



Volvo Truck Corporation

Press Information

Volvo Trucks makes its assembly plant in Belgium carbon dioxide-free

Volvo Trucks has decided to make its truck assembly plant in Ghent, Belgium, entirely free of carbon dioxide. Three wind-power generating stations will be built beside the plant along with a new biofuel production facility to supply electricity and heating without making any net contribution to the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

“As one of the world’s largest manufacturers of trucks, it is our responsibility to handle carbon dioxide emissions in the best possible way and to reduce their effects,” says Lars Mårtensson, Environmental Affairs director at Volvo Trucks.

The Volvo Trucks assembly plant in Ghent, Volvo Europa Truck NV, currently relies mainly on natural gas for its heating. In order to make the plant free of carbon dioxide emissions, it will switch entirely to environmentally compatible energy sources. This energy will be produced by the new wind-power generating stations and the new biofuel facility being constructed by Belgian firm Electrabel. The project will be implemented in 2007.

For some time now, Volvo Europa Truck NV has been working with a variety of projects aimed at reducing energy consumption in the plant. The implementation of carbon dioxide-free operations in Ghent is one of Volvo’s goals in the company’s drive to make all its production plants carbon dioxide-free. Last year, the Volvo Trucks Tuve plant became the first such plant.

The Volvo Trucks plant in Ghent has 1500 employees and makes the Volvo FH, Volvo FM and Volvo FL truck models. In 2005 the factory produced 30,400 vehicles, most for export to other markets throughout Europe.

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Volvo Trucks sells trucks and transport solutions, specialized in heavy trucks with total weights above 16 tons. The company’s products are marketed in more than 130 countries. Volvo Trucks is part of the Volvo Group, one of the world’s leading manufacturers of trucks, buses and construction equipment, drive systems for marine and industrial applications, aerospace components and services. The Group also provides complete solutions for financing and service.