

Press release

Paris La Défense, 25 February 2019

Commissioning of the first peak-load combustion turbine fueled by sugarcane-based bioethanol in La Réunion

Albioma is pleased to announce the industrial commissioning of the first peak-load combustion turbine (CT) operating primarily on bioethanol in Saint-Pierre, Réunion Island, on 25 February 2019. The amount of the investment is approximately €60m.

A world first

Dedicated to the production of renewable energy, the CT works with two types of fuel: bioethanol (80%) from the distillation of sugarcane molasses, produced locally at the Rivière du Mât distillery, and diesel fuel (20%), which is needed to start the turbine.

Providing peak-load energy, in addition to the island's other means of production

The 41 MW combustion turbine is a flexible and highly responsive means of production. Designed to start in less than 7 minutes, it keeps up with consumption peaks, especially at the end of the day, and helps secure the Réunion grid. It facilitates the integration and management by the network of other sources of renewable energy, such as solar power.

Albioma produces nearly 45% of Réunion's electricity

In order to ensure the stability of its power grid, Albioma has been developing a unique partnership with the sugar industry for over 25 years. This has enabled it to transform bagasse into energy locally, by means of two thermal power plants located close to the sugar factories in Le Gol and Bois-Rouge. In addition, Albioma, the solar power leader in Overseas France, has a large photovoltaic park (27.8MW) on the island. Over the coming year, Albioma will be commissioning several plants with storage capabilities, including a plant on the Stade de l'Est (1.25MW), and 51 photovoltaic plants without storage capability on the roofs of the apartment buildings of SHLMR (a low-income housing rental company on Réunion Island).

Albioma rolls out solutions in France and abroad

The commissioning of the CT highlights Albioma's engineering know-how and confirms its status as a key player in renewable energies, controlling the production of baseload or peak energy.

Albioma continues to innovate, ensuring the stability of power grids, primarily in isolated areas where the grid is weak, and helping to accelerate the energy transition.



Next on the agenda: annual results for the 2018 financial year, on 8 March 2019 (before trading).

About Albioma

An independent renewable energy producer, Albioma is committed to the energy transition thanks to biomass and photovoltaics.

The Group, which is established in Overseas France, Mauritius and Brazil, has developed a unique partnership for 25 years with the sugar industry, to produce renewable energy from bagasse, a fibrous residue from sugar cane.

Albioma is also the leading generator of photovoltaic power overseas where it constructs and operates innovative projects with integrated storage capabilities.

Albioma shares are listed on NYSE EURONEXT PARIS (sub B) and eligible for the deferred settlement service (SRD) and PEA-PME plans (ISIN FR0000060402 – ticker: ABIO).

Contacts

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