

ABB Automation & Power World: April 18-21, 2011

## WRE-120-1 Today's wind power converters designed for tomorrow's needs



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Speaker name: Arnd Becker
Speaker title: Business Development Manager
Company name: ABB Inc.
Location: Houston, TX

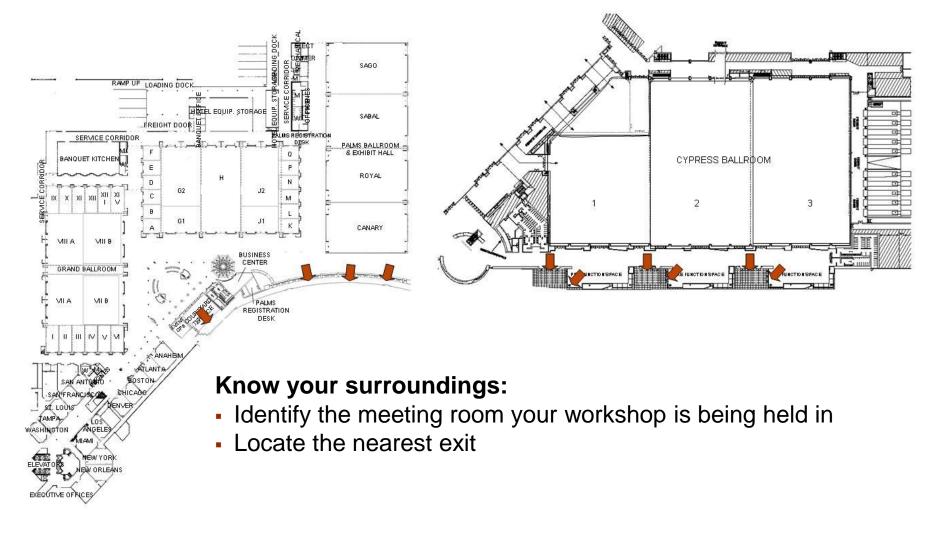
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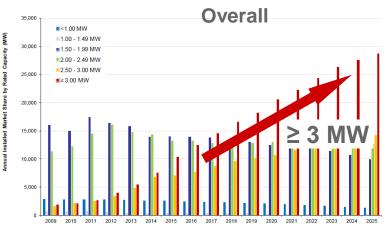




### Introduction to ABB MV Converter Technology Table of contents

- MV Converter Markets
- Full Power Converters
- MV and LV Converters Comparison
- ABB MV Converter Technology

### MV Converter Markets Future of Large Turbines

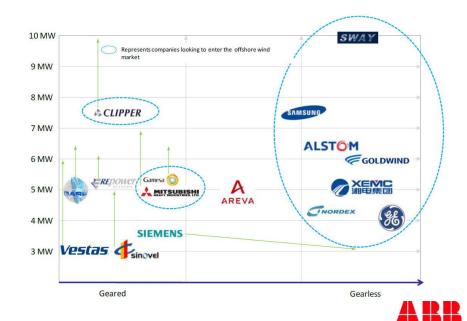


Source: IHS Emerging Energy Research

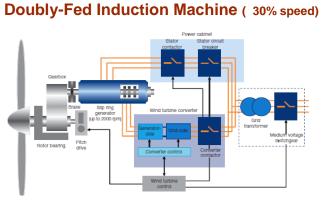


Source: IHS Emerging Energy Research

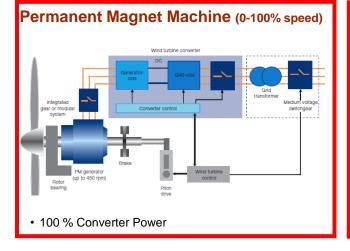
- Trend is that on- and offshore turbines have a different design
- Offshore turbines larger than
   5 MW will be the majority of installed MW by
   2015 and after that it will be the dominant size
- Offshore is a challenging and special segment; heavy research and development is required
- Focus is set on on simplicity and reliability

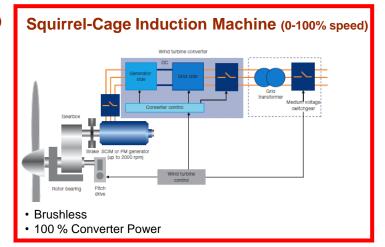


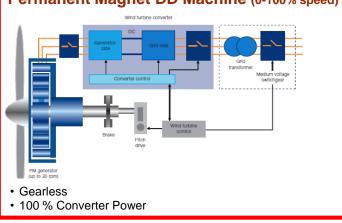
### MV Converter Markets Basic drive train concepts



- Brushes & slip-rings
- 30 % Converter + 30 % StatCom Powerelectronics





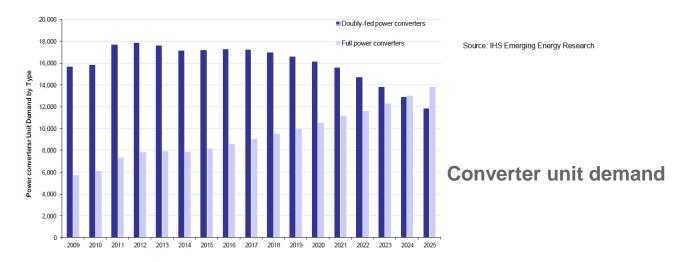


Permanent Magnet DD Machine (0-100% speed)



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### MV Converter Markets Advantages of Full Power Converters



- Most new turbines will be realized with full converter and permanent magnet generators
- Permanent magnet generators show high efficiency and high reliability
- Full converter systems allow decoupling of the mechanical and the electrical system, full grid code compliance and optimal power utilization
- Medium-voltage technology for large turbines

### → More POWERFUL converters will be required!



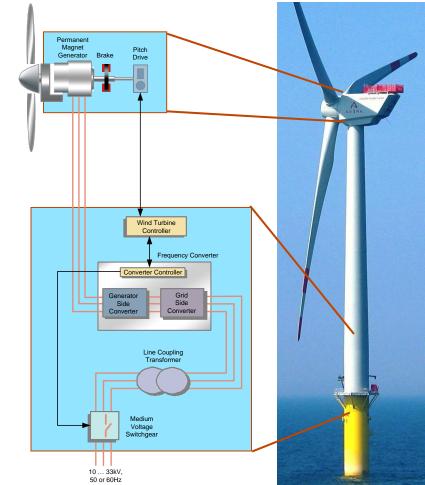
### **Full Power Converters**

Typical layout – large scale offshore turbine with full power converter

- Nacelle:
  - Gearbox if used
  - PM Generator
  - Mechanical Brake
  - Pitch Drive

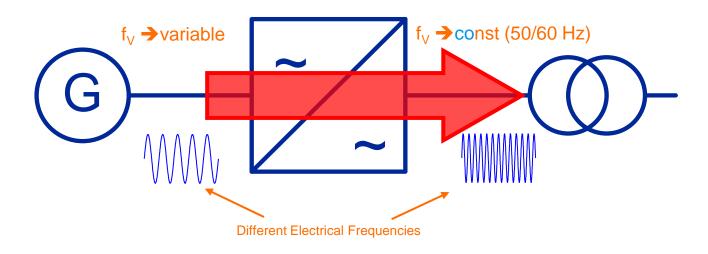


- Wind Turbine Controller
- Power Converter
- Main Transformer
- Auxiliary distribution
- MV Switchgear





### Full Power Converters Key Features

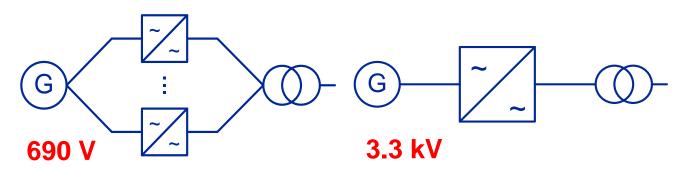


- 0...100% speed variability  $\rightarrow$  wind turbine operation at its optimum
- Decoupling of mechanical parts from the electrical grid
   → maximal drive train damping
- Full generator control
  - Active and reactive power on the generator side controlled independently from the grid
  - Motor operation for testing and precise rotor positioning
- Full grid control
  - Active and reactive power control for optimal support of the grid  $\rightarrow$  grid code compliance
  - High and low voltage ride through



### MV and LV Converters Comparison Higher Power → Higher Current or Higher Voltage

- There are two different converter concepts that can be applied in order to reach higher power levels.
- Low voltage converters are operated in **parallel** to handle the current that increases when the power is higher.
- MV converters runs on a higher voltage level. Thus the currents are lower than in a system of the same power level operated at lower voltages

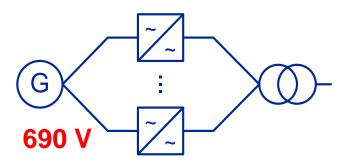


**Paralleled LV converters** 

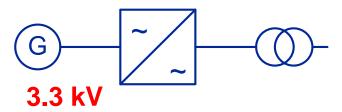
Single MV converter



### MV and LV Converters Comparison Higher Power → Higher Current or Higher Voltage



Paralleled LV converters



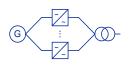
Single MV converter

- LOWER VOLTAGE
   HIGHER CURRENTS
- Modules in parallel
- More semiconductors
- Availability by redundancy

- HIGHER VOLTAGE
   LOWER CURRENTS
- One single converter handles up to 9 MVA
- Less semiconductors
- Availability by low parts count
- As the power increases, MV is the only practical solution



### MV and LV Converter Comparison ABB's converter portfolio





ACS 800

- 690 V
- Paralleled for larger powers
- Maximum of 6MW
- BU LV Drives (Finland)

- <image><section-header>
- 3.3 kV / 4.1 kV
- Up to 9 MVA
- BU MV Drives and Power Electronics (Switzerland)
   Let's talk about ABB's ology today!
   Let's talk about technology today!
   MV converter technology

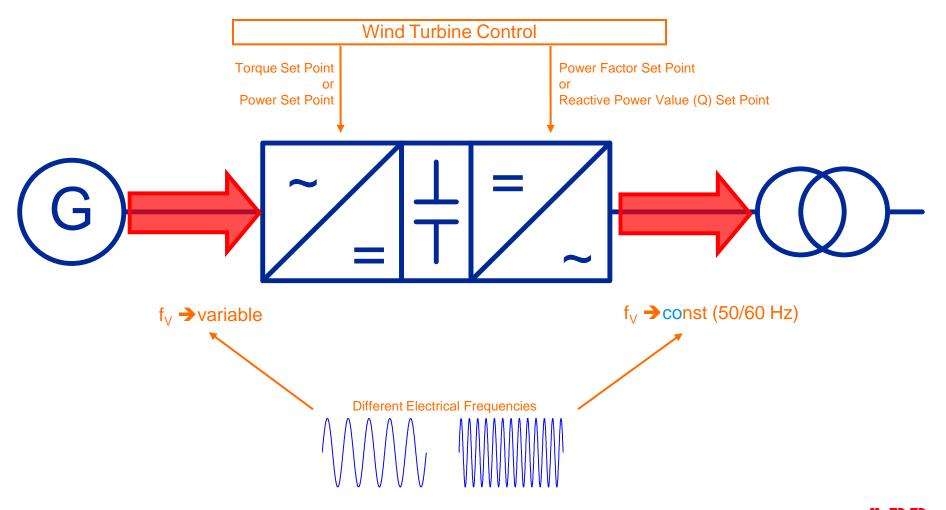


### ABB MV Converter Technology

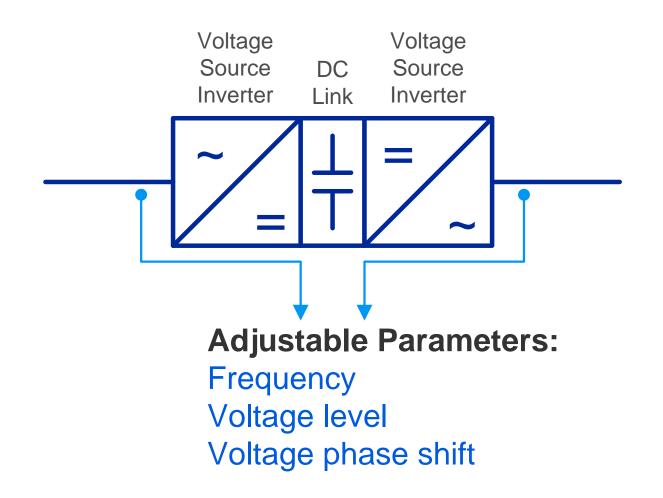




### ABB MV Converter Technology Operating Principle



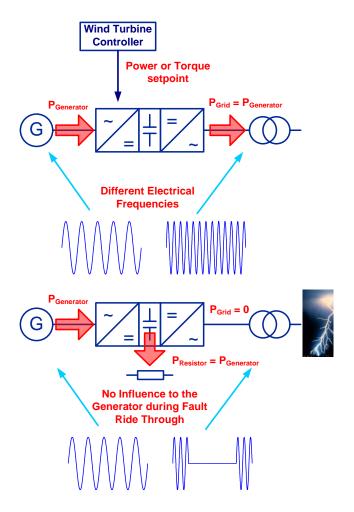
### ABB MV Converter Technology Voltage source inverter basics





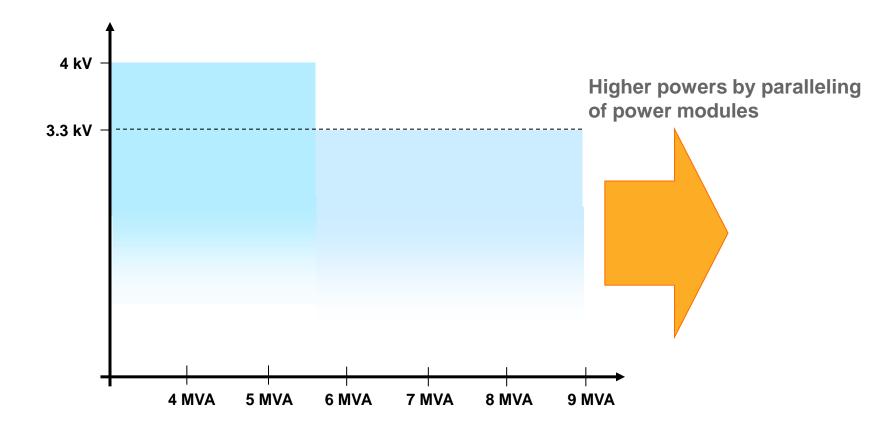
### ABB MV Converter Technology Main tasks

- Active Power Control
  - The generator will be loaded with the torque value set by the wind turbine controller
- Decoupling the generator from the grid:
  - Full control of the generator speed and torque during normal and fault ride through operation
- Reactive Grid Power Control:
  - Grid stabilization
  - Operation at different power factors
- Special Tasks:
  - Rotor Positioning mode
  - Back to Back test operation





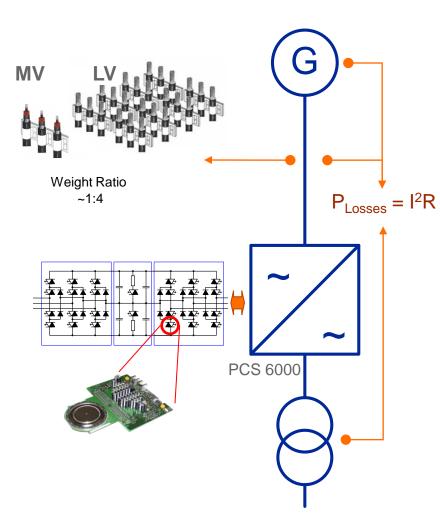
### ABB MV Converter Technology Power Range of the PCS 6000 Wind







### ABB MV Converter Technology Features of the PCS 6000 Wind



#### LESS LOSSES

Lower currents and thus less losses (I<sup>2</sup>R) in generator, converter, transformer and it's interconnections

#### EASY CABLING

Much smaller cabling, easy arrangement of converter and transformer in tower foot  $\rightarrow$  saving nacelle weight

#### ONLY 26 SEMICONDUCTORS

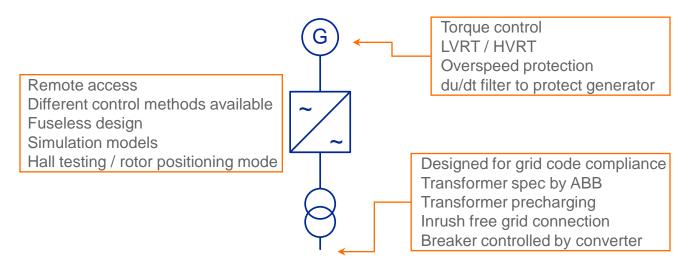
With MV technology, no paralleling of components is required. This leads to reduced parts count and thus higher reliability, less complexity and less footprint.

#### PROVEN INDUSTRY STANDARD

MV converter technology is standard in industrial applications of comparable power levels



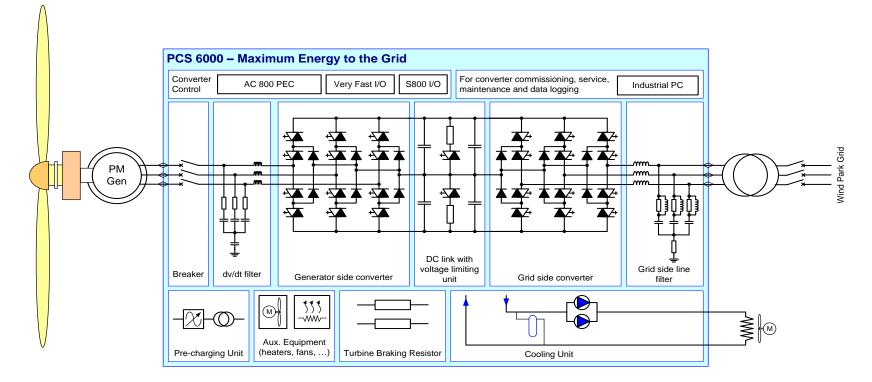
### ABB MV Converter Technology Our System-Oriented Approach



- The converter system has a strong influence on the whole drive train
  - Several drive train components depend on the power converter
  - Power converter acts as link between mechanical system and electrical grid
- We provide a broad experience and deep system knowledge
  - ABB has dedicated specialists for grid code requirements and certification
  - Various simulation models are available even customized models on request
  - Specifications for system relevant components such as transformer and main circuit breaker are provided by ABB



### ABB MV Converter Technology The Modular Concept at a Glance

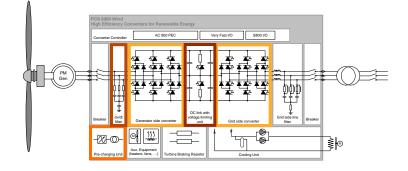


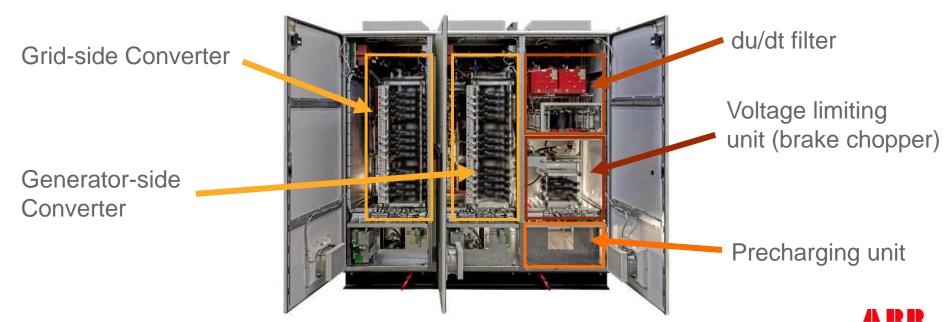
The PCS 6000 modular converter family has a range from 3 to 9MVA with an output voltage of 3.3kV or 4kV. The modular concept allows high flexibility for customized converter solutions at the advantage of standardized high volume production of the different modules.

The cooling unit, filters, circuit breakers and auxiliaries can be integrated in the cabinets of the converter system and thus allow a very compact footprint.

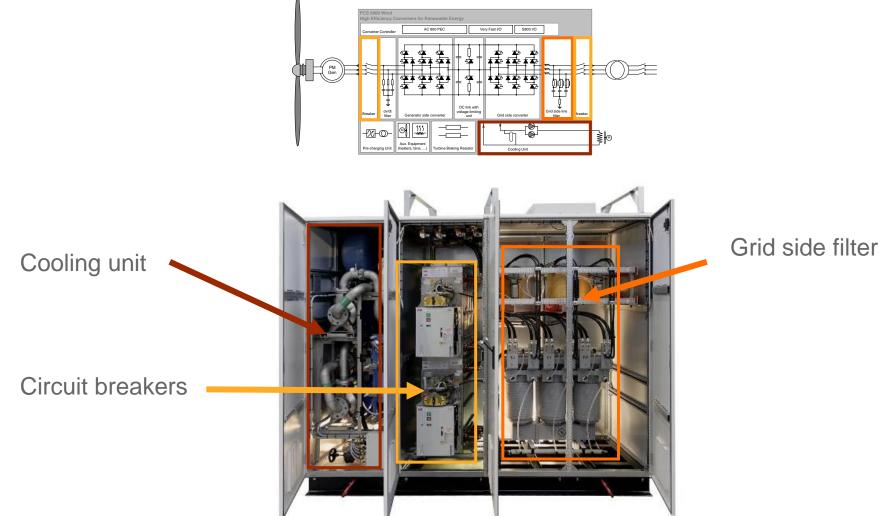


### ABB MV Converter Technology Main Components



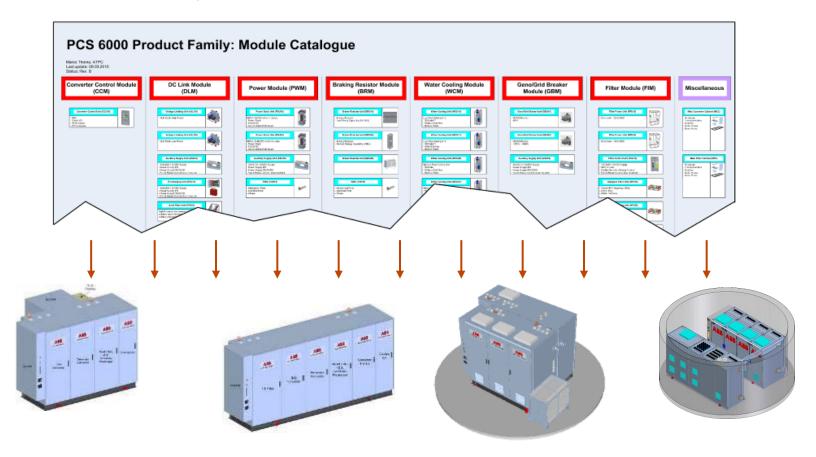


### ABB MV Converter Technology Main Components





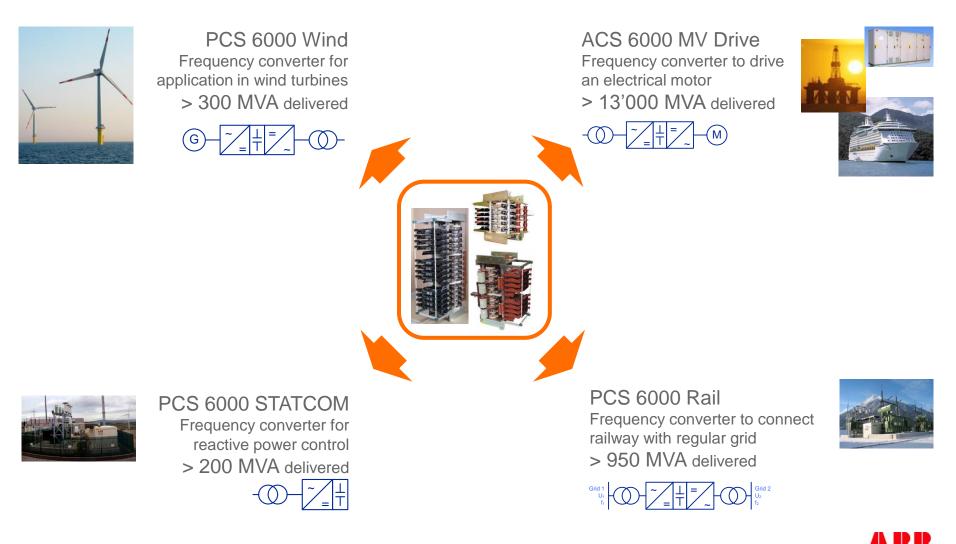
### ABB MV Converter Technology PCS 6000 Family Modularization



High degree of standardization High degree of flexibility High degree of integration

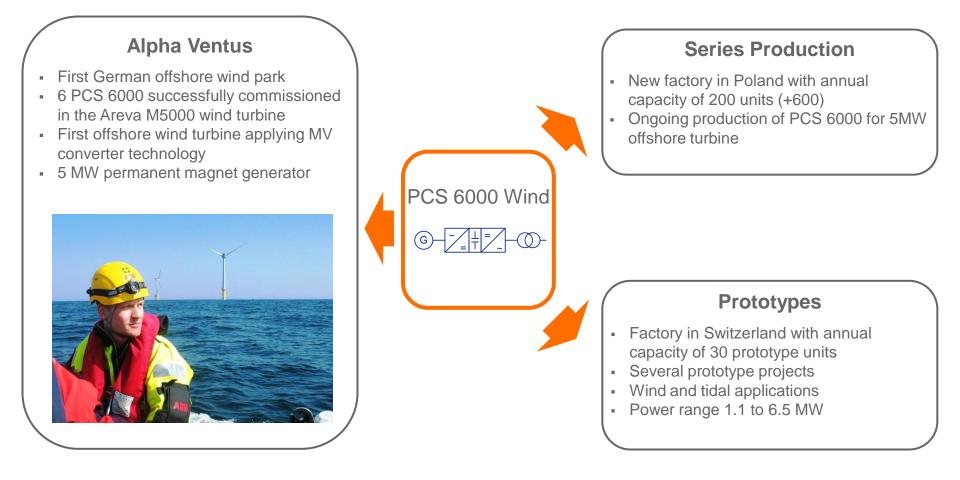


### ABB MV Converter Technology References of the Technology Platform



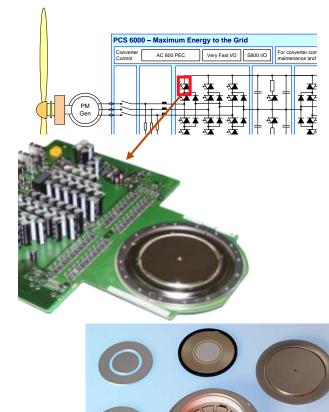
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### ABB MV Converter Technology References of the PCS 6000 Wind





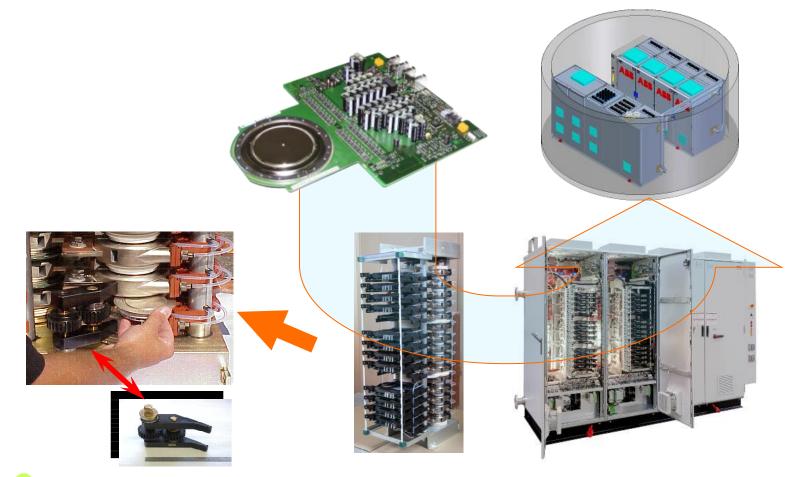
### PCS 6000 Wind Key Components IGCT



- The IGCT (Integrated Gate Commutated Thyristor) is a switch, which can be turned on and off by a fibre optic signal.
- The IGCT is of a very robust design and has the best balance between robustness, efficiency, cost and reliability for medium voltage converters.
- The IGCT is explosion safe and optimal for load cycling as faced in the wind industry.
- Reverse conducting 6kV IGCT's for the lower power range (4kV AC) and asymmetric 4.5kV IGCT's for the higher power range (3.3kV AC) are used



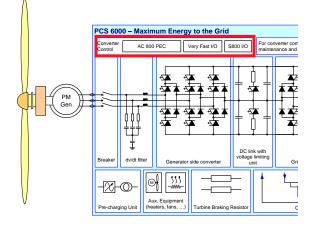
### PCS 6000 Wind Key Components From IGCT to a 9MVA Converter





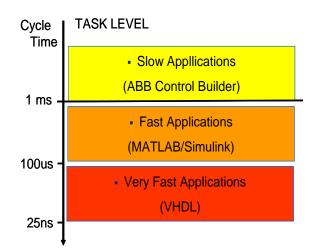


### PCS 6000 Wind Key Components The control hardware



- The AC 800PEC (Power Electronic Controller) is used as the main controller. The 600MHz RISC 64-bit processor allows complicated control circuits
- All the control equipment is running on 24VDC and fiber optics.









### PCS 6000 Wind Key Components The P3 Pfisterer© PLUG System





- Pre-manufactured and tested cables with plug
- No opening of cubicles during installation
- 100% water proof





### PCS 6000 Wind Mechanical Layout Typical Dimensions Converter Cabinet



3200 x 1200 x 2445 126" x 47" x 96"

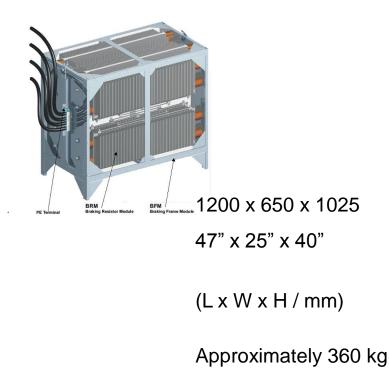
(L x W x H / mm)

Approximately 5000 kg/11000lbs



### PCS 6000 Wind Mechanical Layout Typical Dimensions Filter Cabinet / Braking Resistors





2200 x 1000 x 2445 86" x 39" x 96" (L x W x H / mm)

Approximately 3200 kg/7000 lbs



### **Questions?**



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# Power and productivity

