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Date 4 September 2019

Power Systems

Wind summit: Solutions for mechanical engineering-specific obstacles to wind energy expansion

Frankfurt, 4 September 2019 – On the occasion of the forthcoming meeting between Federal Minister of Economics Peter Altmaier and representatives of the wind energy industry, VDMA Power Systems has published solutions for mechanical engineering-specific obstacles to the expansion of wind energy. These solutions supplement the "10-point plan" of the economic and environmental associations for the revival of onshore wind energy expansion and the demand for a special contribution of up to 2 GW for offshore wind energy.

"There is no doubt that facilitating permits, making land available for use and balancing climate and species protection are essential in order to get the expansion of wind energy in Germany moving again. In addition, our specific requirements for mechanical engineering include, among other things, the legal anchoring of the 65% target by 2030 and the corresponding adjustment of the expansion paths for onshore and offshore wind energy. In addition, grid expansion must be promoted and the potential of existing grids better exploited," Matthias Zelinger, Managing Director of VDMA Power Systems, explains the demands from the point of view of mechanical engineering.

"Incentives for technical innovations should be created with genuine innovation tenders, and it should be economically possible to increase the plant output in operation without further EEG costs. Expensive and complex special requirements for the stability of towers in Germany should also be avoided", demands Zelinger. The adaptation of the regulatory framework for air traffic control and the introduction of acceptance technologies - for example for demand-controlled night-time identification and the approval of rotor blades longer than 65 metres - is also urgently overdue in order to revive the market.

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About VDMA Power Systems

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VDMA Power Systems is an association of the Mechanical Engineering Industry Association (VDMA). It represents the interests of manufacturers of wind energy and hydroelectric plants, fuel cells, gas/steam turbines and systems and engine systems in Germany and abroad. For all of these manufacturers, VDMA Power Systems serves as an information and communication platform for all topics within the industry, such as energy policy, legislation, market analyses, trade fairs, standardization, and press and public relations.

About VDMA

VDMA represents more than 3,200 mostly medium-sized companies in the mechanical and plant engineering sector. With over 1.3 million employees and a turnover of around 232 billion Euros (2018), the industry is the largest industrial employer in Germany and one of the leading German industrial sectors.