

PRESS RELEASE
PARIS, 16 OCTOBER 2001

Carbone Lorraine is participating in the development
of a buoyant new market: wind power

Carbone Lorraine Group is positioning itself to become a major contender in wind-powered turbines, a market that is expected to grow more than 20% a year.

Carbone Lorraine is currently co-operating with the world's largest manufacturers of wind turbines (Loher, LDW, VEM, ABB, Alstom and Siemens) to supply electrical assemblies, brakes and electrical protection systems. Each component of a wind-powered generator requires maximum strength and precision in order to ensure perfect control over the blades, and a high degree of operating flexibility for the rotors, which are subject to irregular and turbulent airflows.

According to Mr. Claude Coccozza, Chairman and CEO of Carbone Lorraine Group: "*Wind-powered turbines are high-tech products subject to fierce mechanical constraints. The blades, which can have a radius as long as 50 metres, rotate on top of a single mast. Operating conditions are very delicate, requiring extremely flexible rotational movements and perfectly solid components throughout the wind turbine. Moreover, numerous wind turbines are located at sea to preserve the natural landscape: this imposes the use of exceptionally reliable equipment in order to reduce the frequency of maintenance sessions. Carbone Lorraine is able to meet all of these requirements. I am pleased that our Group is participating actively in the development of wind power and making a positive contribution to the preservation of the environment.*"

Wind-powered turbines: a buoyant market

Governments are beginning to promote economical and ecological solutions as an alternative to the drawbacks of fossil fuels, notably by favouring the use of renewable energy sources.

According to the targets set in a recent European directive, France is to produce 34 TWh (terawatt hours) of wind energy by 2010. Germany is also committed to eliminating its nuclear power plants within the next 20 years and to produce 50% of its electrical needs via renewable energy sources within the next 50 years, half of which will be via wind-powered turbines.

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These decisions obviously have major repercussions on the wind turbine sector, and promise a very bright future. Germany, like the United States, aims to install 500 to 1,000 wind turbines a year over the next several years, before stepping up the installation rate thereafter.

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Reminder:

Carbone Lorraine is an industrial group specialising in Electrical Components (brushes for electric motors, magnets and industrial fuses) and Advanced Materials and Technologies. The Group generates 88% of its sales outside France and holds leading positions on its major markets world-wide:

- *Electrical Applications* / *World no. 1 in brushes for electric motors*
- *Permanent Magnets* / *World no. 3 in magnets for the automobiles*
- *Electrical Protection* / *World no. 2 in industrial fuses*
- *Advanced Materials & Technologies* / *World no. 1 in thermal anti-corrosion equipment*

The Group is listed on the Premier Marché of the Paris Stock Exchange. It is part of the SBF 120 and Euronext 150 indices.

For further information, visit our website : www.carbonelorraine.com

Financial Communication contact

Carbone Lorraine

Anne Mills

Tel.: +33 (0)1 46 91 54 48

Fax: +33 (0)1 46 91 54 07

Press contact

Publicis Consultants

Catherine Rosec

Tél. : +33 (0)1 44 43 79 57

Fax : +33 (0)1 44 43 76 78