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Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan Concludes Contracts for an Additional Four Projects

In April, the German HZI company Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH received orders to build four biogas plants with biomethane production facilities. The Zeven-based firm, which specializes in gas upgrading and carbon capture technology, will execute the projects as general contractor, with the total order volume being around EUR 11.7 million.

The first project is located near Bordeaux, and building work on site will begin in May. Tank construction is scheduled for the fall, with biomethane injection planned from April 2018. The other projects in the Grand Est, Hauts-de-France, and Centre-Val de Loire regions will follow, staggered over the subsequent quarters. The last of the four projects is to go live in Q1 2019.

As with the projects that have already been executed or are under construction in France, in addition to the digester system these orders include an upgrading facility to produce biomethane using membrane-based gas permeation, with capacity to inject up to 130 Nm³/h of biomethane into the local gas grid. This capacity may be expanded to 260 Nm³/h at a later point of time. The plants will be designed in line with the requirements of the specific natural gas grid operators given the variation in gas quality between the regions.

Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan will manufacture the membrane systems in the production facility at its base. These will feature modular container-based construction, and will be delivered to the respective construction sites in France to be connected to the digester system.

To ensure the high availability of plants already in operation, the company set up a service branch near Troyes in the Grand Est region in 2016. This location will be gradually expanded as the number of plants increases.

About Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan:

Hitachi Zosen Inova BioMethan GmbH (HZI BioMethan) 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. HZI BioMethan 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. HZI BioMethan also offers a three-stage pressure-driven process using membrane-based gas permeation. Both of these technologies deliver the highest degrees of purity with minimal methane slip.

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