



NEWS RELEASE

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WINDESAL ACQUIRES DANVEST TO BOOST GLOBAL PROSPECTS

Australian wind-powered desalination pioneer Windesal has acquired Danish energy company Danvest Energy A/S for an undisclosed sum as it seeks to diversify its offering to international markets.

Danvest is a world leader in hybrid wind-diesel plants from 0.1-10 MW in size making them a suitable power source for off-grid consumers in regional and remote areas.

The company's technology allows for wind-diesel operation where high wind penetration can result in annual reductions of fuel consumption and carbon dioxide emissions of up to 85% when compared to standard diesel generator plants.

Windesal's acquisition of the company gives it worldwide intellectual property rights for Danvest's patented hybrid wind-diesel technology. The world-leading expertise within hybrid power systems is also secured with the developer of the Danvest technology Soren Vestesen to continue with the new company as Technical Director.

Windesal Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Whalley said the Danvest technology is the basis for the company's wind-powered desalination systems – which use renewable energy to turn seawater and brackish groundwater into potable water – and that the acquisition presents new opportunities for the company.

“Our primary focus until now has been on water, but the acquisition of Danvest means we now have a dual focus on securing both water and power supplies for regional communities,” said Mr Whalley.

“Taking ownership of Danvest has put us in a position to market hybrid wind-diesel power plant technology, not just in Australia but on a global scale.

“It is estimated that more than 500,000 local communities worldwide rely on off-grid diesel generator plants for electricity, so we see a large market for hybrid wind-diesel plants that combine the reliability of diesel generators with the environmental advantages of renewable energy harnessed by wind turbines.

“Importantly, the acquisition enables us to fully secure and control the worldwide IP rights for the Danvest technology upon which Windesal has built its business model.”

Established in Denmark in 1993, Danvest's hybrid wind-diesel technology has been endorsed by RISØ, Denmark's National Laboratory for Sustainable Energy, and is successfully in operation in wind-diesel power stations (with and without desalination) around the world, including Ireland, Estonia and Malaysia.

Significantly, the technology is also capable of controlling and providing back-up for off-grid solar systems in much the same way as off-grid wind turbines.

As part of the acquisition, Windesal's European Director Thomas Vestesen becomes the new Managing Director of Danvest. Mr Vestesen will oversee Danvest's Copenhagen office, while the company's name and corporate branding will be retained.

"The worldwide market for hybrid wind-diesel power plants that generate continuous, sustainable and low-cost electricity is expanding due to the increasing need for energy – and in particularly increasing demand for sustainable energy – in regional and remote off-grid areas," said Mr Vestesen.

"Our initial focus will revolve around markets in Europe, Africa and the Middle East where we will look to supply water and power to local communities in off-grid areas.

"Beyond that, Windesal is hoping to leverage Danvest's expertise and market position to establish joint ventures and license agreements in selected regions where there is demonstrated need for additional water and power supplies."

Windesal's acquisition of Danvest follows its major partnership with technology solutions giant Siemens which it has joined forces with to develop clean technologies and establish a new water supply for towns and cities across South Australia.

Windesal was established in 2008 to develop wind-powered desalination plants capable of turning seawater and brackish groundwater into high quality potable water using renewable energy. The plants are designed as modules which can produce between 3-5 gigitalitres of fresh water annually through power generated by wind turbines. During periods when wind is insufficient to drive the turbines, they are run by a modified generator operating on bio-fuels and other renewable energy sources.

For more information visit www.windesal.com or www.danvest.com

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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