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Press release

SPIE enters UK electrical transmission engineering services market with latest UK acquisition

London, UK - 2nd September 2013 - SPIE, the independent European leader in electrical and mechanical engineering and HVAC services, energy and communication systems, has today announced the acquisition of Electricity Network Solutions Ltd. (ENS). This acquisition enables SPIE UK to enter into a new infrastructure market with huge investment prospects, as UK electrical networks are rebuilt, extended and renewed over the next ten years or more.

As one of the leading companies in this highly specialised field, ENS builds and refurbishes overhead electrical lines for the owners of distribution and transmission networks including Electricity North West, Northern Ireland Electricity, Scottish Power, UK Power Networks and Western Power Distribution. Headquartered in Sandbach, Cheshire, ENS was established in 2007, following the merging of Emerald Power and HVPM. The company provides a full service of survey, design, build and refurbishment of both distribution and transmission networks across the UK electricity infrastructure. With seven offices across the UK and a workforce of 160 linesmen qualified for works on low and high voltage lines, ENS will generate revenues of £35m for the year ending September 2013.

As an engineering business in the UK, SPIE provides the design, installation and maintenance of vital services within the built environment and industrial sectors. This acquisition will enable SPIE to further balance its portfolio of clients, while expanding its Electrical service offering into an allied sector with end user clients. Following the acquisition, ENS will become part of SPIE UK's Industrial Services Business and will be known as SPIE ENS. The management team, including Mike Snee, Aidan Gunning and Steve Hodge will remain in place. Mike Snee, current Managing Director of ENS, will run the business as General Manager, reporting to Steven Nanda, Managing Director of Industrial Services at SPIE UK.

James Thoden van Velzen, CEO of SPIE UK, explains: "ENS is a great business with a strong cultural fit with SPIE in people skills and a powerful focus on customers, health and safety and the environment. The acquisition further advances our plan to expand our geographical footprint in the UK and gives us entry into an exciting new sector that has an identified investment plan of around £32bn over the next ten years (Source: Ofgem 2010)."

Steven Nanda, Managing Director of SPIE's Industrial Division added: This is an excellent opportunity for both businesses to develop and assist in SPIE's strategic ambitions. Given the business synergies of Health & Safety and meeting customers' expectations through self delivery will, I'm sure, lead to an exciting future supporting the UK to improve and extend its electrical network infrastructure."

Aidan Gunning and Steve Hodge founders of ENS commented: "We are delighted that ENS will be joining the SPIE Group, this represents a fantastic opportunity for our employees, the company and our customers alike. As SPIE ENS, we look forward to delivering upon the significant opportunities that the overhead line market presents."

The formation of a UK electrical transmission services business complements existing expertise and service offerings within SPIE's Netherlands operations. The acquisition of ENS is also a natural extension to the SPIE UK service provision in other parts of the energy sector including power generation and nuclear.

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