



Press release

Nexans wins contract for the Malta to Sicily power-interconnector project

100 km submarine cable will provide Malta's first power interconnection with mainland Europe, reducing its reliance on local generation and increasing security of supply

Paris, December 15, 2010 – Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has been awarded an ambitious 178 million Euro turnkey contract by Enemalta Corporation, the state-owned energy authority in Malta, to design, manufacture, install and provide seabed protection of the new high-voltage AC (Alternating Current) submarine power link between Malta and Sicily. The contract includes a 220kV substation on Malta.

The 100 km subsea cable, with a capacity of 200 MW, will provide Malta with its first power interconnection with mainland Europe, reducing the island's reliance on local generation and increasing its security of electrical power supply. The interconnector will be operational in 2013. The 220 kV interconnector will provide the capability to deliver continuously at least 200 MW at the receiving end in any direction, to allow the import and export of power between Malta and Sicily as required. The subsea cable will run for 100 km from Qalet-Marku in Malta to Marina di Ragusa on the coast of Sicily, where an additional 25 km of underground cable will complete the connection to the Ragusa substation.

The design of the interconnector cable and the compensating elements located in the terminating substations at Maghtab – Malta and Ragusa – Sicily will ensure the safe and efficient operability of the interconnector with the 132 kV network in Malta and the 220 kV UCTE network in Sicily. The contract awarded also includes the construction of the terminal station in Malta and the implementation of protection and control systems. The entire system has been designed to allow the construction of a second 200 MW interconnector by the end of 2015.

"Winning this contract with Enemalta for the Malta to Sicily interconnector confirms Nexans as the partner of choice for strategic subsea power links", Yvon Raak, Nexans Senior Corporate Executive Vice President, said at the signing ceremony held in Malta yesterday. "A key factor in our favour was the proven capability to deliver a complete turnkey solution, not just for the cable but for all the technical aspects of the project.

Submarine cables

The 220 kV 3x630mm² submarine cables with XLPE insulation will be manufactured in Nexans' specialized submarine cable factory in Halden, Norway. Installation will be carried out by Nexans' own cable ship, the C/S Nexans Skagerrak. The cables will be installed in the Malta-Sicily channel at water depths of 150 meters and the cables will be buried to around 1 meter below the seabed.

The submarine cable includes two Fibre Optic elements each with 36 fibres. The FO elements will be manufactured in the Nexans factory in Rognan, Norway.

The underground cables for the land sections of the interconnector will be manufactured by Nexans in France.

About Nexans

With energy as the basis of its development, Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables and cabling systems. The Group is a global player in the infrastructure, industry, building and Local Area Network markets. Nexans addresses a series of market segments: from energy, transport and telecom networks to shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear power, automotives, electronics, aeronautics, material handling and automation.

Nexans is a responsible industrial company that regards sustainable development as integral to its global and operational strategy. Continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development and engagement, and the introduction of safe industrial processes with limited environmental impact are among the key initiatives that place Nexans at the core of a sustainable future.

With an industrial presence in 39 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 22,700 people and had sales in 2009 of 5 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A. For more information, please consult www.nexans.com

Contacts:

Press

Celine Révillon

Tel.: +33 (0)1 73 23 84 12

Celine.revillon@nexans.com

Investor Relations

Michel Gédéon

Tel.: +33 (0)1 73 23 85 31

Michel.gedeon@nexans.com