



Pressemitteilung

Press release · Communiqué de presse

Vechta, October 2015

Biogas Specialist Steps Up Plant Operations

WELTEC Group Acquires Two Biomethane Refineries

The WELTEC Group has acquired two biomethane refineries in Hesse and Saxony-Anhalt (Germany). One of the plants is located in Ebsdorfergrund, Hesse, and has been acquired within the framework of an asset deal. Nordmethan Produktion Ebsdorfergrund GmbH, an affiliate of the WELTEC Group, is now responsible for the operation as the new owner. For this purpose, all employees have been taken over.

The new operator is familiar with all technical details of the plant: Among other things, WELTEC BIOPOWER was the plant engineering company that set up the entire process technology including gas upgrading technology and ensured a smooth go-live in late 2012. The plant produces 1,000 standard m³/h of raw biogas and efficiently conditions it to 550 standard m³/h of natural gas equivalent biomethane. By way of the public natural gas grid, the green energy source is available throughout Germany.

„Thanks to our extensive experience and the good technical equipment of the plant, we will be able to ensure reliable, profitable operation“, says Jens Albartus, Director of WELTEC BIOPOWER and Nordmethan. This statement also applies to another acquisition of the WELTEC Group: In addition to the purchase of the biomethane refinery in Hesse, WELTEC BIOPOWER has reported the repurchase of one of the world's large biogas parks with gas-to-grid technology in Könnern, Saxony-Anhalt.

The WELTEC Group had purchased the biomethane refinery in March 2015 from the insolvency assets of AC Biogas GmbH. As in Ebsdorfergrund, all employees have been taken over in Könnern as well. The annual production of this plant, which had been planned and set up by WELTEC, amounts to about 15 million standard m³ of biomethane, enough to supply 10,000 homes with heat and power.

„Our Group now boasts a total of four biomethane refineries. This represents a solid economic fundament and allows our engineers to continue with the research and development work, enabling them to design further innovative plants“, comments Jens Albartus, explaining the strategic orientation of the WELTEC Group. Apart from the plant operation, the company from Lower Saxony especially concentrates on worldwide plant engineering and manufacturing as well as the service and maintenance business.

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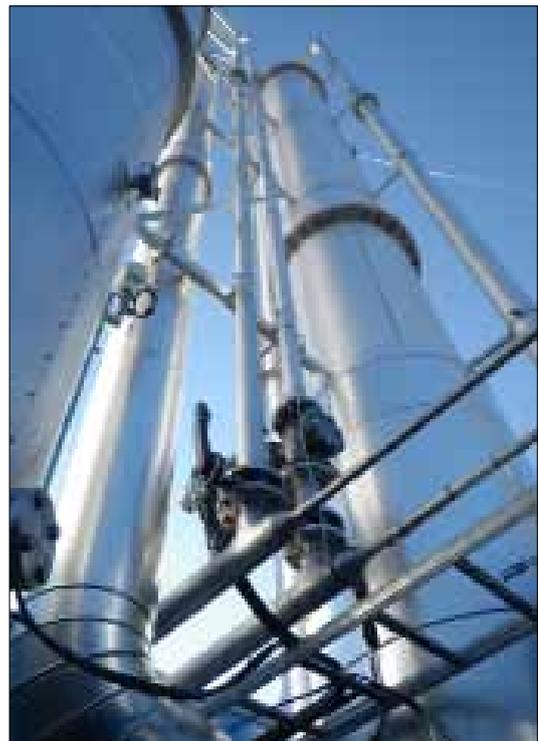
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Organic energy worldwide

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Company Portraits

WELTEC BIOPOWER GmbH is one of the world's leading enterprises in the field of stainless-steel biogas plant construction. The company has planned, developed and built anaerobic digestion plants since 2001. Today, the medium-sized company has about 80 employees at the headquarters in Vechta, Germany, and has established more than 300 energy plants in 25 countries worldwide. The global distribution and service network spans six continents. The range of customers includes businesses from the agriculture, food, waste and wastewater industries.

The strength of WELTEC BIOPOWER lies in custom-tailored design and technically mature solutions for projects up to 10 megawatt capacity. In this context, the high proportion of internally developed components is a key success factor. The company also owes its leading edge to the use of stainless steel. This enables the input of a diverse range of feedstocks, a fast and economic assembly and a consistently high quality standard – regardless of the location.

After a biogas plant goes live, WELTEC BIOPOWER offers additional support through its experienced mechanical and biological service team. 24/7 availability and an in-house lab contribute significantly to the efficiency of the plant. In addition, since 2008 the company has ensured certified internal quality and environmental management in accordance with the ISO 9001 and 14001 standards.

Nordmethan GmbH plans, develops and operates energy plants for the production and use of biomethane. Headquartered in Vechta, Lower Saxony, the company has been active throughout Germany since 2008. Together with the affiliated biogas plant manufacturer WELTEC BIOPOWER GmbH, the enterprise covers wide parts of the biogas value chain. The core segments of Nordmethan GmbH comprise the operation of biomethane refineries, power and heat contracting and energy management.

In the field of biomethane production, Nordmethan employs its expertise in the long-term operation of anaerobic digestion plants with gas processing technology. At four company-owned sites, the highly developed plants produce 27.8 million standard m³ of natural gas-grade biomethane, which is fed into the public gas grid and is thus available throughout Germany.

On the basis of this gas and tried-and-tested technologies, Nordmethan also supplies power and heat to its customers. 16 decentralised combined heat and power plants generate a total thermal output of 8.6 megawatt for municipalities as well as small and medium-sized enterprises, e.g. in the fields of horticulture and housing association. The customers benefit from low energy prices without any risk, as the cost of establishment, operation and maintenance of the CHP plants is borne by Nordmethan.

Nordmethan's credo is to guarantee reliable energy supply at stable prices, thereby ensuring the energy of tomorrow. Apart from the operation of energy plants, Nordmethan boasts competencies in future-oriented energy concepts, optimisation of existing heat generation plants and efficient management of energy flows.

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