Wikov and HydroQuest strengthen cooperation in tidal energy

Wikov MGI and French tidal energy technology developer HydroQuest have signed a framework agreement, marking another important milestone in the cooperation between the two companies. The signing ceremony took place at Wikov MGI in Hronov, Czech Republic.

The agreement builds on several years of technical cooperation between HydroQuest and Wikov in the development of drivetrain solutions for tidal energy applications. The engineering teams have worked together on demanding topics related to gearbox design, turbine integration and the specific requirements of equipment operating in a marine environment.

HydroQuest selected Wikov as its technology partner because it trusts in Wikov's technical capabilities. Wikov was the only partner HydroQuest considered technologically capable of developing a solution that can meet the most demanding operating conditions and ensure the required operational reliability and availability of the equipment.

HydroQuest develops tidal turbines designed to harness the predictable energy of ocean currents. Its technology is based on a patented vertical-axis turbine concept developed through years of testing and operational experience in French waters. The company's technology roadmap includes multi-megawatt tidal turbines designed for long-term operation in demanding marine environments.

"The development of tidal energy relies on proven mechanical engineering solutions that ensure reliability, efficiency and long-term performance. Our cooperation with Wikov brings together HydroQuest's expertise in tidal turbine technology with Wikov's extensive experience in the design and manufacture of high-performance gearboxes. This framework agreement provides a strong foundation for our continued cooperation and the development of future tidal energy projects," said Thomas Jaquier, CEO of HydroQuest.

For Wikov, the agreement represents a continuation of its activities in tidal energy and an opportunity to apply its engineering and manufacturing expertise in specialised gearboxes to a rapidly developing renewable energy sector.

"This agreement is an important step in our cooperation with HydroQuest. Tidal energy combines many of the challenges where Wikov can bring real value: demanding operating conditions, high requirements for reliability and efficiency, and gearbox solutions engineered specifically for the application. We are pleased to build on the work already completed by both engineering teams and to continue developing solutions for future HydroQuest projects," said Štěpán Csiba, CEO of Wikov MGI.

The framework agreement was signed during a visit of the HydroQuest team to Wikov MGI in Hronov. The programme also included technical discussions focused on the next stages of joint engineering work.

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About Wikov MGI

Wikov MGI a.s. is a leading Czech manufacturer of industrial gearboxes and drive systems and part of Wikov Group. Based in Hronov, Czech Republic, the company builds on more than a century of engineering tradition and supplies high-performance drive solutions for demanding industrial, energy and rail applications worldwide. Its comprehensive in-house capabilities cover engineering and calculations, manufacturing, heat treatment, assembly and testing, enabling Wikov MGI to develop both standardized and tailor-made gearbox solutions for specific customer requirements and demanding operating conditions.

About HydroQuest

Founded in 2010, HydroQuest designs tidal turbines that harness the energy potential of tidal currents to generate 100 per cent predictable renewable electricity. Protected by eight patents, HydroQuest's robust technology offers a solution with very low environmental impact and high levels of public acceptance, thanks to its fully submerged turbines, which are invisible from the coast. The company is leading the FloWatt project, France's first tidal turbine farm and the most powerful in the world, which is due to come on stream in 2028 in Normandy with a capacity of 17 MW.

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