

Turboden Installs ORC System at Croatia Geothermal Plant

International News December 14, 2018



The largest Organic Rankine Cycle system in Europe is now operational at a geothermal power plant in Croatia. The 17.5 MW system has been installed at the Velika Ciglana plant by Italian company Turboden for Turkish customer Geoen-MB Holding.

The Organic Rankine Cycle principle is based on a turbogenerator working as a conventional steam turbine to transform thermal energy first into mechanical energy and then into electric energy through an electrical generator.

Instead of generating steam from water, the ORC system vaporizes an organic fluid, characterized by a molecular mass higher than that of water, which leads to a slower rotation of the turbine, lower pressures and no erosion of the metal parts and blades.

At Velika Ciglana, the plant exploits steam and hot water at 170°C to produce electricity to feed the local power grid. Turboden – part of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries – has more than 370 ORC plants worldwide with a total capacity of 604 MW.

Source: **Power Engineering International**

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