



**Press release**

## **Nexans wins 87 million Euro contract for Skagerrak 4 subsea HVDC power cable between Denmark and Norway**

*Skagerrak 4 project will create a fourth interconnector between Denmark and Norway providing an additional 700 MW of capacity to increase the exchange of environmentally-friendly power with other countries through the common Nordic electric power market*

**Paris, January 7, 2011** – Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has been awarded an 87 million Euro contract by Energinet and Statnett, the state-owned Transmission Systems Operators (TSOs) in Denmark and Norway, to deliver the subsea power cable for Skagerrak 4 (SK 4), the fourth HVDC power interconnector between the two countries. SK 4 is scheduled for completion by the end of 2014.

The new 700 MW SK 4 cable will improve security of supply in Denmark and Norway as well as contributing to an increased exchange of environmentally-friendly power with other countries via the common Nordic electric power market. In combination with SK 1-3, also delivered by Nexans, the new cable will raise the total capacity of the Skagerrak interconnector to 1,700 MW, facilitating the export of renewable energy (especially hydro-electric generation) produced in Norway as well as helping to stimulate an increase in wind power production in Denmark.

### **Subsea power and fibre optic cables**

For the SK 4 project, Nexans will design, manufacture and install the new 140 km subsea cable across the Skagerrak strait between the Jutland peninsula of Denmark and Norway. The 500 kV HVDC cable, to be produced by the Nexans facility in Halden, Norway will be of the MIND (Mass-Impregnated Non-Draining) type and will be laid at sea-depths of up to 530 meters by Nexans' own cable-laying vessel, the C/S Nexans Skagerrak. At the same time, Nexans will also install a separate fibre optic subsea cable produced by its factory in Rognan, Norway

### **Cable protection**

As an integral part of the SK 4 project, Nexans will protect the power and fibre optic cables on the seabed by burying them to a depth of around one meter using its sophisticated Capjet water-jetting trenching system.

### **Underground cables**

In common with the existing SK 1-3 cables, SK 4 will connect into the local onshore transmission grids at HVDC converter stations in Tjele, Denmark and Kristiansand,

Norway. On the Norway side, Nexans is also providing the 12 km underground land cable that will link the subsea cable with the Kristiansand station.

### **Existing Skagerrak HVDC interconnections – in operation for over 30 years**

Nexans deployed the first two Skagerrak HVDC subsea cables (SK 1-2) between 1976 and 1977 in a ground-breaking project that, at the time, made them the longest DC cables ever installed. Operating at 250 kV, they have provided an efficient and reliable 500 MW interconnector between Denmark and Norway for well over 30 years. In 1993, the interconnector was upgraded with Nexans delivering a third cable (SK 3), operating at 350 kV, to provide an additional 500 MW capacity.

*“Winning this very significant contract for the Skagerrak 4 cable has enabled Nexans to make a flying start to 2011 and we are delighted to be working with Energinet and Statnett to help upgrade this strategic interconnector”, said Yvon Raak, Nexans Senior Corporate Executive Vice President, “An important element in our favour was that the three existing cables have provided a perfect reference for the quality and long-term reliability of our cable technology in this very demanding application”.*

### **About Nexans**

With energy as the basis of its development, Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables and cabling systems. The Group is a global player in the infrastructure, industry, building and Local Area Network markets. Nexans addresses a series of market segments: from energy, transport and telecom networks to shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear power, automotives, electronics, aeronautics, material handling and automation.

Nexans is a responsible industrial company that regards sustainable development as integral to its global and operational strategy. Continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development and engagement, and the introduction of safe industrial processes with limited environmental impact are among the key initiatives that place Nexans at the core of a sustainable future.

With an industrial presence in 39 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 22,700 people and had sales in 2009 of 5 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A. For more information, please consult [www.nexans.com](http://www.nexans.com)

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