



Press Release

Thursday, August 3rd 2017

BELECTRIC commissions largest battery storage system in Saxony

- Rated capacity of the energy storage is the battery equivalent of two million smartphones

Chemnitz, Germany – Today the Saxon State Secretary of Economics, Labour and Transport, Stefan Brangs, is inaugurating Saxony's largest battery storage system. BELECTRIC built and commissioned the facility as general contractor for "eins - energie in sachsen GmbH & Co. KG" (eins). The energy storage system has a rated capacity of about 16MWh, which is the equivalent of the battery capacity of some two million smartphones. The battery storage system provides primary reserve (10 megawatts) to the power market. The overall investment volume is about 10 million euros.

Because the availability of solar PV and wind power varies depending on the weather, storage technologies are becoming increasingly important for reliable energy supply. Current large-scale energy storage systems not only have a high capacity but also provide special grid ancillary services, such as primary reserve. "Battery storage is the link between modern grids and volatile power generation from renewables," said Frank Amend who is the managing director responsible for BELECTRIC's storage business. "The battery responds to frequency changes within split seconds and either stores electricity from the grid or feeds energy into the grid, as required. It helps stabilise the grid and guarantee reliable power supply in an efficient manner." Roland Warner, CEO of eins, adds: "Everybody knows batteries from private life. If needed, stored electricity can be delivered immediately. Conventional power plants often require several minutes for start-up or shut-down procedure. Our battery storage can deliver full system power in a few seconds. So the storage system is perfect component to compensate fluctuations in power grid."

The state of Saxony funded the energy storage system in Chemnitz with subsidies of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in the amount of one million euros. States secretary Stefan Brangs says: "Saxony state government is committed to the Energiewende. Security of energy supplies has main priority. Beside grid extension the storage of electricity from renewable energies is a key component. With the government aid we go the next step for grid integration of the renewables and help to reduce CO₂ emissions. I am very impressed by Saxon know-how of this project."

The battery system in Chemnitz is one of the largest in Germany and is one of several storage projects being developed and realised by BELECTRIC in Germany and abroad. Many years of experience in the construction of large-scale solar power plants and integrated power supply systems qualify BELECTRIC to operate as a general contractor in the battery storage market. As opposed to the modular product series BELECTRIC Energy Buffer Unit (EBU), the battery system installed in Chemnitz is integrated into a building. The storage building was developed and realised in cooperation with the architects and engineers of ADOBE Architekten+Ingenieure GmbH.

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BELECTRIC Solar & Battery GmbH

Claus Rendler, Marketing & PR, Wadenbrunner Str. 10, 97509 Koltitzheim, Germany

Email: pr@belectric.com Internet: www.belectric.com



Photos: Building-integrated battery storage in Chemnitz (Left/Right: Outdoor view; Center: indoor view showing Samsung Li-Ion battery units)

About BELECTRIC: *The BELECTRIC Solar & Battery GmbH is one of the most successful enterprises in the development and construction of utility scale solar power plants and energy storage systems. The company is founded in 2001 and has been expanded to an international group with activities on all continents since then. BELECTRIC has constructed over 280 solar PV power plants with over 1.6GWp PV capacity. In addition, the company realized battery energy storage systems and hybrid power solutions, which combine different technologies to autarkic systems. As one of the largest O&M providers globally, BELECTRIC's full-integrated services provide continuous operation. State-of-the-art solar power plant technology and energy storage technology support the grid infrastructure and contribute to cost reductions in the energy sector. With numerous patents and innovations, BELECTRIC has proven its technological leadership in the industry.*