

Elia Group launches public offering of more than €590 million

On 15 June 2022, Elia Group announced the launch of a public offering to existing shareholders and holders of an extra-legal preferential subscription right of up to €590,113,192.50. This was carried out by issuing up to 4,739,865 new ordinary shares at €124.50 per share on the basis of 2 new shares per 29 existing shares. Preferential subscription rights that are not exercised during the subscription period will be converted into an equal number of scrips and offered for sale to institutional investors through a private placement. The Board of Directors gave the green light for this capital increase last month. The funds will be used to finance the acceleration of the energy transition in both Belgium and Germany.

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Transformer platform successfully installed in Baltic Sea



50Hertz (from Germany), Parkwind (Belgium) and Bladt Industries (from Denmark) worked together on the installation of the Arcadis Ost offshore substation (OSS). The Scaldis crane vessel Gulliver installed the 2,380 tonne platform on the monopile foundation in the Arcadis Ost 1 wind farm. The platform will transform the power generated by 27 wind turbines into 220kV and bring it to the onshore 50Hertz connection point in Lubmin via subsea transmission cables. The platform is located 19 kilometres out to sea and is 30 metres high.

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First Offshore Innovation Day



For the European Commission, offshore wind energy is the cornerstone of the future European energy system. The current offshore wind capacity must be increased from 16 GW to 300 GW by 2050. To support this ambition, Elia Group organised its first Offshore Innovation Day on 2 June at the port of Ostend. The event brought together specialists from a variety of sectors to discuss the future of the offshore sector and the role of innovation.

Alongside speeches and discussions, a number of companies presented their pioneering projects and latest technologies to event attendees.

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First unmanned inspection vessel used to monitor the MOG



During the Offshore Innovation Day, Brazilian start-up TideWise presented a recent success achieved by its unmanned inspection vessel that can travel up to 40 kilometres away from the coast: for the first time, this vessel was used to inspect the cables leading to the Modular Offshore Grid (MOG), Elia's offshore power hub in the Belgian part of the North Sea. TideWise was the winner of Elia Group's Open Innovation Challenge in 2021.

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Sentrisense wins Open Innovation Challenge 2022



Polish start-up Sentrisense won Elia Group's Open Innovation Challenge 2022 with its sensor that monitors the operational state of overhead lines using digital analysis. This year's competition was dedicated to sustainability and is one of the many initiatives that Elia Group is organising with its ActNow programme in mind. The competition aims to foster collaboration with startups, in the hope that this will strengthen a culture of innovation across the company.

The competition judges chose Sentrisense because its technology can be quickly deployed and is easy to scale up. Constant monitoring and data analysis related to overhead lines extends their lifespan.

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50Hertz opens new substation in Lusatia



Along with the distribution system operator MITNETZ STROM, 50Hertz has opened a new substation in Lusatia. The Altdöbern substation will facilitate the integration of renewable energy into the local grid. The project will contribute to ensuring that the local region will be provided with a secure and reliable electricity supply. The two grid operators invested approximately €50 million in the project. In the years to come, 50Hertz will expand or build more than 20 of these grid connection points.

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50Hertz integrates Europe's largest solar farm into its grid



Following an official launch ceremony, the construction of the largest groundmounted photovoltaic system in Europe was started in Germany. Located near Leipzig, the site of the "Energiepark Witznitz" covers 500 hectares. The planned installations will have a total capacity of 650 MW and will be connected directly to the 50Hertz grid. This connection of a solar farm to the 380 kV grid will comprise a new technical solution that will be applied for the first time.

The solar farm is due to be commissioned in March next year.

Expansion of market coupling mechanism



On 8 June 2022, the so-called flow-based market coupling mechanism was extended to cover a larger region in Europe: it now also covers the day-ahead market in all 13 countries of the Core Capactiy Calculation Region, which includes Belgium and Germany. The mechanism is intended to ensure that electricity flows more efficiently from one country to another by taking into account congestions across the whole of the regional grid.

This is crucial for the efficient sharing of excess renewable energy across borders and thus for making the energy transition a success.

Read the press release



Minibus brings Elia to citizens

Elia has invested in a new tool for presenting its projects to members of the public. A minibus will from now on serve as an information hub during site visits or other participation initiatives. The minibus will be a fun way to facilitate Elia's discussions and exchanges with members of the public. The minibus contains a screen, a central island, display case, brochure holder and refrigerator.

The bus will, of course, always be staffed by Elia employees who will be on hand to talk to citizens.

GRID DATA



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