MAINTENANCE

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Wind Turbine Technician Academy Graduates 11

Eleven students from across the country have spent the last six months, five days a week for eight hours a day in Kalamazoo, Michigan, at the nation's leading training program for wind-turbine technicians. On June 16, the 10 men and one woman walked the stage at Kalamazoo Valley Community College's Groves Center as graduates of the intensive training program.

The competency-based Wind Turbine Technician Academy provides a fast track to jobs that are in demand and pay high wages. Kalamazoo Valley offers the course as a non-credit, full-time program allowing students the chance to be job-ready in less than six months. Focused on specific, hands-on competencies, the training model moves students from the classroom to the learning labs and into the field quickly.

More than 96 percent of Wind Turbine Technician Academy alumni work in the wind industry. (Courtesy: Kalamazoo Valley Groves Center)

Graduates include:

- Shelby Beeghly of Newport, Rhode Island.
- Pierre Camp of Novato, California.
- Ram Dealy of Middletown, Connecticut.
- Reily Janson of Boulder, Colorado.
- Oleksandr Karatsyuba of Elkhart, Indiana.
- Chris McCollough of Titusville, New Jersey.
- Nick Norton of Battle Creek, Michigan.
- Nick Ruby of Scottville, Michigan.
- Brian Seklecki of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Robert Strong of Hopkins, Minnesota.
- Tanner Swartz of Plymouth, Indiana.

The program requires graduates to achieve 100 percent success in meeting industry standards in core areas of qualification. The graduates must successfully complete written assessments, practical examinations in the lab, and demonstrate their capabilities in the field.

More than 96 percent of Wind Turbine Technician Academy alumni work in the wind industry, with the majority accepting offers for employment prior to graduation. The Academy is offered twice a year, in January and July.

Source: Kalamazoo Valley Groves Center

For more information, go to www.kvcc.edu/wind

Vaisala Launches Easy-To-Use Smart-Probe Transmitter

Vaisala recently launched a new, digital transmitter to be used with Vaisala's smart probes. The Indigo 202 provides an easy-to-use interface to different exchangeable probes.

The Indigo 202 is a new product in the Indigo series, which extends the range of Vaisala's Indigo-compatible probes. With an analog-output version already on the market, now the Indigo 202 has a digital Modbus RTU output. These devices can be used with intelligent GMP251 and GMP252 carbon-dioxide probes; the range of probes will be expanded going forward. The next new Indigo-compatible probe will be the HPP272 probe for vaporized hydrogen peroxide, humidity, and temperature measurement, scheduled for availability in fall 2017.

The GMP251 and GMP252 carbon-dioxide probes are designed for harsh and humid environments. They are used in life science incubators, greenhouses, cold storages, and in demanding HVAC applications, such as livestock buildings.

One growing area of applying carbon-dioxide measurements is the use of carbon dioxide in cooling and refrigeration systems, as carbon dioxide is more environmentally friendly than traditional, for example, Freon-based refrigerants.

"In these systems, the reliable measurement of carbon-dioxide levels is important to ensure their safety to people," said Maria Uusimaa, product manager at Vaisala.

The new HPP272 probe for the measurement of vaporized hydrogen peroxide is accurate and exceptionally repeatable. Hydrogen peroxide is used extensively in the bio-decontamination of rooms, facilities, and equipment as well as sterilization applications in the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare. For example, isolators, treatment rooms in hospitals, ambulances, or even airplanes can be decontaminated with vaporized hydrogen peroxide.

The Indigo 200 series transmitters are intended for demanding conditions, as they are resistant to dust and most chemicals, and their smooth surface is easy to clean.

The transmitter has a wireless user interface accessed by smartphones or other smart devices, for example. Through this interface, it is possible to configure the transmitter's two relays, set the Modbus address, or change the display settings, among other things.

The Indigo 202 also helps to minimize downtime, as probes attached to it can be disconnected and changed into new ones, if needed. Instead of changing the probe, it can also be calibrated on site through the Indigo user interface, provided there is a calibration reference or a reference device available.

Source: Vaisala

For more information, go to www.vaisala.com/indigo

The first of 56 turbines is put in place at Galloper Wind Farm. (Courtesy: Galloper Wind Farm)

Seacat to Support Siemens Gamesa at Galloper

Seacat Services and Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy have signed a two-year charter deal to support early Operations & Maintenance (O&M) activity at the 336MW Galloper Wind Farm.

Seacat Services is a class-leading offshore energy support vessel (OESV) operator and Siemens Gamesa is a global offshore wind manufacturer and service provider.

Having secured the 56-turbine supply deal for the multi-million pound project under construction by innogy SE, Siemens Gamesa is now supporting the wind farm as it moves into the operational phase, under the terms of a 15-year service contract. With the first batch of turbines starting to come online, meeting maintenance plans will be important to ensuring a smooth transition into long-term operations.

For the duration of the 24-month charter, Seacat Services will provide specialist logistical support to the Siemens Gamesa technical teams based out of Harwich, transporting technicians and equipment as they tackle both scheduled maintenance and technical requirements. To fulfill its commitment to the

project, Seacat Services will deploy two advanced catamarans from its class-certified 14-vessel fleet; Seacat Vigilant and Seacat Liberty, 24 meters and 23 meters respectively.

The two vessels have been chosen specifically to support the variety and demands of the O&M activity that Siemens Gamesa technicians will be undertaking 30 kilometers from shore. Seacat Services' newest vessel, Seacat Liberty, has been chosen for its high pulling power, which will complement the versatility and reliability of the larger Seacat Vigilant, which is fresh from a five-year refit.

"This long-term, large-scale, contract with Siemens Gamesa is testament to the reputation and quality of the service provided by Seacat Services' crew and shore-based teams, and the strength of the relationship we have built with Siemens over the past few years," said Ian Baylis, managing director, Seacat Services. "We've worked closely with Siemens Gamesa to ascertain which of our vessels are the best fit for this contract and will ultimately create long-term value by ensuring operations at Galloper get off to the strongest start possible. We're thrilled to be introducing Seacat Liberty and the newly-refitted Seacat Vigilant onto the contract."

Due to be fully operational in 2018, the Galloper Wind Farm has created 700 U.K. jobs during construction and will lead to a further 90 long-term east coast jobs. Siemens Gamesa's choice of a U.K. supplier in Seacat Services — based out of Cowes, Isle of Wight — has further underlined its commitment to the local supply chain.

"We chose Seacat Services because we value local expertise, and because it is imperative that the vessels we charter for our technicians provide the highest quality service — not just the lowest costs," said Steve Myers, implementation & asset manager at Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy. "When working on projects of this complexity, it is critical that our offshore technicians are in the best position to do their jobs."

"Our engineers and technicians will rely on vessel support through all stages of site operations, from completing planned maintenance, response through reactive maintenance, and troubleshooting," he said. "Siemens Gamesa can trust that Seacat Services crew are trained to the highest industry standards, operating the most versatile, reliable, and advanced vessels available to support our offshore workforce at Galloper."

Source: Seacat Services

For more information, go to www.seacatservices.co.uk

Adjustable LED Emergency Light Certified for California Title 20

Fulham Co., Inc., a leading supplier of lighting components and electronics for commercial and specialty applications, recently announced its FireHorse FHEM10 series of adjustable LED emergency lights has been certified compliant with California Energy Commission (CEC) Title 20 Code of Regulations for illumination performance and low-energy consumption.

"Fulham is proud to be one of the first suppliers to offer Title 20 compliant emergency lighting to market," said Russ Sharer, vice president of Global Marketing for Fulham. "Our FHEM10 unit is one of our most popular emergency lighting products because of its versatility, easy installation, and low cost. With Title 20 having taken effect at the start of 2017, our distributor and contractor customers can now be assured that units they install today are fully compliant."

FireHorse FHEM10 units meet the CEC Title 20 specifications outlined for small-diameter directional lamps, including power consumption of 75 watts or less. They also have a rated life of more than 25,000 hours and are equipped with ANSI-compliant or E26 base types. The regulation affects installations in California and Oregon.

The compact design and high output of the FHEM10 series has made it one of Fulham's most popular sellers for emergency lighting. The unit is available in a high-lumen version; the FHEM-10WH with 264 lumens; and a standard version, the FHEM10W with 148 lumens output. The units are dual voltage, operating at 120VAC or 277VAC.

All FHEM10 emergency lighting units feature a rechargeable Ni-Cd battery that delivers up to 90 minutes of emergency power. They also come with an LED charge indicator, push-to-test switch, and long-life, energy-saving LED light source. The units feature a universal mount with a pattern knockout in the back for J-box mounting and snap-fit assembly. Base units are available in white and black.

The Fulham FireHorse FHEM10 series of adjustable LED emergency lights has been certified compliant with California Energy Commission (CEC) Title 20 Code of Regulations for illumination performance and low energy consumption. (Courtesy: Fulham Co.)

Fulham offers an extensive light of emergency lighting products that comply with international standards.

Source: Fulham Co.

For more information, go to www.fulham.com