

Press Release

Voith Hydro Holding
GmbH & Co. KG
Corporate Communications VHZ/hk
Alexanderstr. 11
89522 Heidenheim, Germany
Tel. +49 7321 37-6354
Fax +49 7321 37-136866
www.voith.com

Voith secures new contract for hydro power plant modernization in Brazil

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HEIDENHEIM, September 27, 2012. Voith benefits from an ongoing trend towards the modernization of hydro power plants and has been awarded a contract for the run-of-river power station „HPP Água Vermelha“ on the River Grande in Brazil. The contract is one of the largest contracts for the modernization of a hydro power plant in Brazil, and the largest ever to be undertaken by a single company. The order volume amounts to about €80 million.

„In Brazil, we see an increasing trend towards modernizations in the hydro power business in addition to the continued strong focus on building new facilities“, says Dr. Roland Münch, CEO of Voith Hydro Holding in Heidenheim, Germany. After decades of operation, many operating companies are now upgrading their fleets. „This is a trend similar to the one we have seen in other markets like in the United States or Europe – a trend we can address best with our long-term, comprehensive experience with the modernization of hydro power plants“, Münch adds. Hydro power is very important in Brazil: In South America's most important electricity market, more than three-quarter of the electricity needed is based on hydro power.

For the modernization of the Água Vermelha plant Voith Hydro will overhaul the generators and turbines as well as the associated electromechanical systems. Additionally, many components will be completely renewed. In operation since 1978, Água Vermelha holds six units with a total capacity of 1,396 MW. It is the largest plant owned by the energy company AES Tietê and is operated by the „Operator of the National Electricity System“ (ONS).

About the Company

Voith sets standards in the markets energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transportation & automotive. Founded in 1867, Voith employs almost 40,000 people, generates € 5.6 billion in sales, operates in about 50 countries around the world and is today one of the biggest family-owned companies in Europe.

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The importance of Hydro Power

Hydro power is the largest, oldest and most reliable form of renewable energy generation. Worldwide, it makes an indispensable contribution to stable power supplies and hence to economic and social development - both in industrial countries and in emerging markets. Hydro power also makes a significant contribution to climate-protecting energy production. Voith has been a leading supplier of this technology from the early beginning and continuously develops it further.

Contact:

Lukas Nemela

Corporate Communications

Voith Hydro Holding

Tel. +49 7321 37-6354

Lukas.Nemela@Voith.com