

Round up of Economic and Commercial Developments in East China

(13-19 September 2009)

Shanghai Electric boosting capacity

Shanghai Electric, China's top power equipment maker, plans to invest billions of yuan to expand its nuclear power equipment manufacturing facilities in the city into the world's largest by 2012. The facilities in Lingang, 75 km southwest of downtown Shanghai, will cover production of major nuclear power station components like nuclear island and conventional island, Xu Jianguo, chairman of the company said. "In line with the rapid development of China's nuclear power industry, we have built a full portfolio in the field," said Xu. The company started building the second phase of its nuclear power equipment manufacturing facilities in Lingang in July. With 1 billion yuan in investment for the second phase, the company will expand its annual output of nuclear power generating units to about four-six sets in 2012 from the current 2.5 sets. Xu said the company's sales from the nuclear business are likely to grow by 75 percent year-on-year to touch 3.5 billion yuan in 2009. Around 12 new nuclear power projects are in the pipeline currently, with installed capacity of around 23.7 million kW. (*China Daily*)

China's first automobile wind tunnel starts operation

China's first automobile wind tunnel began operation at Tongji University in Shanghai on 19 September 2009, indicating a major breakthrough in automobile development and production. Costing 490 million yuan (72 million U.S. dollars), the Shanghai vehicle wind tunnel center will provide testing services for manufacturers of cars, buses, sport utility vehicles, trucks and train models. It will also facilitate the research and development of new energy vehicles, high-speed trains and big airplanes. More than 10 automobile wind tunnels have been built in the world. Previously, Chinese automobile manufacturers had to pay millions of euros to do wind tunnel testing in foreign countries. (*Xinhua*)

Hongqiao hub as regional gateway

Shanghai will exploit its Hongqiao transportation hub as the core of a massive new power center that serves as the city's gateway to the Yangtze River Delta region and beyond. The new Hongqiao Business Park will be home to bustling trade and finance, fast and modern air, road and rail links and rich social services, local officials said on 15 September 2009 at a conference that brought together city and provincial government leaders and planners to discuss regional development. City planners said the greater Hongqiao area will become Shanghai's third "urban circle," after the central business district covering both sides of the Huangpu River and the manufacturing and shipping zones in Pudong's outlying reaches. The Hongqiao Business Park will encompass the Hongqiao Airport and the nearby transport hub, which will go into operation before the 2010 Shanghai World Expo. (*Shanghai Daily*)

Jiangsu rolls out market oriented policies to support Photovoltaic (PV) industry

Relatively small market capacity and lack of core technology are two biggest challenges facing China's PV industry. Jiangsu provincial government has been working to support PV industry with market oriented policies. Independent innovation and mastering core technologies are the most important factors for international competitiveness. At present, Shangde has established six research and development centers worldwide and employs dozens of foreign experts. Moreover, a group of backbone photovoltaic (PV) enterprises in Jiangsu Province has already started to localize PV technologies and equipment. It is estimated that by 2012, all PV equipment in Jiangsu Province will be produced independently. The opinions on promoting PV power generation in Jiangsu Province published in June 2009 announced the implementation of a PV-generated electricity fixed-price policy, under which targeted electricity prices at grid-connected ground power stations in 2009, 2010 and 2011 will be 2.15 yuan per kWh, 1.7 yuan per kWh and 1.4 yuan per kWh respectively. Jiangsu's move will have an important modeling effect on future domestic grid-connected PV development. The Wuxi municipal government has decided to implement a million square-meter grid-connected rooftop PV power generation project this year. By 2011, the city's "solar roofs" will be over one million square meters in area and the construction of a grid-connected rooftop power generation system with a total installed capacity of 80 megawatts will be completed. (*People's Daily*)

Nanjing to be benefitted from World Expo

For years, Nanjing has benefited from the port city's leading role in developing the Yangtze River Delta region. When the 2010 World Expo rolls round next year this relationship should hit the next level. Economists say expo-related consumption could trigger 10 times as much growth in related sectors, giving Nanjing's GDP a major boost. Buoyed by its strong sense of cultural heritage, the city is also looking to the fair to build its tourism sector and commercialize its global brand. Expo organizers have already approved two expo-themed tourism routes in Nanjing, featuring relics from the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and the Republic of China (1911-1949). The Shanghai-Nanjing Intercity Railway, which will be completed next July, will make transiting much easier by halving the travel time between the two cities to one hour. This will be good news for the up to 20 million tourists who are expected to flood Nanjing during the expo. Last year, the city welcomed 50 million tourists. (*China Daily*)

World Expo related news-

Energy-saving tops expo agenda

China will flaunt its latest progress in developing renewable forms of energy at the 2010 Expo. Expo arena is expected to generate some 4.7 megawatts of solar power. Building-integrated photovoltaics or light-admitting panels are being used for three of the four permanent expo structures. "Organizers are trying to build a green and eco-friendly expo," said Zhao Guojing, a senior engineer with

Shanghai Shenneng New Energy Co, which is a gas and power supply partner of the Shanghai Expo. A total of 26,000 sq m of solar system will be built into its rooftop. Once installed, the two energy sources used for the China Pavilion and Theme Pavilion will generate 2.84 million kWh of power, equivalent to the amount produced by burning 1,000 tons of coal. The Theme Pavilion's solar energy generation system will also become Asia's largest stand-alone BIPV project. The Expo Center and Nanshi Power Plant will showcase more projects combining solar power. Meanwhile, London will build two houses at the Urban Best Practices Area that are not reliant on conventional electricity and water supplies. They will instead make use of the sun, wind and biotic energy, that is, energy created by living organisms and rainwater. Two three-story houses in the Puxi section of the expo site will have slanted rooftops covered with plants, solar panels and windmills bringing fresh air inside. As another energy-saving measure, restaurant leftovers will be used for to generate power, with visitors able to see how the food is turned into electricity.

Full steam ahead on pavilion buildings

On 17 September 2009 construction began on the Indonesia Pavilion for the 2010 Shanghai World Expo. The Indonesia Pavilion will be 4,000 square meters with the theme "Eco-diversity." The walls, ceilings and some of the ground areas will be built from bamboo, which symbolizes the spirit of the country that is so resilient, according to Mari Pangestu, Indonesia's trade minister. Budi Lim, architect of the pavilion, said a 40-meter wide and 17-meter high waterfall would be created in the middle of the building, cutting it into two parts, just like the Equator through Indonesia. (Xinhua)

SAIC Gears Up To Make Clean-Energy Vehicles

SAIC Motor Corp will begin to produce more than 1,000 vehicles powered by clean energy from next month to serve visitors at the 2010 Shanghai World Expo. The vehicles will provide a "zero emissions" Expo and buses will then be used in the city's public transportation network after the 2010 event. About 500 vehicles will be used inside the Expo site and for linkage lines, including zero-emission super-capacitor buses, fuel-cell vehicles and electric buses. Another 500 low-emission vehicles will be used in the area surrounding the Expo site. (Xinhua)

With warm regards.

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