

KPA UNICON AND KEITELE ENERGY HAVE AGREED ON MODERNIZATION OF THE KEITELE PRODUCTION FACILITY

KPA Unicon and Keitele Energy have agreed to modernize the existing boiler plant at the Keitele Timber sawmill, which is located in Keitele, Northern Savonia, Finland. This is a large-scale modernization project, which will invest in cleaner energy production and modernize the plant's automation and other systems.

"The solution delivered to Keitele consists of intelligent and environmentally friendly clean energy solutions. The investment helps our partner to operate efficiently, effectively and responsibly. For KPA Unicon, this is the ninth plant delivery to Keitele Group", says **Jukka-Pekka Kovanen**, Managing Director of KPA Unicon.

"With the investment, we will enable us to increase the production capacity of the Keitele sawmill in 2022. We constantly want to invest in efficient and modern technology that enables energy-efficient operations and reduces the environmental impact of our operations", says Ilkka Kylävainio, Managing Director, Keitele Energy Oy.

The new energy system is based on Unicon Renefluid fluidized bed boiler technology, which combines the highest efficiency on the market, low operating costs, a very wide range of fuels and fast load change capability. It replaces the 7.5 MW fluidized bed boiler installed in 1994. As part of the energy system, KPA Unicon will supply the 15 MW boiler, auxiliary equipment and a Unicon Bag filter flue gas cleaning system. The Unicon Bag filter is an effective way to filter out hazardous particles from the breathing air. In addition, KPA Unicon is responsible for the recycling and modification of the existing equipment and modernization of the control and automation system as part of the overall delivery.

"The system will be connected to KPA Unicon's comprehensive PlantSys digital platform, which allows remote control of the energy production. The platform provides digitalization of maintenance reporting and the automatic data collection, which improve the plant's efficiency and usability", says Kovanen.

Delivery and implementation in 2022

Keitele mainly produces pine and spruce sawn timber, with exports accounting for 94% of production in 2020. The heat generated by the new energy system will be used to dry the timber produced by the sawmill. As a fuel the plant will utilize the by-products of the sawmill, such as sawdust and cutter chips, as well as bark, wood chips and milled peat.

The modernization project will be implemented during 2022.

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KPA Unicon

KPA Unicon is a Finnish company that has been an advocate of clean, renewable energy since 1990. KPA Unicon creates and implements new clean energy solutions around the world. It will also reform existing production systems with renewable energy technologies and equip energy producers with innovative digital tools. The company aims to lead the discussion in favour of clean energy and to provide added value to its partners. The company is head office in Pieksämäki, Finland and employs 210 energy professionals in eight different countries. <https://www.kpaunicon.com/>

KPA Unicon is part of Partnera business group that creates shareholder value and a more sustainable future through its operations. Partnera Corporation is listed on Nasdaq First North Growth Market Finland.

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Keitele Energy Oy

Keitele Energy is a part of Keitele Group, which is a family run business founded in 1981. The company has grown into one of Finland's largest mechanical wood processing companies. Keitele log procurement areas are located close to the production units in **Keitele** in Eastern Finland, **Alajärvi** in Ostrobothnia, and **Kemijärvi** in Lapland.

Keitele Group's core operations are responsible wood procurement from Finnish forest owners as well as wood sawing and further processing. Keitele Group consists of three independent companies: the parent company Keitele Forest Oy, which is also responsible for wood procurement, the sawmill company Keitele Timber Oy and the wood products manufacturer Keitele Wood Products Oy.

<https://www.keitelegroup.fi/en/>