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Comments:

ITER CHOOSES A LOGISTICS SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE TRANSPORT OF COMPONENTS

CADARACHE, France (15 February 2012) – The ITER Organization has signed a five-year contract for the provision of global transport, logistic and insurance services with the integrated equipment and services supplier DAHER. The Logistics Service Provider Framework Contract will facilitate the complex logistics related to the transport of ITER components from suppliers all over the globe to Cadarache, France where the ITER project is currently under construction.

china

eu

india

japan

korea

russia

usa

The components that will make up the largest tokamak in the world will be manufactured by the seven Members of the ITER project, packaged, and shipped to the ITER site in Cadarache, France. On 10 February 2012, ITER Director-General Osamu Motojima signed the **Logistics Service Provider** Framework Contract for the transport, logistics and insurance of these loads on behalf of the ITER Organization and the seven ITER Members. The European company DAHER is named as Logistics Service Provider for five years with the possibility of extension.

A significant number of heavy-lift and exceptional-size loads will travel from suppliers' factories in China, Europe, India, Japan, Korea, Russia and the United States to the ITER site during the construction phase of the project. Every aspect related to the transport of ITER loads—including customs management at departure and arrival, logistics, insurance, intermediate storage before delivery, handling, and final unloading at the ITER site—will be handled by the Logistics Service Provider.

The selection of the Logistics Service Provider was concluded after an international tendering process. The seven Domestic Agencies (representing the ITER Members) participated alongside the ITER Organization in the evaluation and selection process.

“The transport of ITER components from so many different points on the globe and according to schedule is a logistics challenge of major proportions,” stated ITER Director-General Motojima on the occasion of the contract signature. *“An integrated Logistics Service Provider will be fully qualified to address these challenges and assure the ITER Organization and the Domestic Agencies of optimized coordination.”*

The Logistics Service Provider will establish a core team to report to the ITER Organization as well as representatives in each Member country to follow the management and the tracking of transport loads according to the ITER schedule. For the complete organization of their transport, logistic and insurance needs, each ITER Domestic Agency will contract directly with the Logistics Service Provider for the delivery of loads to the ITER site.



Exceptionally heavy or large loads will travel from the harbour of Port de la Pointe, at Berre l'Etang near Marseille, to the project site along the dedicated ITER Itinerary—104 kilometres of modified road prepared by France for the ITER project. End 2012 and mid-2013, operational tests will be organized along the ITER Itinerary.

The first large components are expected on the ITER site in 2014. Vast drain tanks for the Tokamak basement will arrive first—followed by elements of the cryostat, the stainless steel structure that will completely surround the vacuum vessel and superconducting magnets.

Between 2015 and 2017 the largest components of the ITER machine will be shipped: the nine sectors of the vacuum vessel from Europe and Korea and the eighteen toroidal field coils from Europe and Japan. The dimensions of the largest convoys are impressive: the heaviest will weigh approximately 900 tons (including the transport vehicle); the tallest will be 10.6 metres high; the longest 61 metres; and the widest 9 metres (these maximum dimensions will not be attained simultaneously).

BACKGROUND TO THE NEWS RELEASE

ITER—designed to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion power—will be the world's largest experimental fusion facility. Fusion is the process which powers the sun and the stars: when light atomic nuclei fuse together to form heavier ones, a large amount of energy is released. Fusion research is aimed at developing a safe, abundant and environmentally responsible energy source.

ITER is also a first-of-a-kind global collaboration. Europe will contribute almost half of the costs of its construction, while the other six Members to this joint international venture (China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA), will contribute equally to the rest. The ITER project is under construction in Cadarache, in the south of France.

More information on the ITER project can be found at: www.iter.org