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HZI BioMethan Presents Reference Project for Plant Inspections in France

Last month, the German firm Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH (HZIB) commissioned the Meaux project with a biogas plant and biomethane production facility. The plant boasts a particularly flexible concept that takes into account special construction and environmental permits. The location is now available as a reference project to showcase the digester system and the gas upgrading facility with membrane technology.

The project was acquired shortly after MT BioMethan was integrated into Hitachi Zosen Inova AG in March 2015. Construction at Chauconin-Neufmontiers in the Meaux district began in September 2015. With the signing of the Provisional Acceptance Certificate (PAC) on August 19, 2016, the project and operational management were handed over on schedule to the client, Biogaz Meaux.

Forward-Thinking Inclusion of Expansion Concept

In line with the client's needs, the wet digestion facility that processes biowaste and agricultural substrates from catch crops was equipped with pressure-driven membrane technology.

This technology offers flexibility with regard to upgrading capacity: in the initial project phase, the plan is to achieve an average gas yield of 130Nm³/h of biomethane. However, this yield is to be doubled in a second phase, with production expected to reach 260Nm³/h or 2.21 million Nm³ of biomethane per year in Q4 2017.

With this forward-looking design, HZIB has from the outset addressed the staggered substrate volumes that apply to farmers under French construction and environmental permits. To handle the possible increase in substrates after a year of operations, coupled with a rise in gas upgrading, HZIB integrated the subsequent capacity expansion in the initial project phase.

Day-to-day operations require a high degree of flexibility in upgrading capacity. This is particularly important for handling situations such as fluctuations in biogas production or the gas grid being at full capacity. The plant has therefore been fitted with a monitoring system that can regulate performance quickly and automatically.

The new reference project is open to visitors, and can showcase the biomethane upgrading process. Interested parties can walk through the plant and ascertain detailed information on site, allowing them to consider concepts for their own requirements.

About Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan

Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH (HZIB) is one of the leading providers of gas upgrading systems, delivering its solutions with two processes for separating CO₂ from the biogas or flue gases.

The company was founded in spring 2015 as the result of an asset deal to acquire MT-BioMethan GmbH, one of the pioneers in the field of biomethane production through CO₂ separation and gas feed-in. HZIB combines its expertise with many years of practical experience in numerous reference projects across Europe. The company is part of the HZI Group, rounding out the latter's biological waste treatment portfolio.

Pressureless amine scrubbing is an efficient, heat-led process that makes sensible use of the waste heat from CHP facilities or gas boilers. HZIB also offers a three-stage pressure-driven process using membrane-based gas permeation. Both of these technologies deliver the highest degree of purity with minimal methane slip.

Viewing Appointments

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