

MHI Wins Order for Vessel Head from Brazilian Eletronuclear

Recently, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (MHI) announced that it had received an order from Brazil's state-owned nuclear power company, Eletronuclear S.A. (Eletronuclear), for one replacement vessel head (RVH) for the Angra-1 Nuclear Power Station (PWR, 657MW), west of Rio de Janeiro. This is the first time that a Japanese plant manufacturer has received an order for a large-scale nuclear component from Brazil. Delivery will be made in April 2010.

The RVH, a massive component made of tempered alloy steel, will be manufactured at MHI's Kobe Shipyard and Machinery Works. MHI is now working to expand its sales of major nuclear-power equipment in international markets, and has already built up a strong export record, including 15 RVHs bound for the United States. The winning of its first order to Brazil is a reflection of its wealth of export experience and technological prowess.



RVH manufactured by MHI

The Angra-1, which lies 130km west of Rio de Janeiro, began its commercial operation in 1985. The replacement of the vessel head is aimed at boosting the plant's reliability and economy. Eletronuclear is a subsidiary of Centrais Eletricas Brasileiras S.A., more than 60% of which is owned by the Brazilian government and state-run banks. Currently only Angra-1 and Angra-2 (PWR, 1,350MW) are in operation. In July 2007, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva approved a nuclear power development plan that includes the construction of Angra-3 (PWR, 1,350MW), aiming at the commencement of operations in 2013.

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