

Press Release

Contact Patricia Seizer
Phone +49 (0)69 6603-1936
Fax +49 (0)69 6603-2936
E-mail patricia.seizer@eugine.eu
Date 5 July 2017

Text

Flexible gas engine power plants are an important element for the energy transition

Successful first European Engine Power Plant Forum organised by EUGINE and CIMAC

The energy transition will lead to a smart combination of renewable energy sources with storage technology and flexible engine power plants, capable to balance the variability of the renewables. Fostering the provision of these solutions – including flexible engine power plants - can best be done by allowing the short-term energy market to work.

These are some key conclusions from the first European Engine Power Plant Forum, which took place on 28 June in Cologne. The well attended event was jointly organised by the two international associations EUGINE and CIMAC during the exhibition Power-Gen Europe.

The forum opened with a keynote speech of Thorsten Herdan, in charge of energy politics at the German ministry of economics. He emphasised that the flexibility needed to balance variable renewables cannot be provided by a single technology, but rather needs a combination of different technologies covering the range from milliseconds up to several weeks of “Dunkelflaute” (dark doldrum) in winter. In this toolbox gas engines are an important option.

During the panel discussion EUGINE President Kari Hietanen and Thorsten Herdan agreed that it will be crucial for the provision of flexibility to set the right incentives with the planned new European electricity market design. Only strong price signals will ensure that the necessary investments will be made. This should be done in a technology-neutral way. Additionally, rewarding the simple provision of capacities would weaken the price signals on the short-term energy market and should be avoided.

EUGINE

Transparency Register
ID number 033807913798-84
www.eugine.eu

European Engine Power Plants Association

President
Kari Hietanen
Secretary General
Ralf Wezel

Brussels Office

Boulevard A. Reyers 80
1030 Brussels
Belgium
Phone +32 (0)2 706-8297
Fax +32 (0)2 706-8210
gaetan.claeys@eugine.eu

Head Office

Lyoner Str. 18
60528 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
Phone +49 (0)69 6603-1936
Fax +49 (0)69 6603-2936
info@eugine.eu

Fabian Huneke from Energy Brainpool explained that his company has recently analysed the flexibility needs and options of the energy system and found out that the still less known technology of the gas engines had particular advantages in generating power extremely flexible compared to the traditional technologies.

In a second part of the event different industry representatives presented options for the further “greening” of engine power plants, ranging from the use of biogas and green hydrogen or methane to microgrid solutions optimising the integration of engine power plants with renewables and storage options. Finally it was demonstrated, how diesel gensets for more and more purposes can be replaced by cleaner gas gensets without jeopardising speed and reliability.

For more information please see www.eugine.eu

EUGINE is the centre of knowledge for engine power plant technology and electricity market design. Its members are the leading European manufacturers of engine power plants and their key components. They provide forward-looking solutions for flexible electricity generation. EUGINE works with EU and national institutions in order to help the European electricity system to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.