

Press Release

Annecy (Haute-Savoie, France), 27 September 2016

NTN-SNR, the NTN European branch of NTN Corporation, takes part in the WindEnergy trade fair in Hamburg

NTN-SNR is reinforcing its development in the offshore sector, and is expanding its onshore wind turbine activities

NTN-SNR will take part in the WindEnergy trade fair in Hamburg from 27 to 30 September 2016, where it will be showcasing its bearings designed for both onshore and offshore wind turbines. NTN-SNR is proud to confirm its success in the offshore wind sector with the supply of rotor bearings for two major players in this sector. Negotiations are also under way with other manufacturers. For several years now, the company has demonstrated the very high reliability of its bearings for onshore wind turbines constructed by the largest manufacturers. In this highly competitive market, NTN is a global player that has experienced very strong growth over the past years and is now creating new growth opportunities, especially in the offshore sector.

NTN-SNR is setting sail offshore

To mark its presence at WindEnergy in 2016, NTN-SNR confirmed its success in the offshore wind market. The group is involved in the development of prototype 8 MW wind turbines that are currently being tested. As from this autumn it will also deliver large novel prototype rotor bearings. These tapered roller bearings meet the requirements for high performance and high reliability; their quality has been measured for several years in onshore wind facilities. Besides these deliveries for two major players in the offshore wind sector, the group is also negotiating with other manufacturers, thus opening real prospects for growth in offshore wind power.



NTN Group, a major onshore wind player

As global player in the wind energy market, NTN has been expanding steadily in this area since 2010 and more particularly in onshore wind power in Europe for the last 2 years. The group supplies the largest manufacturers with rotor bearings, but also bearings for turbine gearboxes, generators and slewing rings.

High reliability and innovation

NTN-SNR bases its development on its proven expertise, the very high reliability of its premium bearings and its strong innovation capabilities. NTN's quality is regularly confirmed by the positive results from demanding audits carried out by manufacturers on its production sites. The company has developed hybrid bearings for generators with very high added value ceramic rolling elements; benefiting of innovative manufacturing process. These bearings are used today in onshore as well as in offshore wind turbines. The group also innovates in monitoring (see box).

Innovation in monitoring: demonstration of Wind Doctor in Hamburg

Two engineers from Japan will be present in Hamburg to present Wind Doctor. This is in the form of a small watertight and dust-proof monitoring box, which is placed in the wind turbine's cradle. It collects all the data transmitted by the sensors placed on various components of the wind turbine as well as the operating data of the cradle such as the rotational speed and the power being generated. After being processed by the algorithm developed internally, the data is transferred to an external server. The operator's technicians or NTN technicians can analyse this data, make an accurate diagnosis and determine any maintenance work that needs to be carried out. Costs are thus reduced and the availability of the facility is increased.

Wind Doctor is certified by Germanische Lloyd and is currently demonstrating its operational efficiency at several wind farms in Asia.

Find NTN-SNR at the WindEnergy exhibition on stand 260 - Hall B6

NTN-SNR ROULEMENTS, with head office at Annecy (Haute-Savoie, France), belongs to the Japanese group NTN Corporation, one of the world's leaders in bearings. NTN-SNR ensures the management and development of all NTN activities for the EMEA region and Brazil. A major player as a designer, developer and manufacturer of bearings and sub-assemblies for automotive applications, industry and aeronautics, NTN-SNR offers a comprehensive range by also developing maintenance services and solutions. NTN-SNR employs 4,225 people at 9 production sites, including 6 in France, as well as 18 business representations.

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