

## **New state-of-the-art wind turbine**

Next Generation Ltd., based in the United Kingdom, has developed a new state-of-the-art wind turbine. Enercon E-66, or Ecotricity turbine, is a 1.5 W stand-alone unit that represents a new breed of direct-drive, variable-speed turbines now commercially available. Direct-drive turbines have no gearbox or drive train, and thus no high-speed mechanical components. The variable-speed blades slow down and speed up with the prevailing wind, enabling the turbine to optimize its tip speed to extract maximum energy from the wind.

Ecotricity turbine has been awarded an NFFO-4 contract and was also accorded the official Millennium Product status by the Design Council. It is the nation's first commercial multi-megawatt turbine and features a unique public viewing gallery 65 m high, just under the machine's nacelle. It has a rotor diameter of 66 m, a hub height of 67 m and is much quieter at lower wind speeds than a fixed single-speed turbine. *Contact: Mr. Alison Cole, Enercon UK/Next Generation Ltd., the United Kingdom. Tel: +44 (1453) 766 774; Fax: +44 (1453) 766 70.*

*British Commercial News,  
July/August 2000*