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Sulzer technology selected for 100 MW solar energy project in China

Sulzer technology has been selected for a major renewable energy project in China as part of the country's national program aimed at driving renewable energy production. Powerful energy storage systems are a prerequisite for solar plants to make a significant contribution to the security of supply. For a 100-megawatt molten salt solar storage system, Sulzer is supplying high-performance, state-of-the-art pump technology that can withstand the high temperature and corrosion requirements. 100 MW corresponds to the output of a medium-sized pumped storage power plant in Switzerland.

By retaining the heat energy, molten salt storage systems help overcome the challenge of intermittent renewable energy to ensure a reliable supply of electricity – night or day. Sulzer will supply a mix of 18-meter-long hot and cold molten salt pumps. The cold molten salt pumps will be used to transfer more temperate molten salt from the cold storage tank to the tower, where it is heated by concentrated solar energy at the tower's receiver. The hot molten salt is then transferred by the hot molten salt pumps to the hot storage tank until it is needed for electricity generation.

In collaboration with engineers from Sulzer Pumps Belgium, all of the pumps will be manufactured at our Sulzer Pumps Suzhou production facility to provide a competitive delivery lead time while ensuring a streamlined spare parts inventory. Sulzer's local engineers will be on hand to support the installation and commissioning of the equipment. Due to their length, the pumps will be assembled on-site before installation in the storage tanks.

Sulzer's Flow Equipment Division President Jan Lueder said, "We are proud to see our innovative technologies help global industry surmount key challenges in energy, efficiency and the environment. We pioneered molten salt pump technology more than 20 years ago and have led many successful projects in this sector. This contract demonstrates our technical expertise in pump design and manufacturing for specialized applications as well as our commitment to the renewable energy industry."

Sulzer is a global leader in fluid engineering and chemical processing applications. We specialize in energy-efficient pumping, agitation, mixing, separation, purification, crystallization and polymerization technologies for fluids of all types. Our solutions enable carbon emission reductions, development of polymers from biological sources, recycling of plastic waste and textiles, and efficient power storage. Our customers benefit from our commitment to innovation, performance and quality through our responsive network of 160 world-class manufacturing facilities and service centers across the globe. Sulzer has been headquartered in Winterthur, Switzerland, since 1834. In 2023, our 13'130 employees delivered revenues of CHF 3.3 billion. Our shares are traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SIX: SUN). www.sulzer.com

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