

## **Oxsensis signs Copenhagen Communiqué, enters Long Term Test with RWE npower**

**Oxford, UK, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009. Oxsensis Ltd, pioneer of high temperature instrumentation for energy efficiency and winner of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) Innovation Award in the Power / Energy category in 2008 and the Carbon Trust Award for Technology (small company) in 2007 has signed the Copenhagen Communiqué on Climate Change.**

On the morning of Tuesday, 22 September, the business leaders of over 600 companies from around the world publish *The Copenhagen Communiqué* calling on world leaders to agree "an ambitious, robust and equitable global deal on climate change that responds credibly to the scale and urgency of the crisis facing the world today".

The global media launch of *The Copenhagen Communiqué*, an initiative of The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders' Group, is timed to coincide with the UN Summit on Climate Change which is taking place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York later today. A copy of *The Copenhagen Communiqué* will be handed at lunchtime today to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and distributed to more than 100 Heads of State and Governments attending the summit [1]. *The Copenhagen Communiqué* has already secured the support of over 600 leading companies worldwide. They warn that, "Economic development will not be sustained in the longer term unless the climate is stabilised" and say it is "critical" that "we exit this recession in a way that lays the foundation for low-carbon growth and avoids locking us into a high carbon future". The companies call for emission reduction targets to be guided by science and offer support for the emerging consensus to limit global average temperature rise to less than 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels. In turn, they recognise that this will require global emissions to peak and begin to decline rapidly within the next decade and reduce by 50-85% by 2050. The business leaders urge developed countries to take on "immediate and deep emission reduction commitments" and "demonstrate that low-carbon growth is both achievable and desirable".

Oxsensis is developing the Wave-Phire™ series of sensors to enable the development of combustion systems with much more precise control, offering significant fuel and energy savings for future gas turbine products. The extreme environment sensors also have applicability to energy intensive industries and to car engines. The sensors themselves must operate at temperatures up to 1000°C (while glowing yellow-hot) and have shown measurement capability, repeatability and survivability in customer equipment.

The company is cooperating with the RWE npower owned gas turbine power station at Didcot (close to its base at the Harwell Science and Innovation Centre) on a long term trial of its sapphire based sensors.

David Gahan, the CEO of Oxsensis declared, "if the goals of the Copenhagen Communiqué are to be met, it will need significant joint efforts by innovative, small companies such as Oxsensis working closely with international players such as RWE npower to bring difficult emissions saving technologies to commercial reality."

An RWE npower representative Richard Llewellyn (Station Manager, Didcot B Power Station) said, "Didcot B, RWE npower's largest gas fired power station, is pleased to be working with Oxsensis on the development of new technology. This innovative monitoring equipment has the potential to optimise gas turbine combustion and extract maximum performance whilst operating within safe limits."

The MP for Didcot area Ed Vaizey said, "My constituency is lucky to have a range of companies working in the energy sector, from small start ups like Oxsensis, to major players like RWE npower. What unites them is a commitment to finding new ways to drive energy efficiency and promote cleaner energy. I am delighted that Oxsensis and RWE npower are working together, so that Oxsensis' innovative technology has a chance to be tested in a major energy plant."

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## Further Information

Oxsensis' sensor technology is based on the micromachining of super resistant materials such as single-crystal sapphire (melting point >2000°C) together with innovative fibre optic interrogation techniques which give high sensitivity and immunity from electro-magnetic interference (EMI) effects common in turbo-machinery such as gas turbines.

As part of their close ties working in the gas turbine industry, Oxsensis is one of 17 European organisations working together on HEATTOP, a gas turbine programme. Other collaborators in the three year programme include Siemens AG, Rolls-Royce Plc. and Oxford and Cambridge Universities. The €8.8M (\$11M) programme, backed by the Commission of the European Communities under the FP6 programme, aims to advance technologies available for gas turbine life optimisation, performance and condition monitoring through accurate high temperature engine measurements. As a result, European gas turbine manufacturers will be able to reduce emissions and increase engine efficiency; reduce product development time and cost of ownership; and improve the competitiveness of their products in global markets.

## About Oxsensis Ltd.

Oxsensis is a spin-out from STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire formed in 2003. The company is backed by Venture Capital from Albion Ventures, Frog Capital, Seven Spires Investments Ltd., Rainbow Seed Fund and Strathdon Plc., together with prominent individual investors.

## EDITORS NOTES

[1] The United Nations Summit on Climate Change is being convened by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 22 September 2009. Over 100 Heads of State and Government will gather at UN Headquarters in New York in an attempt to advance the climate negotiations in advance of the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen this December. For more information, please see:

<http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/climatechange/lang/en/pages/2009summit>

[2] The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group on Climate Change (consisting of the UK and EU groups) has been developed by The University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership.

Members of the group include: Acciona, AECOM, Allianz SE, Anglian Water Group, Axa Insurance, BAA, Barilla, BskyB, Cemex, Deutsche Telekom AG, Enel SpA, F&C Asset Management, Fortis Bank Nederland, John Lewis Partnership, Johnson Matthey, Kingfisher Group, Lloyds Banking Group, Philips, Reckitt Benckiser, Royal Dutch Shell, Skai Media, Skanska AB, Standard Chartered Bank, Sun Microsystems, Telecom Italia, Tesco, Thames Water, Unilever and Vodafone.

More information is available at:

[www.copenhagencommunique.com](http://www.copenhagencommunique.com)

[3] Other partners include Business in the Community (and The Prince's May Day Network), Canadian Business for Social Responsibility, Climate Change Business Forum (based in Hong Kong), University of Chile, FGV (Centro de