



Press release

Nexans wins a contract worth 12 million euros for the supply of special cables to Romania

Paris, 15 May 2002 – Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has been awarded a contract in Romania by the national power company Nuclearelectrica SA. The order is for special cable equipment for the second stage of the Cernavoda nuclear power plant.

This order, worth 12 million euros, covers the supply of 1500 km of cables, i.e. almost all the cable required for the power plant's second reactor. Delivery is scheduled for 2003.

The cables are for medium and low voltage supply to all the reactor's power equipment, control cables that contribute to this reactor's sound operation and, lastly, measurement and instrumentation cables used to collect and transmit all data used in the reactor's operation.

All the cables will be manufactured in the Lyon, France, plant that has the expertise for products used in nuclear facilities. Halogen-free fire retardant (HFFR), and low-smoke emission, these cables must comply with special radiation resistance specifications for the reactor's 30-year life span, and with the stresses established under the reference accident, i.e. reactor runaway with thermodynamic shock and very high level radiation.

"As a result of this success," declared Michel Mayoud, Managing Director of Industrial Applications, " Nexans has confirmed its lead position for the supply of nuclear cables, since it is the main supplier for most reactors built in the recent past:

- *Candu Canadian technology for Cernavoda (Romania) and Qinshan (China),*
- *PWR (Framatome) for China,*
- *VVER for China and the Czech Republic."*

About Nexans

Nexans is the worldwide leader in the cable industry. The Group brings an extensive range of advanced copper and optical fiber cable solutions to the infrastructure, industry and building markets. Nexans cables and systems can be found in every area of people's lives, from telecommunications and energy networks, to aeronautics, aerospace, automobile, building, petrochemical, medical applications, etc. Operating in more than 28 countries, Nexans employs 18,000 people and had sales in 2001 of euros 4.8 billion. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange. More information on www.nexans.com

SN « Nuclearelectrica » SA is a state owned stock company established on July 2, 1998, according to the restructuring strategy of the power sector taken towards free energy market in Romania. SN "Nuclearelectrica" SA is the owner and operator of Cernavoda NPP and also of the Nuclear Fuel Plant - Pitesti. The company main mission are to produce nuclear power and heat, nuclear fuel and the continuation of the investments at the Cernavoda Nuclear Power Plant Site.

Cernavoda NPP project is based on the technology transfer process from Canada, Italy and United States. The transfer of a technology recognized as Western safe design covers mainly nuclear island, secondary cycle and turbo-generator.

Cernavoda Unit 1 NPP was declared in commercial operation on December 2, 1996. Unit 1 provides more than 10% of Romanian electricity consumption.

Unit 2, a replica of Unit 1, is under construction and represents the main priority of the National Strategy for the Development of the Romanian Energy Sector for the next future. Also, a recent study, funded by EC-PHARE – « Modernization Project for Cernavoda NPP2-Assessment of the economic justification » - demonstrates that at the level of 2005-2006 about 1,000 MW are missing and Cernavoda Unit 2 represents one of the solutions of covering this missing.

Its completion is expected to be by 2005.

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