



## PRESS RELEASE



29/09/2016

For more information  
please contact:

### Media

**Joëlle Bouillon**  
[Joelle.bouillon@amprion.net](mailto:Joelle.bouillon@amprion.net)  
Int'l: +49 231 5849 12 932  
Mob: M +49 152 09227238  
**Amprion**  
[www.amprion.net](http://www.amprion.net)

**Sophie De Baets**  
[Sophie.DeBaets@elia.be](mailto:Sophie.DeBaets@elia.be)  
Int'l: +32 25467611  
Mob: +32 473907768  
**Elia**  
[www.elia.be](http://www.elia.be)

**Olga Mussons**  
[omusons@generalcable.es](mailto:omusons@generalcable.es)  
Ext: +34 93 227 97 09  
Mob: +34 629 333 176  
**SILEC CABLE,**  
**part of General Cable**  
[www.generalcable.com/eu](http://www.generalcable.com/eu)

## Amprion and Elia have signed contracts for the delivery of the cable for ALEGRo, the first interconnector between Germany and Belgium

- **€125 million contracts with Silec Cable**
- **Around 100 kilometres of 320 kV bipole HVDC (High Voltage Direct Current) extruded underground cable with a capacity of 1000MW**
- **ALEGRo creates value for society: security of supply, renewable energy and EU market integration**

Amprion and Elia have signed today with the winning contractor who will deliver the cable system for the first electricity interconnector between Germany and Belgium: Silec Cable, part of the world's largest wire and cable manufacturers General Cable.

The European Commission has designated the ALEGRo project as one of its projects of common interest. This means that the following characteristics<sup>1</sup> have been set to green: "Grid transfer capacity increase", "socio-economic welfare", "RES integration", "improved security of supply", "CO2 mitigation", "technical resilience", "flexibility".

The German Transmission System Operator Amprion and the Belgian Transmission System Operator Elia join forces to deliver the Aachen Liège Electricity Grid Overlay (ALEGRo), a major infrastructure project. Silec Cable will execute the full turnkey project in Belgium, including the design, supply, civil works, installation and commissioning of the 320kV HVDC underground cable. In Germany, the cable civil works and installation will be realized by another party.

ALEGRo contributes greatly toward helping the European energy markets grow closer together. The high voltage link can transport energy up to 1,000 MW to either Belgium or Germany with a high degree of controllability of the energy flow. It will run around 100 kilometers and will transport enough electricity to power half a million homes.

ALEGRo will increase energy security for both countries and support the integration of renewable energy. The cable will allow the transport of electricity between countries and thanks to the HVDC technology, the TSOs will be able to adjust the volume of electricity and flow direction.

<sup>1</sup> 10-Year Network Development Plan 2012, Table 12.1: Projects of pan-European significance, pp 152,



## PRESS RELEASE

The cable capacity also gives the chance to renewable energy to inject the maximum of their production on the grid.

Klaus Kleinekorte, Managing Director of Amprion: "ALEGrO will make the European electricity network even more secure and powerful. We can control the power flow of the cable with a high degree of accuracy and adjust the volume of electricity and flow direction."

Markus Berger, Elia Chief Officer Infrastructure:

"We are delighted that Silec Cable has won the contract. State-of-the-art cable technology will make ALEGrO a highly reliable interconnector in Europe, bringing new supplies of competitively-priced electricity to the market".

Raymond Petrus, General Cable's Vice President & General Manager for Energy:

"We are honoured to have been chosen by Amprion and Elia to undertake this challenging and strategic turnkey project, and proud to be recognised as a key player in HVDC grid connection projects. This new project confirms General Cable experience and know how in Extruded HVDC technology since the 80's through its SILEC™ brand".

The installation engineering work and site preparation for the production should begin this year and the interconnector is scheduled to commence commercial operation in 2020.

---

### About Amprion

*Amprion GmbH operates Germany's longest extra-high voltage grid, with a circuit length of 11,000 km, and is an important transmission systems operator in Europe. The Amprion grid supplies power to a population of over 27 million from Lower Saxony to the Alps. As an innovative service provider, Amprion provides industrial customers and network partners with maximum security of supply. Its network, with voltage levels of 380,000 and 220,000 volts, is accessible to all players in the electricity market on a non-discriminatory basis and on competitive and transparent terms. Amprion is also responsible for coordinating the interconnected system within Germany and the Northern section of Europe's extra-high voltage network.*

### About Elia

*The Elia Group is organised around two electricity transmission system operators (TSOs): Elia Transmission in Belgium and 50Hertz Transmission (in which Elia has a 60% stake), one of the four German transmission system operators, active in the north and east of Germany. With 2,000 employees and a transmission grid comprising some 18,000 km of high-voltage connections serving 30 million consumers, the Elia Group is one of Europe's top 5 TSOs. It efficiently, reliably and securely transmits 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.*



## PRESS RELEASE

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

### **About General Cable**

*General Cable is a cable manufacturer that provides innovative solutions, with a track record of more than 170 years. The company has over 13,000 employees and generates 6 billion dollars in revenues, which makes General Cable t a worldwide cable manufacturing leader.*

*Our company provides service to clients through a global network of 38 factories in our core operating regions, with sales representatives and distribution centers across the globe. The company focuses on the production of high-quality aluminum cable, copper and fiber optic wire and cable and systems solutions for the energy, construction, industrial, specialty and communications industries. With a vast portfolio of products to meet thousands of diverse application requirements, the company continues to invest in research and development in order to maintain and extend its technology leadership by developing new materials, designing new products and creating new solutions to meet tomorrow's market challenges.*

*General Cable enjoys great prestige in both technology and manufacturing as well as in distribution and logistics, marketing, sales and customer service. This winning combination enables the company to provide its customers with excellent service and ensure their ongoing development and growth.*

*As a large and stable company with extensive expertise, General Cable offers reliability and a team that responds quickly to provide tailored solutions for individual clients, both locally and globally.*