services division have a proven track record in the onshore and offshore wind industry as well as in the European T&D sector.

CG Holdings Belgium and CG Power Systems are part of the CG group, which is a pioneering leader in the management and application of electrical energy, with a manufacturing presence in nine countries - India, Belgium, USA, Canada, Ireland, UK, Hungary, Indonesia and France. CG is active in the global power transmission & distribution (T&D) arena, and is amongst the world's top ten transformer manufacturers. For the integration of renewable offshore wind, CG's major achievements are their SLIM® and Bio-SLIM® transformers, power transformers, GIS and services for offshore substations. Recently, CG has successfully designed and installed the Belwind Offshore High Voltage Substation in a record time of one year.



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About CMI (Cockerill Maintenance & Ingénierie)

CMI designs, modernises and overhauls equipment, for the energy, defence, steel-making and other industry markets. CMI offers solutions that help improving the economical and technical performance of its customer's manufacturing processes as well as reducing their environmental footprint. CMI has developed a range of technologies and services such as solar receivers for thermosolar powerplants, furnaces for wood torrefaction, assembly and maintenance of windturbines on & offshore. CMI Group can rely on a strong team of more than 3200 technicians and engineers and operates units based in Europe, the United States, Brazil, Russia, India and China. More information on www.cmigroupe.com

About DEME Blue Energy (DBE):

DBE is a specialized company that focuses on the generation and transport of renewable energy and more in particular the research, development, construction and operation & maintenance of renewable 'blue energy' technology and projects . This could be either the generation of energy from waves, tidal movements and currents or electro-osmosis or biomass harvested from seaweed and algae thus in general from water. . Also the marine electrical infrastructure to transport the generated electrical power is part of DBE's scope of services. The company offers a full services package including the promotion and development of relevant projects, the partnership in ad-hoc Special Purpose Companies (SPC) that design, develop, implement, construct and operate the technology, the support in project financing for renewable energy projects, the exploitation and maintenance of blue energy structures and the facilitation of the construction of projects via participation in companies that construct at sea, in rivers, canals and installations that produce or transport energy. DBE relies on the resources of the multidisciplinary DEME-Group (Dredging,

Environmental and Marine Engineering) that has made a substantial contribution to the development of systems and structures for the generation of renewable energy at sea in the last decade.

About Eurogrid International :

Eurogrid is a holding company of Elia (60%), the Belgian electricity transmission system operator, and Industry Funds Management (IFM) (40%), an Australian based infrastructure fund. It owns a 100% interest in **50Hertz Transmission GmbH (50Hertz)**, one of the four transmission system operators in Germany.

Elia is the Belgian transmission system operator, transmitting electricity efficiently, reliably and securely from producers to distribution system operators and major industrial users. Elia is responsible for importing and exporting electricity from and to neighbouring countries. Elia owns the entire Belgian very high voltage grid (150 to 380 kV) and some 94% (ownership and user rights) of the Belgian high-voltage grid (30 to 70 kV). The Elia grid comprises 5,614 km of overhead lines and 2,765 km of underground connections and is a key link between electricity markets in northern and southern Europe. It also links Belgian producers and consumers. Belgium's recent investment in interconnection capacity with its neighbours makes it one of the most open and interconnected grids in Europe. Elia has recently expanded its activities on a broader European level and, following its acquisition of German TSO 50Hertz and in cooperation with Industry Funds Management (IFM), is now one of the top five transmission system operators in Europe.

Industry Funds Management Pty Ltd ("IFM") is one of the largest global infrastructure investment managers. Headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, with offices in London and New York, IFM specializes in the management of private investment products including infrastructure, debt investments



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and listed equity portfolios. IFM manages over US\$18.9 billion worldwide in its related products and services.

IFM has been an investor in infrastructure assets since 1995, and has completed 43 transactions in that 15 year period with approximately US\$6 billion invested in the sector. Within Europe, IFM Global Infrastructure Fund has direct investments in a number of regulated utilities and other infrastructure assets. IFM is owned by Industry Super Holdings Pty Ltd, the holding company for the Members Equity group of companies, which in turn is owned by 36 major Australian not-for-profit superannuation funds. For more information about IFM, please visit www.ifm.net.au.

About SAG Group

For more than 90 years the SAG Group is the leading partner for energy related infrastructure of public utilities and industrial companies. SAG provides manufacturer-independent services and systems for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, gas and water networks. Approx. 8,300 employees generated revenues of around € 1 billion. SAG GmbH, headquartered in Langen, Germany, is present nationwide in Germany with over 120 locations. Subsidiaries in France, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia also form a part of the SAG Group. In October 2010, SAG has strengthened its successful market position by acquiring Bohlen & Doyen (Germany), a construction and service company offering end-to-end services, from planning to maintenance and supervision of projects, among other areas including cabling and piping in tideland.