

Empowering the Future: 30 Years of SOKRATHERM

Hiddenhausen, Oct 8 2007 – Happy faces could be seen at the 30-years celebration of SOKRATHERM GmbH & Co. KG in northern Germany's Hiddenhausen: 2007 will be the most successful year of the company's history which was begun with its first entry in the commercial register on Oct 28 1977.

The German TÜV made the start by handing over the ISO 9001:2000 certificate to the producer of highly efficient combined heat and power plants (CHP) in the spring. The CHP compact modules which generate heat and electricity from gas (natural, sewage, organic or propane) are therefore now also officially produced by highest quality standards.

At the same time, the orders grew – after the so-far record year 2006 – at such a pace that a doubling of the productive area of the production site in Nordhausen and an increase of the staff at both company sites was determined and largely implemented.

On the Nordhausen site, which simultaneously celebrates its 15-years jubilee, the cogeneration modules for the largest order of the company history were manufactured: 4 units of the new and strongest model GG 402 with an efficiency rate of over 90% will be publicly inaugurated with the celebration of the renewed heating center at the special hospital Haldensleben in late October. 1.6 MW electricity and 2.3 MW heat will be delivered by the modules – and up to 60% CO₂ emissions and 30% primary energy be saved in comparison to the conventional, separated heat and power generation.

Business is prospering also internationally: In Russia, for example, where the company's CHP units are already running in sites like Moscow and Sochi, the site for the olympic winter games of 2014, a new exciting deal is determined: 4 large modules in Lantor/Siberia will be the first SOKRATHERM CHP modules providing power and heat (1.5 MWe, 2.2 MWth) east of the Urals. By now, over 600 CHP modules were delivered by SOKRATHERM.

The managing director Hermann Meinhold, who had founded the company together with his wife Angelika 30 years ago with a capital basically consisting of his engineering degree and the vision of a dramatically more efficient use of energy, sees the future confidently: "With the increasing debate on climate protection, cogeneration has developed from a niche topic for experts to the acknowledged most important efficiency technology in power supply. The German government's goal of doubling the CHP share of electricity to 25% by 2020 underlines this explicitly and opens up new business opportunities for us. With our clear focus on the core features of our modules – compact, efficient and reliable – we're in an excellent market position and will provide a growing contribution to reshaping the energy sector into a more local, more sustainable and cost-efficient power supply."

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The second production hall at Nordhausen is getting ready for business.



SOKRATHERM staff at works outing



Managing director Hermann Meinhold



Arrival of the second (of three) CHP module GG 237 in Sochi



Cogeneration on the rise: Getting the SOKRATHERM GG 383 S into the JVA Berlin-Tegel