

Media release, 9 April, 2015

HZI BioMethan Wins Project in Northern Germany

First pathbreaking order for new biogas upgrading plant under new parent company

Shortly after the acquisition by its new owner Hitachi Zosen Inova AG, Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH has received the order to construct a biogas upgrading plant in Wittenburg.

Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH (HZI BioMethan) has secured an order to construct a new biogas upgrading plant in Wittenburg in northern Germany. An agreement to this effect was signed last week between the client, Munich-based Landwärme GmbH, and HZI BioMethan. The project comprises a plant with capacity to upgrade 700 Nm³/h of raw biogas, delivering around 350 Nm³/h of biomethane that can be fed into the local gas grid. Biomethane is used for generating power and heat by industry and private households alike. Owing to its high quality, it is also used as a vehicle fuel. By contrast with natural gas, biomethane is virtually carbon neutral.

High economic efficiency guaranteed

As a specialist in gas upgrading and feed-in technology, HZI BioMethan will bring its mature and highly efficient plant technology to this project. Membrane separation is ideally suited in this instance, and achieves methane purity of up to 98%. This will enable the plant to operate at a high level of economic efficiency going forward. The raw biogas will be provided by an existing biogas facility. "HZI BioMethan's comprehensive expertise from the upgrading of raw biogas through to feeding in to the grid makes it an expert partner for this project," said Zoltan Elek, CEO of Landwärme GmbH.

Successful integration

The contract was concluded just a few weeks after the acquisition of HZI BioMethan by its parent company Hitachi Zosen Inova AG (HZI). HZI, which already owns the Kompogas® technology, has thereby extended its expertise in biological energy recovery from waste. "The integration of HZI BioMethan has been successful. We are proud that this will now allow our clients to access well-founded expertise in the fields of gas upgrading and feed-in technology, thus opening up new perspectives. At the same time, it also enables us to offer first-class solutions tailored to individual needs and requirements," stressed HZI CEO Franz-Josef Mengede. Karsten Wünsche, Managing Director of HZI BioMethan, underscored the significance of this project: "This order clearly shows the client's trust in our newly positioned company."

Production will begin shortly at HZI BioMethan's base in Zeven (Lower Saxony). Commissioning is planned for the end of Q3 2015.

About Hitachi Zosen Inova AG:

Zurich-based Hitachi Zosen Inova (HZI) is a global leader in energy from waste (EfW), operating as part of the Hitachi Zosen Corporation Group. Formed from the former Von Roll Inova, HZI acts as an engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor delivering complete turnkey plants and system solutions for thermal and biological EfW recovery. HZI's innovative and reliable waste and flue gas treatment solutions have been part of some 570 reference projects delivered since 1933.

About HZI Biomethan GmbH:

HZI subsidiary Hitachi Zosen Inova Deutschland GmbH and the liquidator Dr. Gideon Böhm from the law firm Münzel & Böhm Partnerschaftsgesellschaft GmbH concluded an agreement on an asset deal in respect of the acquisition of MT-BioMethan GmbH in February 2015. The acquired assets and the employee relationships were transferred to the new owner as of March 2015. Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH delivers gas upgrading plants, and now has more than 20 reference projects. To find out more about HZI and HZI BioMethan, please visit www.hz-inova.com.

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