Wind Energy Research Consortium

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Dakota Power, LLC

A Research and Development Corporation

Next Generation Lightweight Electric Drive Systems



Wind Energy Research Consortium

- Dakota Power Tasks:
 - Report: Alternative technologies for wind turbines
 - Tutorial: Optimizing generation from residential wind turbines
- Focus on the potential for modified switched reluctance technology
 - SRDCM
 - Compare with induction and permanent magnet turbines



Overview of Dakota Power

- Light weight high power density electric drives
- Focus R&D- How do we know?
 - Modeling and simulation software
 - Test and evaluation infrastructure
- SRM advantages:
 - High performance over wide speed range
 - Lower cost than Permanent Magnet (PM) Motor
 - High temperature operations
- SRM an alternative to the strategic risk of further restriction of PM rare earth materials by China



Next Generation Machine Design SRDCM





Next Generation Machine Design Switch Reluctance DC Machine





SRDCM Rotor



SRDCM Stator





SRDCM Commutation



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SRDCM Magnetic Fields Maxwell Software – Field Density









SRDCM Magnetic Fields Maxwell Software – Flux Vectors





Next Generation Machine Design SRDCM





Dakota Power R&D

- Research and development plan for the next generation light weight electric drive systems
 - Simulations magnetic density Maxwell Software
 - Adaptive electronic controls
 - Turbine generator
 - Test and analysis Dynamometer Test Facility
 - Materials and manufacturing techniques



Direct Drive – Army

- Lightweight Electric Drive System
- Replace internal combustion and diesel with electric drive
- Requires both motor and generator integrated in single machine
 - Motor powers vehicle
 - Generator converts energy created by vehicle for storage



Direct Drive – Army





Direct Drive – Army

- Lightweight Electric Direct Drive System
- Replace internal combustion and diesel with electric drive
- Requires both motor and generator integrated in single machine
 - Motor powers vehicle
 - Generator converts energy created by vehicle for storage
- Reduced weight
- Opportunity for a closed system free from abrasions of sand
- Provide quiet stealth operation



Today's Wind Turbine Generators

• Geared, High-Speed Drive Trains

Doubly Fed Asynchronous (



GE's 1.5 MW Wind Turbine

Vestas' 3.0 MW Wind Turbine



Today's Wind Turbine Generators

• Direct Drive, Low-Speed Drive Trains



Enercon's Direct Drive Industrial Scale Wind Turbine

Skystream 3.7 Residential Wind Turbine



Direct Drive – Wind Turbines

- Removing gears reduces size and weight
- Direct drive require less maintenance desired for off-shore installations
- Simplicity of design results in an overall increase in reliability
- Less noise for residential scale turbines when operated at lower speeds
- SRDCM potential alternative to popular PM



Comparison SRDCM and PM

- SRDCM
 - Low-speed high-torque low cost
 - High density rotor variable magnetic field
 - High temperature operation
- PM
 - Very high density rotor fixed magnetic field
 - Rare earth concerns in China





Thank you listening

May we answer your questions?

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