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Project News

UCTE-IPS/UPS Study: Common working activities started in Hanover



In the beginning of October more than 70 international experts of the electricity transmission industry met in Hanover, Germany, to discuss the technical feasibility of enlarging the continental European interconnected power system to the East. This meeting was one of the first steps towards investigating the feasibility of interconnecting the UCTE¹ power system with the system of IPS/UPS² within a three years study. An enlargement of the UCTE system would finally lead to an interconnected power system from Portugal in the West to the Bering Sea in the East.

„The main task is to identify necessary measures aiming at a possible synchronous operation of the power systems of the Baltic States and EPC/CIS³ with the Western European power system. Nevertheless, an extension in this dimension has to ensure the system security for the systems concerned. Therefore we are working together on these tasks with our colleagues from the Baltic States, Byelorussia, Ukraine, Moldova, Russia and Kazakhstan in international working groups“, explained Dr. Matthias Luther, who is in charge of the project.

Not only the technical challenge of the investigations is unique: an interconnection would create a synchronous power system spanning 13 time zones and serving about 800 million people. Also from the political point of view the study is of major interest: it is a significant venture in the frame of the European Union - Russia Energy Dialogue.

¹ UCTE: The "Union for the Co-ordination of Transmission of Electricity" (UCTE) is the association of transmission system operators in continental Europe.

² IPS/UPS: Comprises the Power Systems of the Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia), Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan

³ EPC CIS: Electric Power Council of Commonwealth of Independent States