

Australian tidal energy know-how for Japanese islands

Sydney, Australia, May 15, 2019 - Elemental Energy Technologies Ltd (EET) has entered into an agreement with a consortium based in Japan's Kagoshima province to demonstrate its MAKO tidal turbines in the constantly flowing Kuroshio current off southern Japan.

This represents a break-through in tidal energy as the constantly flowing currents provide will provide reliable baseload power - unlike wind or solar power that are intermittent and unpredictable.

The Japanese consortium is funded in part by the Japanese Department of the Environment as part of a plan to reduce the volume of diesel fuel consumed by large generators that power the villages and townships in the Tokara Islands.

The Kuroshio current flows across the southern tip of Japan and around the Tokara Islands, an archipelago of twelve small islands, forming part of the Ryukyu Archipelago.

The islands are located about 300 kilometres from the southern tip of Japan and have a population of 6,000 people.

The support of the Japanese Department of the Environment reflects the strategic importance of providing reliable renewable energy to these locations. Because of the terrain, solar panels and wind turbines are not well suited.

EET's managing director Douglas Hunt said, "for some time we have seen Japan as a great opportunity for the MAKO Tidal Energy System to provide reliable renewable energy due to its heavy reliance on diesel for electricity production and its enormous tidal and ocean current resources."

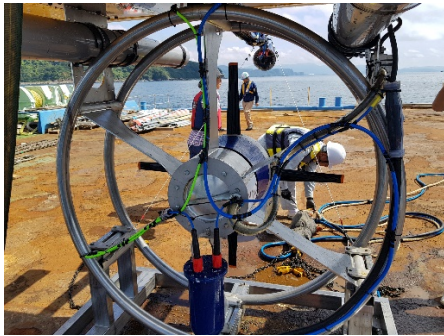
Earlier this year an engineering team from EET travelled to Japan to oversee a second round of testing of a complete system to capture the energy in the Kuroshio current and convert this energy into electricity for local use.

"The demonstration was successful and has paved the way for further development work to be done by EET and its partners in Japan, with a view to persistent deployment and a full pilot plant later.

"EET set up an office in Japan several years ago and our President, Sho Minagawa, based on Tokyo has been key to developing the necessary relationships to progress our technology in this \$20 billion market segment. The next stage for EET is to oversee a marriage with our leading design expertise with the highly skilled supply chain to develop tidal energy products for the domestic market as well as export within the region." said Mr Hunt.

“The involvement with our consortium partners and the Japan Department of the Environment is a validation of the MAKO technology. It is also an endorsement of our ability to work with partners to solve problems presented by particular and conditions found in places like the Tokara Island Group,” Douglas Hunt concluded.

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MAKO Tidal Turbine loaded onto a deployment system separately developed in Japan being redied for testing in Kagoshima province in Southern Japan



A MAKO.7 tidal turbine showing the unique patented bulb shape and the shorter blades which are possible with this design.