

Media release

Location, date, Laufenburg, 10 November 2015
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Swissgrid acquires share capital of HGRT

Swissgrid acquires share capital of Holding des Gestionnaires de Réseau de Transport d'Electricité ("HGRT"). HGRT is the holding company of Central Western European transmission system operators and ensures its influence on the leading Central and Western European spot exchange EPEX SPOT through a 49% stake.

The transmission system operators RTE, Elia and TenneT transfer a 5% stake in HGRT to Swissgrid. HGRT is the holding company of Central Western European transmission system operators, which currently holds a 49% equity stake in EPEX SPOT, the leading spot exchange for Central and Western Europe. Swissgrid will join the supervisory boards of HGRT and EPEX SPOT. With this transaction and the related tasks Swissgrid will contribute to ensuring the consistency between market rules and the requirements of the transmission system operators regarding security of supply. In addition, the cooperation between Central Western European transmission system operators and the European Power Exchange will be strengthened. This marks a crucial step forward in further developing the European power market.

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Powering the future – Swissgrid is the National Grid Company. As the owner of the Swiss extra-high-voltage grid, it is responsible for operating the grid safely and without discrimination, and for maintaining, modernising and expanding the Swiss extra-high-voltage grid efficiently and with respect for the environment. Swissgrid employs over 430 highly skilled persons from 22 countries at its sites in Frick, Laufenburg, Uznach, Landquart, Ostermundigen, Prilly and Castione. As a member of the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E), it is also responsible for grid planning, system management and market design in the cross-border exchange of electricity in Europe. Multiple Swiss electricity companies jointly hold the entire share capital of Swissgrid.

ABOUT HGRT: HGRT is the holding company of Central Western European transmission system operators created in 2001, which currently holds a 49% equity stake in EPEX SPOT.

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ABOUT EPEX SPOT: The European Power Exchange EPEX SPOT SE and its affiliates APX and Belpex operate organised short-term electricity markets for Germany, France, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg; markets representing 50% of European electricity consumption. Striving for the well functioning European single market for electricity, EPEX SPOT shares its expertise with partners across the continent and beyond. EPEX SPOT is a European company (Societas Europaea) in corporate structure and staff, based in Paris with offices or affiliates in Amsterdam, Bern, Brussels, Leipzig, London and Vienna. More than 280 companies trade annually over 500 TWh of electricity on EPEX SPOT and its affiliates. EPEX SPOT is held by EEX Group, part of Deutsche Börse, and HGRT, a Holding of European electricity transmission system operators. For more information, please visit www.epexspot.com.