

Nexans cable systems to play critical role for Amprion in partial undergrounding of the German transmission network

Nexans is helping Amprion take a key section of its 400 kV transmission network underground

Paris La Défense, March 19, 2019 – The German energy transition plan, known as “Energiewende”, has set a target for 80 percent of the country’s annual electricity needs to be met by renewable energy by 2050. This requires Germany’s transmission service operators (TSOs), such as Amprion, to upgrade their high voltage (HV) power transmission networks to transport electricity generated by wind farms in the north over long distances to the main areas of consumption in the south. Nexans is playing a key role in this project by supplying cables that will enable Amprion to take its overhead lines underground at sensitive sections of the route.

Amprion operates a transmission grid of about 11,000 kilometers (km) to enable the transmission of electricity for more than 29 million people across an area from Lower Saxony down to the Alps. While the majority of its HV routes comprise overhead lines, at certain environmentally sensitive sections Amprion is taking the route underground.

Nexans was involved in Amprion’s pilot partial undergrounding project at Raesfield, and is now supplying 31.8 km of 400 kV cable for a major project at Legden on the route between Wesel and Meppen. The 5.2 km Legden route is made up of 2.1 km of tunnel and 3.1 km of pipes. Nexans is supplying the cable for one double circuit with a 2500 mm² copper cross-section. The section of cable installed in the tunnel will feature a halogen-free flame-retardant (HFFR) sheath and Nexans is also providing the steel support structures.

*“This major contract for Amprion is a very important reference for the partial undergrounding concept that Nexans has pioneered,” says **Ralf-Michael Menger, Sales Manager Subsea and Land Systems at Nexans.** “TSOs no longer have to make an either-or choice between overhead lines or underground cables. Instead they can specify the most appropriate technology to meet their environmental and financial objectives appropriate for each section of their transmission routes.”*

The cable will be delivered by Nexans Benelux plant based in Charleroi, Belgium while the steel support structures will be subcontracted to a specialized company.

Delivery of the cables is scheduled for July 2022, with installation completed in 2023.

About Nexans

Nexans brings energy to life through an extensive range of advanced cabling systems, solutions and innovative services.

For over 120 years, Nexans has been providing customers with cutting-edge cabling infrastructure for power and data transmission. Today, beyond cables, the Group advises customers and designs solutions and services that maximize performance and efficiency of their projects in four main business areas: Building & Territories (including utilities, e-mobility), High Voltage & Projects (covering offshore wind farms, submarine interconnections, land high voltage),

Telecom & Data (covering data transmission, telecom networks, hyperscale data centers, LAN), and Industry & Solutions (including renewables, transportation, Oil & Gas, automation, and others).

Corporate Social Responsibility is a guiding principle of Nexans' business activities and internal practices. In 2013 Nexans became the first cable provider to create a Foundation supporting sustainable initiatives bringing access to energy to disadvantaged communities worldwide. The Group's commitment to developing ethical, sustainable and high-quality cables also drives its active involvement within leading industry associations, including Europacable, the NEMA, ICF or CIGRE to mention a few.

Nexans employs nearly 27,000 people with industrial footprint in 34 countries and commercial activities worldwide. In 2018, the Group generated 6.5 billion euros in sales.

Nexans is listed on Euronext Paris, compartment A.

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