



29 October 2013, Barcelona

Europe signs its largest ever contract for ITER with GDF SUEZ Group and M+W Group

Fusion for Energy (F4E), the organisation managing Europe's contribution to ITER, has signed its largest contract to date with Cofely Axima, Cofely Ineo, Cofely Endel (GDF Suez Group) and M+W Group. The strong expertise of the Franco-German group of companies will be used to provide the building services for the Tokamak complex, where the ITER Tokamak machine will be located, and the surrounding buildings. The contract is expected to run for six years and its budget is approximately 530 million EUR.

Professor Henrik Bindslev, F4E's Director, stated that "this is an important achievement for Europe not only because of the volume of the contract but also because European companies will be given an unprecedented opportunity to share and acquire new know-how that will generate future business opportunities." Guy Lacroix, Managing Director of GDF SUEZ Energy Services in charge of Cofely Axima, Cofely Ineo and Cofely Endel confirmed that "being part of the largest international collaboration in the field of fusion energy makes us extremely proud. All the members of the consortium bring together a diversity of skills and expertise which allow us to demonstrate that we can be at the forefront of large scale industrial projects like ITER."

The ITER site in figures:

The size of the ITER platform is 42 hectares and Europe is the party responsible for the delivery of the 39 buildings that the ITER platform will host. Currently, the personnel directly involved in construction counts 250 people and by the end of 2014 it is expected to reach 2,000 people. One of the key challenges will be to accommodate the needs of the rapidly growing workforce and to guarantee an optimal use of space to the different companies operating on the ground, in order to carry out the construction of all infrastructures in parallel and on time.

The scope and key figures of the contract:

The contract covers the design, supply, installation and commissioning of the mechanical and electrical equipment for the Tokamak complex, which consists of the Tokamak, Diagnostic and Tritium buildings, plus the surrounding buildings which reach a total of 97,200 m³. Thanks to this contract all the necessary works of the ITER Assembly phase will start in order to host ITER's high tech equipment in compliance with the strict safety requirements and in line with the rigorous qualification tests.

Through this contract a Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) system will be delivered powerful enough to treat the air flow of 1,000,000 m³/hour which corresponds to the volume of air that is inhaled and exhaled by 3,5 million people/hour. Furthermore, Instrumentation and Control (IC) systems, power supplies, interior and exterior lighting, gas and liquid networks will be installed. State of the art fire detection and extinguishing systems, consisting of 2,000 fire detectors, will be supplied, pipe fittings and handling equipment with various interfaces connecting buildings and systems.

Background information:

MEMO: Europe signs its largest ever contract for ITER with GDF SUEZ Group and M+W Group

View the progress of the ITER construction site: <http://www.youtube.com/user/fusionforenergy>

Fusion for Energy

Fusion for Energy (F4E) is the European Union's organisation for Europe's contribution to ITER. One of the main tasks of F4E is to work together with European industry, SMEs and research organisations to develop and provide a wide range of high technology components together with engineering, maintenance and support services for the ITER project.

F4E supports fusion R&D initiatives through the Broader Approach Agreement signed with Japan and prepares for the construction of demonstration fusion reactors (DEMO).

F4E was created by a decision of the Council of the European Union as an independent legal entity and was established in April 2007 for a period of 35 years.

Its offices are in Barcelona, Spain.

 <http://www.fusionforenergy.europa.eu>

 <http://www.youtube.com/user/fusionforenergy>

 <http://twitter.com/fusionforenergy>

 <http://www.flickr.com/photos/fusionforenergy>

ITER

ITER is a first-of-a-kind global collaboration. It will be the world's largest experimental fusion facility and is designed to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion power. It is expected to produce a significant amount of fusion power (500 MW) for about seven minutes.

Fusion is the process which powers the sun and the stars. When light atomic nuclei fuse together to form heavier ones, a large amount of energy is released. Fusion research is aimed at developing a safe, limitless and environmentally responsible energy source.

Europe will contribute almost half of the costs of its construction, while the other six parties to this joint international venture (China, Japan, India, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA), will contribute equally to the rest.

The site of the ITER project is in Cadarache, in the South of France.

<http://www.iter.org/>

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