



Press Release

Superconducting Power Grids – A step forward in energy transition

Nexans' technical conference will cover all aspects of superconductivity and its role in streamlining and securing our energy supply in the future

Paris, December 7, 2015

On 7th December, Nexans will look at the role of superconductivity in providing reliable and energy-efficient solutions to integrate renewable power generation while reducing carbon footprint, with inputs from leading experts from industry and academics.

Nexans will welcome Oliver Sauerbach, project manager of the AmpaCity project at RWE, who will present the experience with the AmpaCity system where the world's longest superconducting power cable has been integrated in a medium voltage grid infrastructure in the city centre of Essen in Germany. This cable system is now in continuous operation since March 2014 and proves the maturity of superconducting power cable systems for grid applications.

Frank Schmidt, Nexans head of superconductor activity will further present an overview of current applications using superconductors and an outlook to next projects including an overview of the industrialization efforts for superconducting systems and material manufacturing.

The conference will also speak about new ways to design distribution grids based on the use of superconducting fault current limiters. The panel will discuss how the adoption of superconducting solutions can be expanded faster, now that the systems have proven their reliability in existing grids. Especially the AmpaCity concept is tailor made for applications in dense urban areas where there is a need to transport large amounts of power in reduced space and where high voltage systems could be replaced by superconducting medium voltage solutions.

Delegates will hear about how superconducting cables could significantly improve the efficiency of transportation systems to reduce their carbon footprint contributing to meet the European environment policy targets. Some application examples will be given, including their use for cruise ships, as well as ambitious future projects, such as providing power on board prototype hybrid aeroplanes. Long- length DC superconducting cables relying on hydrogen as both a cooling fluid and energy storage medium will also be presented.

Pierre Kayoun, Corporate Vice President of Technology & Innovation at Nexans, said *"This years' technical conference presents an important opportunity to discuss superconductivity in depth as just one of our contributions beyond interconnectors and renewable energy generation solutions to assist an energy transition. This year in particular, coinciding with COP21, will surely present some progressive debate about the role that technology has to play in preserving the environment - a goal which Nexans remains dedicated to throughout our R&D activities."*

About Nexans

Nexans brings energy to life through an extensive range of cables and cabling solutions that deliver increased performance for our customers worldwide. Nexans' teams are committed to a partnership approach that supports customers in four main business areas: Power transmission and distribution (submarine and land), Energy resources (Oil & Gas, Mining and Renewables), Transportation (Road, Rail, Air, Sea) and Building (Commercial, Residential and Data Centers). Nexans' strategy is founded on continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development, customer training and the introduction of safe, low-environmental-impact industrial processes.

In 2013, Nexans became the first cable player to create a Foundation to introduce sustained initiatives for access to energy for disadvantaged communities worldwide.

Nexans is an active member of Europacable, the European Association of Wire & Cable Manufacturers, and a signatory of the Europacable Industry Charter. The Charter expresses its members' commitment to the principles and objectives of developing ethical, sustainable and high-quality cables.

We have an industrial presence in 40 countries and commercial activities worldwide, employing close to 26,000 people and generating sales in 2014 of 6.4 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A.

For more information, please consult: www.nexans.com

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