

Akuo Energy, DCNS and Entrepose are to work together to develop an Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) plant on the island of Martinique: another step towards the establishment of a job-creating sector of excellence

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Under the auspices of French Prime Minister Manuel Valls, during a visit to Brest on the Northwest coast of France on Thursday December 18, Akuo Energy, DCNS and Entrepose (VINCI Construction) have announced the signing of a partnership agreement regarding an Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) plant project on the island of Martinique, a project called NAUTILUS. Akuo Energy will entrust the design and construction of this plant to DCNS and Entrepose.

Manuel Valls stated: *“The NAUTILUS onshore Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion project can help expand the showcase of French know-how (...). That is why I want the government to assess the financing that is necessary for this job-creating project. The costs and benefits need to be accurately appraised in order to define under what conditions it could be incorporated within Martinique’s next multiannual energy program.”*

This low-power onshore OTEC plant will make it possible to combine air-conditioning, freshwater production and aquaculture solutions with electricity production by using deep-sea cold water. The NAUTILUS project will complement the NEMO offshore OTEC plant project that Akuo Energy and DCNS have already planned to install off the coast of this Caribbean island. It should help Martinique become energy self-sufficient.

Eric Scotto, Chairman of Akuo Energy, commented: *“Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion has very substantial potential. This is clean, renewable and continuous energy. Looking at the intertropical convergence zone alone, it could cover the electricity requirements of 600 million inhabitants. We are very pleased to be collaborating with DCNS and Entrepose in this final stage of the validation of a technology that is already mature.”*

Hervé Guillou, Chairman and CEO of DCNS, said: *“The NAUTILUS and NEMO projects that we are going to carry out together in Martinique will enable us to assess the two OTEC technologies that DCNS has developed and that could eventually benefit all maritime tropical regions that are not connected to continental electricity networks. This is also an opportunity for France to prepare for the upramping of the expertise of its various industrial players and develop a sector of excellence that can be exported.”*

Benoit Lecinq, CEO of the Entrepose group, added: *“Alongside Akuo Energy and DCNS, the Entrepose group is proud to be able to contribute to the development of this onshore OTEC by providing its know-how in the execution of energy and hydraulic infrastructure projects, and notably its experience in laying pipelines and installing water intakes at great depths.”*

Thanks to their complementary areas of expertise, Akuo Energy, the developer of renewable maritime energy projects, DCNS, which will supply the technology, and the Entrepose group, in charge of the engineering and execution of the maritime work, will have control over the fields of expertise necessary for the emergence of a French sector of excellence in OTEC.

At the commercial stage, the development of this industrial sector will lead to the creation of hundreds of long-term jobs in mainland France and French Overseas Regions. The skills developed in France will represent a solid foundation for future overseas projects. Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion represents a global market worth 35 billion euros and concerns around a hundred countries with a broad variety of energy issues and requirements.

About Akuo Energy

Akuo Energy is the leading French independent renewable energy power producer. Akuo Energy is present across the whole value chain, including project development, financing, construction, and operation. As of November 2014, Akuo Energy had invested €1.6 bn for a total capacity of 527 MW in operation or construction. The Group has more than 170 employees worldwide. Its headquarters are located in Paris, France while it has subsidiaries in 8 other countries: Uruguay, Croatia, Poland, Turkey, Indonesia, Dubai, the United-States and Luxembourg. Akuo Energy aims to have a global production capacity of 3,000 MW within 5 years. More information can be found at www.akuoenergy.com

DCNS : Sea the Future®

DCNS believes that the sea is central to our planet's future. As a world leader in naval defence and an innovator in the energy sector, the Group is developing advanced technology and solutions to secure the future and sustainably develop the planet's potential. Its leadership is built on a proven ability to meet customer needs by combining exceptional know-how with unique industrial resources. DCNS designs and builds submarines and surface combatants, develops associated systems and infrastructure, and offers a full range of services to naval bases and shipyards. The Group has also expanded its focus into civil nuclear energy and marine renewable energy. This new field of activities has led DCNS to take the control in 2013 of OpenHydro, one of the most advanced tidal technology companies. Aware of its corporate social responsibilities, DCNS was one of the first major defence groups to achieve full certification to ISO 14001. The DCNS Group generates annual revenues of €3.4 billion and employs 13,600 people (2013 data). www.dcnsgroup.com

Entrepose Group

International Contractor for design, construction and operating of production, transport and storage infrastructures for the Oil&Gas and other energy markets. It operates worldwide on onshore, offshore and underground projects.

- EPC projects for onshore and offshore industrial installations.
- Installation of onshore and offshore pipelines.
- Drilling of oil and gas, geothermal and water wells.
- Development and operation of underground storage facilities.

Entrepose Group (member of VINCI Construction) employs 1,800 permanent people and had an annual revenue of 870Million euro in 2013.

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