

PRESS RELEASE 03 May 2010 Stockholm

Opcon and Alfa Laval examine possibilities for a joint company for Opcon Powerbox in the marine sector

Opcon, the energy and environmental technology Group, has signed a declaration of intent with Alfa Laval to investigate conditions for forming a joint company to serve the marine market.

The basis for the collaboration is Opcon's existing technology for recovering energy and saving fuel, which it is estimated could achieve fuel savings of 5-10 per cent onboard ships, together with Alfa Laval's sales and distribution channels for marketing, sales and distribution of future products.

"We are now taking an additional step forward in establishing our Opcon Powerbox technology in the marine sector, which has every prospect of becoming one of the most prominent market segments for Opcon Powerbox in the future. With its highly competent, global organisation, Alfa Laval is a very attractive partner for Opcon," says Rolf Hasselström, President and CEO of Opcon.

Two weeks ago, Opcon signed an agreement with Wallenius Marine concerning a first reference installation of Opcon Powerbox technology onboard a Wallenius vessel. This initial installation, which aims to utilise waste heat for onboard generation of electricity, is expected to be completed by the autumn of 2011. http://feed.ne.cision.com/wpyfs/00/00/00/00/00/00/10/F2/E2/wkr0011.pdf

"Opcon Powerbox technology is of great interest to us because of what it offers in terms of recovering waste heat and cutting fuel consumption. Alfa Laval has already established a partnership with Opcon concerning Opcon Powerbox for industrial applications which we are currently developing. Now we are taking a further step forward to see how we can arrange collaboration in the marine segment going forward, says Joakim Thölin, General Manager, Segment Marine & Diesel, Alfa Laval AB.

Large ships currently use large amounts of fossil fuels in their operation, which means that reduced fuel consumption would have a direct impact on emissions of CO₂, NOx and sulphur. Today there are around 16,000 registered vessels in the world that have power output of over 10 MW. The entire commercial fleet accounts for 4-5 per cent of global carbon emissions.

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The Opcon Group

Opcon is an energy and environmental technology Group that develops, produces and markets systems and products for eco-friendly, efficient and resource-effective use of energy.

Opcon has activities in Sweden, China, Germany, the UK and Denmark. There are around 380 employees. The company's shares are listed on Nasdaq OMX Stockholm. The Group comprises three business areas:

Renewable Energy focuses on generating electricity from waste heat, bioenergy, systems for handling natural gas, industrial cooling, recycling of heat, drying of biomass, treatment of flue gases, handling systems for biofuel, etc., air systems for fuel cells and measurement and monitoring of processes.

Engine Efficiency focuses on ignition systems for combustion engines including ethanol, natural gas and biogas engines.

Mobility Products focuses on technology for positioning, motion and regulation for electrical vehicles, electrical wheelchairs and hospital beds.

About Alfa Laval

Alfa Laval is a leading global provider of specialized products and engineering solutions based on its key technologies of heat transfer, separation and fluid handling.

The company's equipment, systems and services are dedicated to assisting customers in optimizing the performance of their processes. The solutions help them to heat, cool, separate and transport products in industries that produce food and beverages, chemicals and petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, starch, sugar and ethanol.

Alfa Laval's products are also used in power plants, aboard ships, in the mechanical engineering industry, in the mining industry and for wastewater treatment, as well as for comfort climate and refrigeration applications.

Alfa Laval's worldwide organization works closely with customers in nearly 100 countries to help them stay ahead in the global arena.

Alfa Laval is listed on the Nordic Exchange, Nordic Large Cap, and, in 2009, posted annual sales of about SEK 26 billion (approx. 2.45 billion Euros). The company has 11 400 employees.

www.alfalaval.com