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Press release

Raffinerie Heide Selected as 2020 S&P Global Platts Global Energy Awards Finalist

Hemmingstedt, 2nd October 2020 – Raffinerie Heide, Germany’s northmost crude oil refinery, has been named a finalist in the S&P Global Platts Global Energy Awards, an annual program recognizing exemplary corporate and individual innovation, leadership and superior performance in the energy industry.

The refinery’s entry – chosen from some 300 nominated entries and from over three dozen countries – centres on the Reallabor WESTKÜSTE100 and KEROSyN100 projects, which aim to produce “green” hydrogen and synthetic kerosene on an industrial scale.

As a 2020 finalists for the *Award of Excellence – Downstream* category, Raffinerie Heide has shown strong performance and illustrated how it is challenging perceptions of what a traditional crude oil refinery does and demonstrated how it is adjusting to changing currents and to the new ways in which the world operates.

The Reallabor WESTKÜSTE100 project involves plans to construct and operate a 30 MW electrolyser unit at Raffinerie Heide’s site to test the feasibility of converting renewable energy into “green” hydrogen via electrolysis. Once feasibility is proven, the ambition is for Raffinerie Heide to use its strategic position at the top of Germany’s north-south “electricity highway” to scale up to a 700 MW electrolyser unit capable of producing c. 100,000 tonnes of hydrogen per annum, saving approximately 1 million tonnes of CO₂ every year. Project partners working alongside Raffinerie Heide include EDF Deutschland, Holcim Deutschland, OGE, Ørsted Deutschland, Heide municipal utilities and Thyssenkrupp industrial solutions, as well as the local development agency and the University of Applied Sciences Westküste.

KEROSyN100 is a R&D project which aims to produce synthetic kerosene through the use of “green” hydrogen in a pilot electrolysis plant . Since February 2019, Raffinerie Heide has been working in partnership with Lufthansa, with a stated goal of supplying 5% of Hamburg Airport’s jet fuel supply with synthetic kerosene by 2024.

Juergen Wollschlaeger, CEO Raffinerie Heide said: “Being named a finalist in the *Award of Excellence – Downstream* category is a testament to the impressive work the refinery and our project partners have undertaken over the last 12-18 months. The mission of the Reallabor Westküste100 and KEROSyN100 projects are to implement long-term industrial collaboration, which we hope will form the nucleus of a sustainable business model to drive the energy transition and decarbonisation. It is extremely encouraging to see our transformation to the refinery of the future be recognised by wider industry and we look forward to the awards ceremony later this year.

Martin Fraenkel, president, S&P Global Platts said, “The Global Energy Awards, nominations and finalists continue to reflect the evolution of the industry, highlighting technology innovations, as well as accelerated focus on energy transition to a lower-carbon environment. Innovation, resolve and transformation were characteristic throughout this year’s applications and each of the finalists and nominees are to be congratulated for their accomplishments.”

Winners of the S&P Global Platts Global Energy Awards will be selected by the Global Energy Awards’ independent panel of judges and announced at the live-streamed Global Energy Awards Virtual Gala on December 10th.

About Raffinerie Heide

Raffinerie Heide GmbH is a company of the Klesch Group. With around 560 employees and 40 apprentices, it is one of the biggest employers in Dithmarschen, Schleswig-Holstein. The company has the capacity to process 4.5 million tonnes of crude oil per year, enough to cover Schleswig-Holstein’s entire mineral oil requirements. The medium-sized refinery, which has existed in its present form since 2010, produces classic mineral oil products such as petrol, diesel and aviation fuel. It also produces light heating oil and primary materials for the chemical industry. When compared internationally, the Raffinerie Heide, which is one of Europe’s most complex refineries, is among the best in Europe thanks to its strict standards of care when carrying out maintenance and in terms of its capacity and availability.

Based in Hemmingstedt and Brunsbüttel, the company is also fully committed to a new, greener future. Raffinerie Heide’s aim is to play an active role in the transformation of the energy system in Germany, focusing on the use of alternative raw materials and renewable forms of energy. Together with its partners, Raffinerie Heide is working on the use of surplus renewable forms of energy and the production of ‘green’ hydrogen by means of electrolysis. You can read more about the refinery of the future here: www.future-heiderefinery.com.