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Elia Grid International and Siemens join forces on international energy market

Focus on sustainable development of high-voltage infrastructure in Sub-Saharan Africa

Elia Grid International (EGI) and Siemens NV/SA have entered into an agreement to jointly identify, develop and - when advisable and approved by the customer - implement potential high-voltage projects in the so-called EMEA region (Europe, Middle East and Africa). Initially, opportunities will be sought in countries located south of the Sahara Desert.

The partnership comprises all project phases, from identifying potential projects and customers to consultancy and engineering, to final implementation of the envisaged high-voltage infrastructure. Its scope covers both improving and upgrading existing energy infrastructure as well as organising new projects.

Expertise for third parties

By partnering with Siemens, EGI is boosting the international aspirations of the Elia Group, which offers consultancy and engineering services on the international market through EGI. As a wholly-owned subsidiary (50/50) of Elia Transmission in Belgium and 50Hertz Transmission in Germany, EGI combines the best of two large European electricity transmission system operators with a strong reputation and solid expertise.

Markus Berger, CEO of Elia Grid International: *"As a supplier of high-voltage systems, Siemens is a familiar and valued partner of the Elia Group that shares the same values regarding the sustainable development, construction and management of energy systems. Because Siemens is so firmly established in African countries, EGI strongly believes in the added value and business potential offered by our international cooperation."*

Within the international Siemens Group, Siemens Belgium has been tasked with market development in West and Central Africa (23 countries) and is also responsible for the Siemens entities in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco. The cooperation agreement with Elia Grid International as such fits in well with the company's objective of launching sustainable solutions on the African market.

André Bouffioux, CEO of Siemens Belgium-Luxembourg: *"We are very happy about the agreement with Elia, which has been a partner at local level for many years and with which we have developed a trust-based relationship. Thanks to the complementary nature of the product lines of both companies, we strongly believe that we can and will strengthen each other in this exciting field. Together we will ensure that the available energy gets to its destination - anywhere in the world - while paying close attention to economic efficiency, climate, available local resources and public acceptance. In this way, we are drawing up a reliable energy roadmap for the future."*

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Elia Group/Elia Grid International

The **Elia Group** is organised around two electricity transmission system operators (TSOs): **Elia** in Belgium and (in cooperation with Industry Funds Management IFM) **50Hertz**, one of the four German transmission system operators, which is active in the north and east of Germany. In addition to its activities as a transmission system operator in Belgium and Germany, the Elia Group offers businesses a wide range of consultancy and engineering services through its subsidiary, **EGI** (Elia Grid International).

The Group's system operators efficiently, reliably and securely transmit electricity from generators to distribution system operators and major industrial consumers, while also importing and exporting electricity from and to neighbouring countries. The Group is a driving force behind the development of the European electricity market and the integration of energy generated from renewable sources.

With more than 1900 employees and a transmission grid comprising some 18,300 km of high-voltage connections serving 30 million end-consumers, the Elia Group is a European top five player.

The Group operates under the legal entity Elia System Operator, a listed company whose reference shareholder is the municipal holding company Publi-T.

www.elia.eu
www.eliagrid-int.com

Siemens

Siemens is a global technology powerhouse that has stood for excellence in technology and engineering, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for more than 165 years. In Belgium the company is based in Huizingen.

Siemens is active in the fields of electrification, automation and digitization. As one of the world's largest producers of energy-efficient technologies, Siemens is No. 1 in offshore wind turbine construction, a leading supplier of combined cycle turbines for power generation and of power transmission solutions, and a pioneer in infrastructure solutions and automation and software solutions for industry.

The company is also a leading supplier of medical imaging equipment – such as computed tomography systems (CT scanners) and magnetic resonance imaging systems (MRI scanners) – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics.

Since last year Siemens Belgium has been responsible for the development of activities in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and for the French-speaking countries in West and Central Africa.

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