

Kunming, China, August 26th, 2010

Siemens provides green energy for China since 100 years

China's first hydro power plant equipped with Siemens power generator celebrates centennial anniversary

Shilongba Hydro Power Plant, the first hydro-power plant in China equipped by Siemens, celebrated its 100 years of operation today. As early as in 1910, Siemens supplied and installed two power generators to the Plant, 42 kilometers from Kunming City, opening up the development of renewable energy in China. One of the Siemens generators is still in use and generating electricity for the local area. "The story of our early pioneers in China builds the spirit of our company today. We are proud to contribute a large share of the historical development of China's renewable power industry since its beginning. No company has a longer history than Siemens to generate green energy for China for 100 years," said Mei-Wei Cheng, CEO Siemens Northeast Asia and President & CEO Siemens Ltd., China.

In the very early 1900's a small group of Chinese in Kunming accepted the suggestion to utilize the available water resources to generate electrical energy. Siemens, the then Siemens-Schuckert Werke, as the responsible contractors for the complete station, supplied the whole of the electrical equipment. The first station, using the source of power from Lake Dian, was commenced in 1910 and started operation in 1912 with a total generation capacity of 480kW. Siemens engineers also supervised the operation of the plant in the initial stages and trained Chinese native personnel. The power station, surviving wars and natural disasters along the years, has been now put under state protection.

The development of renewable energies has taken root in China in the early twentieth century and is now playing a key role in the economic transformation and upgrade of the country. China currently ranks No. 1 in total installed capacity of hydro power. Renewable energy, including hydro, nuclear and wind, takes up 8.3% of the total energy consumption and will reach 15% in 2010, according to the government plan.

“China's ambitious low-carbon development plan will present more opportunities for Siemens as a company with a long history in the country and with the world's largest Environmental Portfolio. We are ready to help China optimize its energy structure, protect the environment and thus achieve sustainable development,” said Mei-Wei Cheng. Over the years Siemens has been helping China to reduce its carbon footprint and save energy with its Environmental Portfolio covering the whole energy conversion chain from power generation, distribution and consumption. In June 2010 Siemens put into full operation the Yunnan-Guangdong HVDC link, which is the first 800 KV HVDC link in the world. Siemens HVDC technology not only guarantees minimum energy losses over the long distance of transmission but also saves the emission of more than 30 million tons of CO₂ a year compared with equivalent fossil-fueled power plants in the power grid of Guangdong Province. In February 2009, Siemens announced an additional EUR 150 million investment to China for the expansion of production capacities for alternative energies. In the same year, Siemens entered into the wind energy market in China with the groundbreaking of a manufacturing facility for wind turbines in Shanghai. The facility will be put into operation later this year. “The story of our pioneers starting with the Shilongba Power Plant will continue another 100 years,” said Mei-Wei Cheng.

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Siemens in China

Siemens is one of the most well-known, liked and respected corporate citizens in China. Marked by the delivery of China's first pointer telegraph in 1872, it is among the earliest international companies to pioneer co-operation with China. Over more than a hundred years, Siemens has stood for technical achievements, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality. Presently, Siemens maintains more than 90 operating companies and 61 regional offices in China, representing all business sectors of Siemens worldwide – Industry, Energy and Healthcare. These offices, together with the Regional and Provincial managers, are the backbone of Siemens' regional strategy and ensure that the company is close to its customers to be able to respond quickly and efficiently to their needs. With more than 43,000 highly qualified local staff, Siemens has become one of the largest employers amongst foreign invested enterprises in China and an integral part of the Chinese economy. Today, by applying a wide array of environmental portfolio and innovative solutions in the cooperation with local partners, the company is committed to contributing to the sustainable development of the country. In Fiscal 2008, sales and new orders of Siemens China were RMB 57 billion and RMB 65.5 billion respectively.

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