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H2OCEAN Unveiled: Multi-use Oceanic Platform for Renewables

AWS Truepower leads three-year, € 6 million, European Commission study

Barcelona, Spain -- January 18, 2011 – **AWS Truepower,** an international leader in renewable energy consulting and information services, today announced the official start of the H2OCEAN project at the Barcelona Science Park (PCB). The project, which is funded by the European Commission 7th Framework Programme, aims to develop an innovative design for an economically and environmentally sustainable multi-use open-sea platform to harvest offshore renewable power.

The H2OCEAN platform will harvest wind and wave power, using part of the energy on-site for multiple applications including a multi-trophic aquaculture farm, and convert on-site, the excess energy into hydrogen.

A unique feature of the H2OCEAN concept, beyond the integration of various activities in different economic sectors, is the approach to transporting excess renewable energy generated offshore through hydrogen. This conceptual model avoids the grid imbalance problem inherent to current offshore renewable energy systems and eliminates the need for cost-prohibitive cable transmission systems.

“The H2OCEAN project is an outstanding opportunity to demonstrate how innovative approaches to energy capture and delivery can make renewable sources the number one contributor to the energy mix in Europe”, said Joan Aymamí, Vice President of International Business at AWS Truepower. “We are thrilled to be leading such a diverse team of specialists and expect the outcome of this project to exceed expectations for all stakeholders.”

H2OCEAN’s design plan will take advantage of synergies between various activities carried out within the platform, minimize environmental impacts, and increase social and economic potential of new maritime activities. Job creation and strengthening European competitiveness are also expected outcomes of the project.

The consortium involves seventeen companies and public institutions from five European countries from diverse sectors including renewable energy, aquaculture, hydrogen generation and shipping. The project will be led by AWS Truepower’s Barcelona office, consortium

members include: Universidad de Valladolid (Spain); Universidad de Oviedo (Spain); Seta Sociedad Española de Tratamiento de Agua SL (Spain); Treelogic Telematica y Lógica Racional para la Empresa Europea SL (Spain) ; Sustainable Technologies (Spain); Virtualpie Ltd (UK); Dexa Wave Energy APS (Deenmark); Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft Zur Foerderung der Angewandten (Germany); Chlamys S.L (Italy); Viking Fish Farms Limited (UK); Institut Fuer Seeverkehrswirtschaft und Logistik (Germany); Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (Deenmark); Fusion Marine Limited (UK); D'Appolonia SPA (Italy); It Power LTD (UK); Cranfield University (UK).

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Pictured in photo: (1st row center) Armando Palomar, contract manager of H2Ocean, (2nd row left in tie) Joan Aymamí, Vice President of International Business in Europe and Latin America at AWS Truepower, along with AWS Staff.

About AWS Truepower, LLC:
AWS Truepower has been an international leader in renewable energy consulting and information services for over 25 years. AWS Truepower's integrated solutions suite supports the full spectrum of renewable energy including project development, investment and finance, plant performance, grid integration and forecasting, and research and development. AWS Truepower has offices in North America, Europe and Asia. Learn more about the company online at awstruepower.com.