Eggersmann buys BEKON

Germany-based Eggersmann Grupp GmbH & Co. KG, an international company specialised in recycling and combustion, has announced it has acquired compa-
nion biogas-plant builder BEKON Holding AG. Located in the East-Westphalian city of Marien-
feld, the Eggersmann Group is rapidly expanding international plant
manufacturers with many years
experience in mechanical and biologi-
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ing BEKON employees and the site in Unterfoehring will be kept on.

— The integration of BEKON

Another ElectraTherm OCR to Germany

U-s-based waste heat to power technology developer ElectraTherm Inc., has announced on second order in Germany this year. The order is for a "Power Generator" organic rankine cycle (ORC) unit for a biogas facili-
ty in Bad Konrath. The site uses biogas to fuel up to four 540 kW engines to supply power to the grid. The ORC will utilise low temperature heat at 77-122°C, waste heat from two to three engines at any given time to gen-
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and, according to ElectraTherm, enables a payback of less than three years.

ETW Energietechnik launch gas burner for CHPs

German gas fired combi-
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veloper and supplier ETW Energietechnik GmbH has launched a gas blending tech-
ology that blends two gas streams of different qualities to fuel gas fired CHPs. The equip-
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nous fuel mixture and is ge-
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

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Weltec Biopower to build 800-kW biogas plant in Colombia

Germany-based biogas technology provider Weltec Biopower GmbH has announced it has received an order from Colombia. The 800 kW biogas plant will be supplied to the country’s largest egg producer, Incubadora Santander, with plant start-up expected in early 2017. The value of the deal remains undisclosed.

The order is a first for Weltec in Colombia and it’s second to Latin America; in 2013 it supplied a 1.5 MW biogas power plant to a poultry farm in Brazil. Incubadora Santander operates several poultry farms close to the western Colombian province of Cauca producing around 3.5 million eggs a day that are sold in 46 cities around the country. The company plans to co-digest dry chicken manure from the laying hens with processed waste from the production using any additional substrates or feedstock.

According to Weltec the feedstock will be pre-treated in a sedimentation tank to remove sand and lime from the manure before being pumped into a 4,903 m³ digester via a 1,076 m³ intermediate storage unit. Stainless steel will be used in the storage tanks and digester. The digester will be used as liquid unit on the farm’s own field.

The Colombian government has a target to increase the share of renewable electricity in the main power grid. Sistema Interconectado Nacional (SIN), to 6-5 percent by 2020. According to a German Trade Invest (GTIA) report from January this year, the potential for biomass-derived energy is estimated to be 16 GWh annually with the agricultural sector a producer of significant quantities of unutilised by-products and residuals.

Weltec Biopower GmbH

Manufactures biogas plants using Biogas Powering technology

No 88, 5-2016

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35
**REVISED EEG TO RESUSCITATE GERMAN BIOGAS**

2015 was the slowest year yet for biogas in Germany. The adoption in July of the revised Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) resuscitates hope in bucking the slowdown.

**According to the most recent data released by the German Biogas Association (FachverbandBiogas e.V), 150 biogas plants came on stream in 2015, of which 130 were new installations. Among these 150 operations, more than 130 were small manure-based plants. The remaining operations included biomethane to grid injection, waste fermentation plants and on-site agricultural electricity generation facilities.**

**Slow pace**

While the number of plants did increase, it is a factor ten less than the 1.476 new plants installed in 2014. Furthermore the average size of the facilities installed during 2015 was small, adding a total of 23 MW renewable energy capacity.

This is the lowest annual increase since the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) was first adopted in 2000.

- The current Renewable Energy Sources Act has created extremely poor conditions for the biogas industry in Germany: as references in 25 countries.

**Slowest year yet for biogas in Germany.**

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**Revised EEG from 2017**

For 2016, the German Biogas Association predicts around 26 MW of new energy capacity will be added. As in 2015, the association expects the plants to be small manure-based plants, as well as some biomethane grid injection systems all suggesting a slight increase in activity bucking the downward trend.

An underlying factor is the revised EEG that was adopted in July and comes into force in 2017. It provides owners and investors with a degree of policy certainty. Instead of fixed remuneration for a feed-in tariff (FIT), the lowest bid wins. However, there are maximum bid prices. For existing installations this is EUR 0.169/kW and for new plants at EUR 0.1488/kW.

The annual cap set at 150 MW electrical capacity from 2017 to 2019, increasing to 200 MW per year from 2020 to 2022. Even in existing plants where the EEG current FIT is above the expected, continued operation of the plants can be expected through the successful participation in a tender.

For existing installations small or large, performance-based remuneration is introduced and there must be a “high-performance plant” to qualify. Otherwise, the EEG 2017, we hope the current stagnation of the German biogas market can be overcome, so we can see new investments, maintenance of existing assets, and expanded production that can be made more flexible, ended da Costa Gomez, General Manager of the German Biogas Association.

**4 MW installed capacity**

The cumulative total installed capacity of 8.956 biogas plants installed over the period 1992 - 2015 amounts to just over 46 MW. About eight million households are supplied with electricity from biogas. In addition to the 23 MW of added electrical output, existing plants have added storage facilities to increase plant performance by an additional 100 MW.

When electrical demand is high and/or there is low power generation by wind and solar plants, the biogas plants can boost production. On sunny and windy days, or days of low electrical demand, gas can be stored for future use. Together, this results in additional power grid electricity generation of 125 MW.

**More information: [www.agrafari.com](http://www.agrafari.com)**