

Local press release from Vestas China

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Made in China, Made for China: Vestas Introduces New V60-850 kW Wind Turbine

Vestas, the world's leading wind energy company, today unveiled a new turbine tailored for China – the first market-specific turbine ever developed by Vestas and one that was driven by the needs and demands of our Chinese customers and partners.

The V60-850 kW represents the next generation of Vestas' proven and reliable kW technology – built for optimized production and performance and featuring new innovations developed to make the turbine highly suitable for Chinese wind and weather conditions. The new features of the V60-850 kW include innovations in blade design and temperature control systems. The V60-850 kW is built on tried and tested technology that Vestas is constantly improving, as well as the company's long history of manufacturing and installing more than 33,000 MW of wind energy worldwide.

Built to Vestas' industry-leading high quality standards, the V60-850 kW was designed by Vestas' global research and development team to be most effective in low and medium winds – China's biggest available wind classes, representing close to 75 per cent of as yet unutilized onshore wind resources in China. The V60-850 kW is almost entirely sourced in China; over 90 per cent of the machine's components are Chinese-made, which is the result of the development of win-win partnerships with Vestas' new and existing suppliers. The turbine will be built in Vestas' new factory in Hohhot, Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region (IMAR), which will be one of the first new facilities to drive the development of a strong IMAR wind energy industry.

The result of an ongoing dialogue with Chinese stakeholders and customers, this new, high-tech kW turbine is the best and most scientific response to the specific challenges and opportunities of land use and wind resources in China. The V60-850 kW's agile design and versatile features open the door to untapped and hard-to-reach wind sites across the nation. The V60-850 kW turbine thus has the potential to provide a catalyst for further wind energy development providing the benefits of wind energy to an even larger population in line with the Chinese government's energy strategy and goals.

"The V60-850 kW turbine is a ground-breaking new product for China, and is the first time Vestas has customized a turbine for a single specific market," said Vestas CEO Ditlev Engel. "China, as a future global wind energy superpower, is one of the most important markets for us. As a committed partner that has been engaged in China's wind energy industry for over 20 years, the development and introduction of the V60 represents the beginning of a new stage in Vestas' development in China that will see us play a larger role in contributing to the development of China's overall wind energy industry by building a long-term China-based innovation capacity and establishing a bigger technology presence here."

Vestas China President Lars Andersen emphasized that customers played a critical role in the development of the V60-850 kW. "Our best customers told us they wanted a kilowatt turbine that could unlock the potential of low and medium wind sites and overcome obstacles, like the tough winters in Northern Chinese areas such as IMAR. In collaboration with our Chinese partners, we designed Vestas' most advanced and productive kW turbine, and then localized it and built a factory to produce it -- close to some of China's richest low and medium wind resources."

The new Hohhot factory will produce the V60-850kW blades and nacelles in a production area of approximately 45,000 m². Construction on the factory started in July of 2008. Hohhot was chosen as the location for this facility because of its proximity to the key wind energy sites in northeast China and the developing wind energy market in IMAR. Vestas has also benefited from the strong wind energy vision and support of the governments of IMAR and Hohhot.

Lu Ming, Vice President of Vestas China and General Manager of the new Hohhot factory, paid tribute to the Vestas team that went from design to prototype manufacturing in just 12 months. "We have very talented teams working on technology and supply chain development; they continuously set new standards at Vestas for speed, teamwork and dedication. The development of the V60-850 kW was critical in establishing a China-based technology team to support on-going local innovation and adaptation of both this turbine, as well as other turbine platforms in China. The team will continue to contribute to the ongoing development of the Chinese wind energy industry and the continued localization of Vestas China. "

About Vestas

Vestas is the world leader in wind technology, with a history of technological innovation and over 30 years of experience in developing, manufacturing, installing and maintaining the world's best-performing wind turbines. Vestas was a pioneer in the wind industry and started to manufacture wind turbines in 1979. Wind power from Vestas turbines currently reduces carbon emissions by more than 40 million tons of CO₂ every year, while at the same time building energy security and independence.

Vestas is at the forefront of wind energy innovation and technology. Over the past 30 years we have succeeded in improving the generator effect of our wind turbines by a factor of 100 – which means that our turbines have increased their efficiency by 100 times. We constantly strive to improve. This leads Vestas to say: We know more about the wind than anyone else.

Vestas was the first wind turbine company to enter the Chinese market when it installed the first turbines in Shandong and Hainan in 1986. Vestas has installed wind turbines in thirteen provinces in China. Vestas is among the biggest accumulated suppliers of wind turbines in China. Vestas has five factories in Tianjin, a sales office in Beijing, the new factory in Hohhot a procurement office in Shanghai and is currently constructing additional facilities in Xuzhou.

Vestas is working hard to build up a strong value chain in China that can fully support the construction of wind turbines from its factories in China. Every year, Vestas improves its Chinese sourcing capabilities; the aim is to have 100 per cent Chinese-made content. Vestas is known for its industry-leading product quality; all of its suppliers in China are part of a partnership designed to increase product quality and performance and enable suppliers to become globally-competitive. In 2008, one of Vestas Chinese suppliers was awarded the Vestas Global Suppliers' Award for its performance and high product quality.

As the global leader in wind energy, Vestas is committed to helping develop China's and Inner Mongolia's wind energy sector. Vestas is eager to share our 30 years of industry experience and expertise with China.

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