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Notice about Launch of 'Plain Bearing Bench Testing Machine'

～Contributing to the Social Implementation of the Next Generation of Offshore Wind Power～

Installation of the world's first dedicated bench testing facility for plain bearings (shaft diameter 1,000mm) at Daido Metal Co., Ltd.'s affiliated company Daido Metal Saga's Co., Ltd.'s Wind Turbine Technology R&D Institute Research Facility was completed at the end of April, and operation has begun.

Launch of 'Plain Bearing Bench Testing Machine'

This bench testing equipment will simulate the operating conditions (speed, surface pressure) of an offshore wind turbine, and by enabling evaluation experiments to be done using plain bearings in these conditions we hope to be able to make proposals for bearing peripheral systems using plain bearings

rather than conventional wind turbine main bearings, which will reduce the testing man-hours and cost to the wind turbine manufacturers and simplify the introduction process of plain bearings.

Furthermore, by leveraging the testing data collected from this bench testing equipment, we will enhance our solution proposals by combining our PEEK composite material(*1) using our proprietary Bimetal (*2)technology and a rich variety of products, which we hope will further increase reliability in wind power, and as well as contributing a social device for offshore wind power generation we will contribute to the realisation of carbon neutral in 2050.

(*1) Polyetheretherketone (PEEK) exhibits excellent heat resistance for a thermoplastic (A material which has the properties of softening when heated and hardening when cooled) and when mixed with a special filler, offers resistance to both heat and chemicals as well as superior tribological characteristics.
(*2) The term bimetal refers to a composite material made by bonding one of a variety of special bearing layers onto a plate steel base.

【The DAIDO METAL GROUP】
The DAIDO METAL GROUP traces its history back to 1939, since its founding, the Company has constantly listened to the opinions of customers, and has pursued quality and increased the added value of products as the only major company in the world specializing in producing a full lineup of plain bearings that support the motion such as rotation, sliding and oscillation of equipment in all industries, focusing on the automotive industry, but also for ships, construction equipment and general industries. We have established a global production, sales and R & D systems in the five key regions of North America, Europe, Asia, China and Japan. We are the world's largest hydrodynamic bearing supplier with 38.7% of the world's internal combustion bearing market share in passenger cars and a world market share of 75.0% for large ship engine bearings.
(Market share is Calendar year 2024, estimated by Daido Metal)

【Selected by New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) as a Green Innovation Fund Project】
In January 2022 we were selected by New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) as a Green Innovation Fund Project(*3) for 'the cost reduction project for offshore wind power generation' as part of their next-generation wind turbine technology development project (research investment: around 1.2bil JPY, subsidy amount: 800mil JPY), and we invested this money in the establishment of a newly constructed research facility which is the world's first dedicated bench testing facility for plain bearings (shaft diameter 1,000mm), and are collaborating with Saga University and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) on development of plain bearings for use in wind turbines.

(*3) This project aims to expand implementation of offshore wind power generation by reducing the cost of floating wind power turbines that can be installed even in deep sea areas, based on the development of next-generation wind turbine technologies that respond to the increasing size of wind turbines.

[Related Information]

Dec 2024 press released.

Completion of Daido Metal's Wind Turbine Technology R&D Institute Research Facility

May 2023 press released.

Daido Metal awarded European wind turbine main bearing supply contract

February 2022 press released.

Adopted by NEDO "Green Innovation Fund Project

For more information on bearings for wind power generation, click here.

https://www.daidometal.com/wind-power

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