

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Norit X-Flow receives order for the first private desalination plant project in China

August 19, 2010, The Netherlands — Norit X-Flow has been selected to supply the ultrafiltration (UF) pre-treatment technology for the Qingdao Desalination Project facility. Qingdao is the second largest commercial port in northern China, located in the Shandong Province along the Yellow Sea. The desalination plant is designed to process 100,000 cubic meters of water per day. This is enough to supply drinking water for a population of 500,000 people. The plant uses reverse osmosis treatment technology with Norit's innovative ultrafiltration membrane pre-treatment of the water.

The ultrafiltration (UF) pre-treatment is used to prevent clogging of the reverse osmosis membranes. The Norit X-Flow UF membranes remove all fine silt and turbidity (suspended particles) and will reduce contaminants such as micro-organisms. Norit X-Flow is the first membrane manufacturer to supply a membrane specifically designed to pre-treat seawater.

The Qingdao Desalination Project will be the largest such plant in China to date. Additional desalination plants are expected to follow. This also marks the first privately financed desalination facility in China, with funding provided entirely by local banks. The project is expected to be commissioned in 2012.

Norit X-Flow signed an agreement with Befesa to supply the UF pre-treatment technology for the Qingdao Desalination Project. Befesa, headquartered in Spain, is responsible for the design, construction, and operation of the plant under the terms of a 25-year contract. Norit X-Flow is providing the membrane technologies and products to support the desalination operation. The products include the Norit X-Flow SEAGUARD UF technology that uses Norit SMART intelligence control for system optimization. The Qingdao plant will contain 2,280 SEAGUARD membrane modules arranged on 20 skids, each with a 120 UF module configuration.

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Norit X-Flow

Norit X-Flow is part of the Norit Group headquartered in the Netherlands. The group provides expertise and experience in water purification, ranging from producing drinking water to treating process and wastewater. The membranes that will be used in this project have a proven track record of reliability under severe conditions and stringent quality requirements.