

PRESS RELEASE

Round of investments for fos4X GmbH

Investors Back Innovative Fiber-Optic Measuring Technology

Munich (Germany), 2 April 2015 – fos4X GmbH, the measuring technology developer founded in 2010, has acquired another investor with Falk Strascheg Holding GmbH (FSH). FSH is covering almost half of the current round of investments, which is supplying fos4X GmbH with an equity inflow of €2.3 million in total. Previous investors Bayern Kapital, High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF), UnternehmerTUM-Fonds, and Dr. Schulze Consulting are providing the other half of the sum.

The increased equity provides security during a key phase for the young technology company. The financial backing supports the stabilization of business operations during the market launch of the fos4Blade BID ice detection system. This is a safety device for wind turbines that was certified by DNV-GL (formerly Germanischer Lloyd) in September 2014. What's more, several manufacturers are also evaluating the fos4Blade ALR blade load measurement system for possible integration in serial systems, in order to actively reduce the load with individual pitch control.

Robust sensor system

The certified sensor system for preventing damage to wind turbines from falling ice is one of the many possible areas of use in which the innovative, particularly robust sensors from fos4X can be successfully applied. The fos4X sensors are based on fiber Bragg grating technology. This technology uses optical fibers with inscribed optical interference filters. The sensors determine temperature and strain based on the changing reflected wavelength. The fiber-optic measurement systems from fos4X can take on the tasks of classic, electrical strain gauges in many different areas of application. Sensors from fos4X have a measurement amplitude that is approximately ten times higher in comparison and can count over 100,000,000 load cycles, which is approximately 1,000 times more cycles than with conventional sensors. The light signal transmitted in the fiberglass is not influenced by electromagnetic fields. The fos4X sensors are therefore not affected by lightning strikes when used in wind turbines, for example.

Available images

The following images are available for download in printable format at:

<http://www.htcm.de/kk/fos4x>



Image source: ClipDealer

fos4X offers innovative, particularly robust sensor systems that are successfully used for monitoring rotor blades in wind turbines.

About fos4X GmbH

fos4X GmbH was founded in 2010 in Munich and specializes in fiber-optic sensor technology. The measurement instruments developed by fos4X are based on fiber Bragg grating technology. This technology uses optical interference filters inscribed in optical fibers. Wavelengths that are within the filter bandwidth around the Bragg wavelength are reflected. The reflected wavelength is shifted depending on the relative strain on the glass fiber at the location of the fiber Bragg grating. The excellent properties of fiber-optic sensors make them perfectly suited to the demanding requirements of modern lightweight structures, for example, in wind turbines. The sensors developed by fos4X stand out due to their long life (more than 10^8 load cycles), large measurement amplitude, small overall size, long transmission ranges, and electromagnetic insensitivity.

For more information, visit www.fos4X.de.

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