

Local Press release No. 4/2009 Vestas Mediterranean

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With the opening of new offices in Paris, Vestas proves its ongoing development in France

On the day of the opening of the European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (EWEC) on 16-19 March 2009 in Marseille, Vestas, the world leader manufacturer of wind solutions, is proud to announce that it has recently opened new offices in Paris, La Défense.

The new offices will enable Vestas to be closer to its customers, decision makers and other wind energy actors in France. The establishment of a new office in Paris is a clear sign of the expansion of Vestas in France, it proves the company's commitment to the development of the wind industry in the country, and it shows the great prospects of the French wind industry, especially in terms of job creation.

Established in Montpellier since 2002, Vestas has experienced in the past seven years an important growth in France. As per 31 December 2008, Vestas has delivered a total of 407 turbines to the French market representing a total wind capacity of 735 MW.

"In 2008 alone, we have almost doubled the wind capacity delivered in France compared to the year before, and in the past three years we have doubled the number of employees in our country. It is extremely important for Vestas to be established in Paris in order to continue supporting the growth and the development that we have experienced in the past years", explains Nicolas Wolf, General Manager of Vestas France.

He concludes: *"The new Paris office will allow us to be closer to our customers and it will help us to reinforce our ability to satisfy our customers' needs. It will also help us to increase our presence in the French market and to support the target set during the French Environmental Conference (Grenelle de l'environnement) that 23 per cent of the total French energy consumption should be covered by renewable energies by 2020".*

"This announcement supports the vitality of the French wind industry in the current complex financial context. The wind industry in France employs today 7,000 people¹ and by 2020 it could represent 60,000 direct jobs². The fact of having the second best wind potential in Europe makes France especially suitable for turning this free energy source into economic growth and local jobs. At Vestas, we look forward to supporting this development in France going forward and to positioning Vestas as No. 1 in Modern Energy," concludes Juan Araluce, President Vestas Mediterranean.

¹ Source: ADEME (French agency for environment and energy management) - According to ADEME the wind energy industry could represent 16,000 jobs in France by 2012.

² Source : Syndicat des énergies renouvelables.

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Wind energy has a great number of advantages

Clean, renewable and plentiful, wind energy can also be ramp-up fast.

In 2008, the installed capacity in France increased by 950 MW, reaching a total of 3,404 MW³. With an annual power production of 5.6 billion KWh, in 2008 the wind energy industry produced enough electricity to supply 2.5 million of inhabitants in France. In addition, the total installed capacity has saved the environment from more than 2 million tons of CO₂, which is equivalent to the emissions of 1 million cars⁴.

Wind is an energy source that creates local jobs, while protecting environment: it contributes to reduce the CO₂ emissions and it does not generate any other type of emissions or waste. Going forward, wind energy can play an increasing role in diversifying the energy mix in France.

About Vestas

As the world's leading wind turbine manufacturer, Vestas develops, manufactures, sells and provides maintenance services of installations that use wind energy to generate electricity. As of 31 December 2008, the Vestas Group has delivered more than 38,000 turbines all around the world, generating more than 60 million MWh annually, enough energy to supply several millions of households. The company installs a wind turbine somewhere in the world every three hours. The Vestas Group achieved a turnover of 6,035 million euros in 2008, and employs more than 20,800 people worldwide. To learn more about Vestas' activities, please visit: www.vestas.com.

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³ Source : World Wind Energy Report 2008

⁴ Source : Estimation according to Syndicat des énergies renouvelables, September, 2008