

## Brief report from EPE Joint Wind Energy and T&D Chapters Seminar The Utzon Centre & Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark Thursday-Friday 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> June 2012

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, EPE's chapters on Wind Energy and Transmission & Distribution joined forces for a two-day seminar dedicated to power electronics disciplines within the chapters' topics. The event in Aalborg also marked the 5th consecutive yearly seminar in the EPE Wind Energy chapter since its creation.

Housed in Aalborg University's magnificent Utzon Centre facing the fjord, 76 industrial and academic delegates from 19 countries gathered for 6 lecture sessions and 1 poster session. The 34 papers/posters were dedicated to HVDC converters and their control, wind power plant interaction with grid, reliability of turbine electric systems, energy storage systems, amongst others.

Day 1 opened with invited lectures on challenging applications of MMC in an on-going transmission HVDC project (Energinet.dk), as well as perspectives for XLPE cables for HVDC (nkt cables). The afternoon's reliability session was also kicked off with inspiration from an invited lecturer (Danfoss). Day 2's invited presentations were also HVDC oriented, first on how technology meets legislation (rte), secondly specifically on the modular multi-level converter technology (Alstom Grid).

With ample coffee breaks and all posters being on display throughout day 1, there was plenty of informal interaction and dis-

ussion. This continued well into the evening during the dinner in downtown Aalborg. As the seminar was closed formally, some participants went on the industrial visit (seminar main sponsor Vestas' converter factory) guided by Dr. L. Helle, while another group of participants went to Aalborg University's campus for a lecture on control of the MMC by Dr. L. Harnefors (ABB).

The seminar once again succeeded well in bridging transmission and wind energy, promoting these important topics further before the next meeting in Lille, 2013.

Many participants expressed that the technical focus of the contributions met their expectations and that despite only running for 1.5 days, the intimate size of the seminar allowed more substantial discussion than normally at larger conferences.

Logistics were smooth, with grateful volunteer contributions from university researchers.

*T&D Chapter chairman, Dr. Colin Oates  
Seminar chairman, Prof. Remus Teodorescu  
Seminar technical co-chairman, Dr. Philip Kjaer*

