

## 6-Month Progress Report

The project's 6-Month Progress Report (June 2016) can be found here: <http://www.hvdccentre.com/library/public/>

## Recruitment

We have recruited our first Simulation Engineer, who will be starting in mid-September.

We will be recruiting further posts later this year.

This is the sixth Newsletter for The National HVDC Centre, which aims to keep stakeholders informed of our progress and developments.

In this edition, we focus on: the building and AV requirements, and updates on the Caithness-Moray and PROMOTioN projects.

### Building Work

CCG (Scotland) Ltd has been selected to build The National HVDC Centre.



CCG is one of Scotland's largest privately owned construction companies with over 600 staff and 60 trades' apprentices. The Centre will be delivered by CCG's construction division within a 36 week programme.

The first 5-6 weeks will see the CCG Site Team prepare the site for construction by establishing a site compound and conducting the brief task of testing the ground and soil. Once this task has been completed, the main building earthworks will commence which includes a full vegetation strip; a cut and fill exercise, transfer fill to the car park area and the stockpiling of surplus materials.



The National HVDC Centre , site photograph, June 2016

The installation of drainage services and the laying of the base road for construction traffic will be undertaken over the course of the summer, and will be revisited when the project nears to a close in 2017. During this summer period, the foundation works will commence with a view to installing the first element of the steel structure by the end of August.

**Chris Murray**  
Marketing Coordinator (CCG)

### PROMOTioN

PROMOTioN is a new EU funded project to boost the development of meshed HVDC grids. It is funded under the corpus of Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS).

According to the European Commission, *"In order to achieve full interoperability and coherent market rules at European Level it is encouraged having a wide representation of the Grid stakeholders and operators addressing a complete European approach."*

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission is a consortium member of the project.

As part of the PROMOTioN Project, the real-time simulation facility at The National HVDC Centre is planned to be utilised to demonstrate the protection system performance and interoperability of protection system from various manufacturers through real-time studies.

**Yash Audichya**  
HVDC Design and Planning Manager





## Conferences

We will be attending and participating at the following upcoming conferences:

- **CIGRE Session**  
(Paris, 21-26 August 2016);
- **RTDS® European User Group**  
(Glasgow, 15-16 September 2016);
- **LCNI Conference**  
(Manchester, 11-13 October 2016); and
- **ACDC 2017**  
(Manchester, 14-16 February 2017).

## Twitter

Why not follow us on Twitter @SSEPD\_FN where we will be tweeting live updates using #NationalHVDC

## Update on Caithness & Moray Converter Stations

SHE Transmission awarded a contract to ABB for the Caithness Moray Shetland HVDC Link in August 2014, to provide a 320kV HVDC link between Spittal in Caithness and Blackhillock in Moray as well as the design of a multi-terminal system allowing for additional connections in the future, including a potential Shetland connection. Following an extensive period of design and manufacture ABB commenced installation of the 800MW HVDC cable in Caithness in October 2015 and have installed 75% of the cable in this section.

Mobilisation of both Spittal (800MW) and Blackhillock (1200MW) Converter Station sites commenced in March 2016 with foundation works currently underway and the 1200MW land cable installation in Moray started in May 2016 with 10% of the cable installed to date.



Photograph of the Spittal 275kv/132kv AC Substation in the foreground under construction, the 800MW HVDC Converter site area in the background and the HVDC cable drums in the site compound to the right hand side.

The system engineering design, procurement and manufacture of the Converter Main Circuit Equipment is ongoing along with the manufacture of the subsea cable. The sub sea cable is due for installation in 2017 with the project being completed in 2018.

**John Scott**  
Lead Project Manager

## Audio-Visual (AV) System

Over the last couple months the project team has finalised the Audio-Visual (AV) requirements for the Auditorium and Meeting Room at the Centre.

These areas will function as flexible training environments, meeting areas and presentation spaces; providing opportunities for knowledge dissemination and collaboration.



Visualisation of the Auditorium

To facilitate this, the AV system for these areas will include:

- 3 large retractable screen, which are able to run real-time simulations;
- Microphones, speakers and a hearing induction loop;
- High Definition pan-tilt-zoom video cameras to record presentations and seminars (incl video editing and publishing capability); and
- Video conference and teleconference facilities.

These systems will be controlled through an integrated AV system; providing a professional experience for events at the Centre.

**Colin Cameron**  
ICT Engineer