

Socomec innovations serving a greener Dakar

Benfeld, January 12, 2021

For the first time this year, part of the main Dakar bivouac is to be powered by an innovative mobile energy production and storage system. This technology supplied by Socomec, partner of the main contractor GCK-Energy, is a first step towards a greener rally-raid.

From 11th to 13th January 2021, the Amaury Sport Organisation (ASO), the company organising the Dakar rally, has taken a decisive step towards its goal of running a zero-carbon emission event. At ASO's request, the GCK-Energy company has deployed a new mobile energy storage solution to supply green energy to the NEOM bivouac. This power supply will limit the use of generators using running on fossil fuels.

A major innovation for the reduction of carbon emissions



The mobile energy storage container linked to solar panels. Photo credit @GCK

The technical solution implemented by GCK-Energy was designed by Socomec. This involves the "SUNSYS Mobile" innovation, a new ultra-mobile electricity storage solution equipped with lithium-ion batteries supplied by another partner in the project, the IBS company. This zero-emission, all-terrain system has been designed to be a responsible alternative or complement to the use of noisy and polluting generators. In the NEOM bivouac, the press centre, the TV wall and the participants' reception were powered by solar energy produced and stored on site during the 3 days of activity.

Socomec's teams have been working on the subject of mobile energy storage for several years. Ivan Steyert, CEO of Socomec explains: "Mobile electricity storage is a major innovation that we have been working on for many years through our partnership with IBS. Following the success of the E'Car pilot project in 2019, we are now able to offer our customers a unique, industrialised solution for supplying temporary loads without carbon emissions. Socomec is very proud to put its expertise at the service of GCK Energy, which is committed to providing green power solutions, particularly in the context of tomorrow's motor sport."



The GCK e-Blast 1 car in its technical environment. Photo credit @GCK

Building the motor racing of tomorrow

In addition to temporary infrastructures such as the Dakar bivouac, the technology designed by Socomec is also adapted to the constraints inherent in motor sport. The GCK e-Blast 1, an electric rally-cross vehicle, is recharged with solar energy in the middle of the desert thanks to the technological support of Socomec and IBS, the designer of the vehicle's batteries. This initiative, sponsored by Socomec, is another step towards greener and more responsible motor racing.

SOCOMEK: When energy matters

Founded in 1922, SOCOMEK is an independent industrial group with a workforce of 3600 experts spread over 28 subsidiaries in the world. Our core business: the availability, control and safety of low voltage electrical networks serving our customers' power performance. In 2019, SOCOMEK posted a turnover of 572M€.



POWER
SWITCHING



POWER
MONITORING



POWER
CONVERSION



ENERGY
STORAGE



EXPERT
SERVICES

Press contact

Dany Macaux

Head of Communication

+33 (0)7 60 12 87 58

dany.macaux@socomec.com

www.socomec.fr