

PRESS RELEASE



Parcom Deutsche Private Equity supports expansion of leading wind energy company SSB

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Funds advised by Munich-based DPE Deutsche Private Equity GmbH have with retroactive effect from 1 January 2008 acquired a majority shareholding in SSB Group GmbH based in Salzbergen. SSB which services the fast growing wind industry and offers customer tailored solutions in drive technology is headed by managing directors Ulrich Schomakers (CEO) and Markus Spitzer (CFO). SSB was acquired from Granville Baird in a privately negotiated transaction; the terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

SSB offers services and solutions via its three divisions Wind Power, Real Wind Turbine Service and Drive Technology. The Wind Power division with manufacturing facilities in Salzbergen and Qingdao (China) is one of the pioneers of the fast growing market of regenerative energy and world market leader in providing electrical pitch systems and switchgears since 1995. Control systems and positioning drives are core technologies in a wind turbine and ensure the highest wind turbine efficiency by optimizing the blade position. In Real Wind Turbine Service SSB acts as world-wide turnkey service provider for wind farm operators by offering remote services, maintenance, spare parts, repairs, system optimization, training and upgrades - 24/7 on a one stop shopping basis to ensure optimal performance of turbines. Service centres are located in Rheine, Madrid (Spain) and Almelo (The Netherlands). The Drive Technology Division provides individual services and tailor-made solutions for industrial clients in order to generate power exactly where it is needed in the customer's environment. In 2007, SSB achieved sales of € 71 million.

"The markets for both drive technology and wind energy, in particular for wind energy products and repair and maintenance services enjoy very high growth rates. The Company's growth prospects in this combination of products and services are very attractive from an investor's perspective," says Volker Hichert, Managing Partner of Parcom Deutsche Private Equity.

From the perspective of the management of SSB, the investment of Parcom Deutsche Private Equity enables the Company to exploit the growth opportunities in the global wind market more aggressively: "The financial backing of Parcom Deutsche Private Equity enables us to meet the demand for our products and services in the global wind energy market by establishing further subsidiaries in promising regions," says Ulrich Schomakers, CEO of SSB.

About Parcom Deutsche Private Equity

Parcom Deutsche Private Equity provides growth capital to companies in sectors with long-term fundamental growth prospects. Parcom Deutsche Private Equity is an independent German private equity firm, which was created in December 2007 with the backing of Parcom Capital, a pan-European investment subsidiary of the Dutch ING Group with over €2bn invested in over 250 companies.

The Fund currently advised by DPE Deutsche Private Equity GmbH has an initial committed capital of €250m and targets €5-50m equity investments in German, Swiss and Austrian middle-market companies with enterprise values of €10-150m in the following sectors: Business Services, Education, Healthcare, Industrial Technology and Alternative Energy/Environment. As an active partner of the management teams, Parcom Deutsche Private Equity aims to develop the companies over longer holding periods (5-10+ years) through organic and external growth.

For more information on Parcom Deutsche Private Equity, please visit www.pdpe.de.

About SSB

SSB, based in Salzbergen, was founded in 1970 and is headed by managing directors Ulrich Schomakers (CEO) and Markus Spitzer (CFO). SSB currently employs about 500 people and serves the fast growing wind industry.

Since 1970, SSB has been known throughout the world for its products relating to first drive technology and then wind energy. The Company's long-time experience and a distinctive know-how provide a strong basis for its comprehensive range of products and services: From motors, gearboxes, control systems and switchgear to control units for wind turbines, SSB is offering a well-engineered range of both standard products and customer tailored solutions. SSB is one of the pioneers of the fast growing market of regenerative energy and market leader in providing electrical pitch systems and switchgears since 1995.

Specifically for the wind energy industry, the service division of SSB provides a world-wide proactive and independent full service package for investors and operators of wind parks. Taking advantage of more than 10 years of experience within the wind energy business, the entire value chain from remote services and maintenance to the delivery of spare parts, repairs, system optimization, training and upgrades is covered. By now SSB is one of the largest independent full service providers for wind energy parks in Germany with a further operations in Spain and the Netherlands.

For more information on SSB, please visit www.ssb.eu.

Further information on this transaction can be obtained from:

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