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# Northwest China leverages wind power

## Hami emerges as renewable energy equipment hub

**BEIJING:** With rapidly expanding wind manufacturing capacity backed by abundant natural resources, Hami in the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region is poised to become a cornerstone in China's renewable energy (RE) landscape.

At Sany RE's megawatt-grade smart wind power equipment industry park in Barkol Kazakh autonomous county, Hami, two high-capacity production lines run at full speed.

This year, the park's newly launched facility began producing the region's longest onshore wind turbine blades, marking a milestone for the local manufacturing and solidifying Hami's status as a key hub for Xinjiang's wind energy sector.

Spanning 45ha and with a total investment of one billion yuan, the park primarily produces onshore wind turbines and ultra-long blades, which are destined for local wind power projects across Xinjiang.

With construction completed at the end of last year, the plant's blade production base is designed for an annual capacity of 1,200 units.

Operations commenced in July, with 28 wind turbine blades completed so far.

"We currently have two blade production lines operating, producing 112m and 95m blades," said Zhang Tengfei, a manufacturing management specialist at Sany.

As turbine blades become larger and more diverse in design, the company is focusing on process innovation, particularly in key technologies such as material preforming, component prefabrication and assembly tasks, Zhang said.

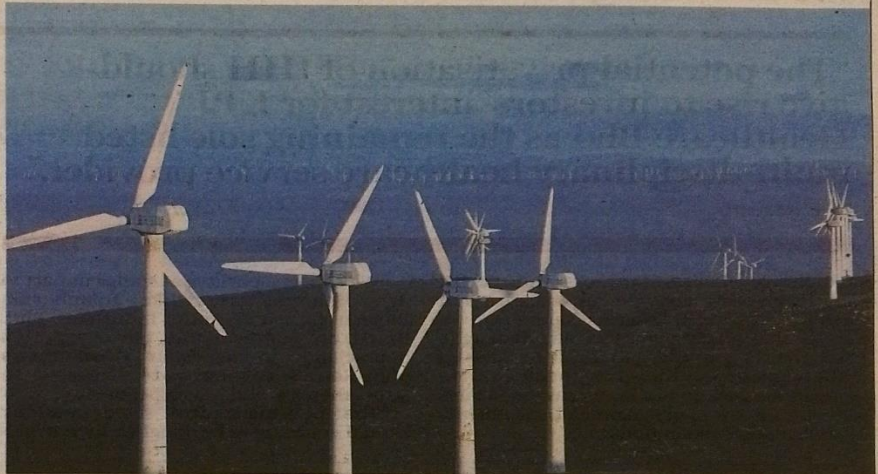
He added that research and development efforts have helped drive 10 pioneering manufacturing techniques, improving the overall efficiency and quality of blade production.

Similarly, at Hami CRCC New Energy Motor Co Ltd's production line, manufacturing of advanced wind turbine components is in full swing.

Since setting up operations in Hami in 2015, the company has seen rapid growth, continually upgrading its product portfolio through innovation.

"We've evolved from small-megawatt turbines to producing large scale 6MW and 10MW units," said Tang Lanhai, deputy general manager of the company.

"In August, we completed production of Xinjiang's first 10MW doubly-fed wind tur-



**Emerging landscape:** Wind turbines at a wind farm in the Serra da Capelada, Spain. Hami aims to become a research, manufacturing and distribution centre for energy equipment, not only for Xinjiang, but for all of the western part of China. — Reuters

bine drivetrain, and by the end of this year, the production line is expected to fulfil an order of 170 units," Tang said.

Tang added that by leveraging the region's well-developed industrial supply chain, the company now handles more than 400 orders annually.

"The wind turbines produced here are shipped to regions such as Gansu province, the Inner Mongolia autonomous region and Qinghai province. We also have export orders to Central Asia, underscoring the region's expanding global reach in wind energy manufacturing," he said.

In recent years, Hami, often referred to as Xinjiang's "eastern gateway", has emerged as a major player in wind power equipment manufacturing.

The city's bureau of industry and information technology said it is now home to 14 large-scale equipment manufacturers, including major industry players like Goldwind, China State Shipbuilding Corp, CRCC Corp and Sany Group.

The manufacturing cluster has helped put Hami as Xinjiang's largest and most comprehensive wind power equipment

manufacturing base, with a localisation rate of over 70%.

It is now recognised as China's sixth-largest wind power manufacturing hub and the most complete one in the country's northwestern region, said Dou Rencai, deputy director of Hami's bureau of industry and information technology.

As one of China's most resource-rich areas for wind and solar energy, Hami's wind zones cover 66.3% of Xinjiang's land area, with a technically exploitable wind energy potential of 303 million kW — accounting for 6% of the nation's total onshore wind resources.

Backed by bountiful wind resources, Hami is positioning itself as a leader in wind energy development by focusing on building, strengthening and extending its industrial chain, Dou said.

"Hami aims to become a research, manufacturing and distribution centre for energy equipment, not only for Xinjiang, but for all of the western part of China.

"Our goal is to establish a national-level innovation platform for the RE manufacturing industry here." — China Daily/ANN

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