



SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC CONCENTRATION WILL BE TESTED IN PALMELA

Volkswagen Autoeuropa bet on new energy sources

WS Energia, Volkswagen Autoeuropa and ATEC signed a protocol of cooperation with the aim to develop and implement the first Portuguese Project of entrepreneur cooperation for the installation of one central' solar concentration till 10 MW (MegaWatts) in Autoeuropa.

In the global environment in which it was considered essential to use renewable energy, the three entities got together in an innovative project with a strong component of R&D, which aims to combine the technological know-how of WS Energia with the industrial experience of an important company from the automotive sector, Volkswagen Autoeuropa, and the training experience of ATEC. The aim is to test the implementation of "Solar Photovoltaic Concentration" through solar power units of industrial size and to prepare the human resources necessary for the sustained penetration of this technology in the Portuguese Industry. The "Solar Photovoltaic Concentration" is a technology capable of fully changing the energy market in the next 5 years in Portugal, due to country's exceptional conditions in solar terms. "Solar Photovoltaic Concentration" has the potential to lead this revolution.

This project, which is in line with the National Strategy for Energy 2020, is born due to the will of Volkswagen Autoeuropa to improve its energy performance through the development in strategic areas to promote streamlining and improving energy efficiency, enhancing low-impact renewable energies. For that purpose, it is intend to implement at the site of the Palmela plant the production of energy, based on a photovoltaic system of high efficiency, conceived by WS Energia and named HSUN. The concentration of sunlight through mirrors due to HSUN induces increased production of electricity from photovoltaic cells, resulting in a significant reduction in the cost of energy generated. Photovoltaic cells can be installed anywhere and at any scale and this combination allows the production of cheap energy available to all.

The Director of WS Energia, João Wemans, when he signed the protocol, declared "the project is a joint commitment of the leaders in the fields of training, solar technology and industry". He added: "We believe it will be the perfect platform to prove HSUN photovoltaic technology is ready for the free energy market".

According to Julius von Ingelheim, President of ATEC, "this project has a special attraction because, in its development phase, managers and specialists of the entities involved conceive together the entire concept, including aspects of technology, finance and training. In a second phase, we transform our ideas into experimental platforms to test the concept". The President of ATEC also underlined that "based on each one, we can do something unique and very useful not only for the partners involved but also for Portugal. This is high technology developed entirely in Portugal, with the advantage of simultaneously giving the opportunity for a new generation of students to specialize in a technology with great future prospects for sustainability".

At the same time, the Executive Director of Volkswagen Autoeuropa, Andreas Hinrichs, reaffirmed "the strong commitment of Volkswagen in all areas of environmental sustainability", adding that "since the first draft of a new car until the final stage of its production to reduce energy cost is a strategic objective. The use of clean and renewable energy is crucial to our success. I believe that with this project we are going in the right direction and that we will create in Portugal a technology for the future."

To monitor and compare different technologies initially will be implement a pilot photovoltaic central in ATEC installations, where already are being carried qualifying training in the field of Photovoltaic Solar Energy in general. For this purpose, WS Energia will collaborate intensely.



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About WS Energia

Located at Taguspark, in Oeiras, since 2006, WS Energia draws, produces and commercialize new systems of energy production from solar photovoltaic source. The global business in 2009 was 4 millions Euros and for 2010-2011 the company previews to achieve the 20 millions Euros. In Development and Investigation, the main project occurring in the company is the HSUN, which will allow launching in 2012 photovoltaic products of solar concentration capable of producing electricity in competitive prices comparing to fossil fuels. This project is supported by QREN, through the Regional Operational Program of Lisbon. The merit of WS Energy has been recognized over time. In 2009, the company was accepted as a member of the National SME-COTEC and also invited to be the national representative on the Standards Commission IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) for Photovoltaic Concentration.

About ATEC - Training Academy

The ATEC - Training Academy is a national project and was born of a partnership between Volkswagen Autoeuropa, Siemens, Bosch-Vulcano and the Portuguese-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This joint project allows creating the conditions for the transmission of knowledge and know-how, national and international, which the promoters hold. Training courses, professional training courses for unemployed people seeking their first or new job, as well as running courses aimed at integrating higher technicians in the business, along with the training of employees and consulting solutions, are some services provided by ATEC. The ATEC stands also as an intervention project in Strategic Management Consulting and Operations, building solutions, comprehensive and innovative, including qualifying professionals with the energies of the future in perspective. It works also in key processes, with the right people and in a participatory manner, using methods and state of the art techniques in order to promote the introduction and development of improvements in organizational performance.

About Volkswagen Autoeuropa

Volkswagen Autoeuropa is one of the vehicle manufacturing plants of the Volkswagen Group. Located in the region of Palmela, began production in 1995 and currently has about 3,000 employees. The models produced are Volkswagen Sharan, Volkswagen Eos, Volkswagen Scirocco and Seat Alhambra. Represents the largest foreign investment so far made in Portugal, with a very positive impact on the Portuguese economy, particularly in terms of exports. The philosophy of continuous improvement of Autoeuropa has positioned the company at the forefront of various indicators of productivity, among all the factories of Volkswagen Group. Since this is a competitive factory in the automotive industry equipped with the latest technology, Volkswagen Autoeuropa presents with a flexible and capable of facing future challenges, following the latest standards of quality and environmental sustainability.

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