

## News release

### Results of the “Raising the “Energy Curtain” international conference

**Trondheim, Norway, 29 October 2008** – SKM Market Predictor had successfully held an international energy conference entitled **“Raising the “Energy Curtain”. Liberalization of the Russian energy market: new opportunities or new challenge for the Nordic market?..”**, which had taken place on 21-23 October in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

The arrangement assembled a set of top-ranked speakers including representatives from Russian institutions like Federal Antimonopoly Service, Ministry of Energy, Concern “Rosatom”, JSC “INTER RAO UES”, JSC “RusHydro” and other companies, as well as a number of experts and consultants who had formerly been engaged in the reform of JSC “RAO UES of Russia”. Northern European view was presented by speakers from Imarex Group (Norway), Norsk Hydro (Norway), as well as from two major sponsors, RAO Nordic Oy (Finland) and UAB Energijos realizacijos centras (Lithuania). The organizer of the conference, SKM Market Predictor, also provided a speaker to make the opening report of the conference.

“This is the first time an energy conference in Russia is held at that high level, and I am really enthusiastic about it being organized during a crucial period for the world’s economy and by a energy analysis and forecasting company, which is a new-comer to the Russian energy industry. This kind of arrangements is very important for the general development of European economy and greatly contributes to the mutual understanding and integration of Eastern and Northern Europe and Russia”, – commented Vladimir Dorofeev, Independent expert, former Vice-President of JSC “RAO UES of Russia” and Deputy CEO of OAO “FGC UES”, who was also one of the speakers.

The key content of the conference was as follows:

- Results of reforms and prospects of the energy industry development in Northern Europe, Russia and the Baltic States
- New model and structure of the energy market and the attractiveness of the industry to investors
- Impact of the liberalization on integration processes in Northern and Eastern Europe, as well as on development of the industry in the region in general
- New features and new opportunities of energy trading
- Role of governmental authorities in the process, legal issues

“Delegates and speakers from Russia, Northern Europe and the Baltic States have been assembled at this event and could have easily communicate in an informal atmosphere. I suppose this is a great contribution to an establishment of a straight and open dialogue between Russia and Europe, which is essential for the prosperity and energy security of the entire region”, – said Konstantin Morozov, Chairman of the Board of Directors of SKM Market Predictor.

“Such international events have always been arranged in Western or Northern European countries. For me this is very symbolic that for the first time an international energy conference has been organized in Russia, that it appeared possible to assemble everyone in Saint Petersburg. Europe is becoming tighter and more integrated”, – said Kurt Sveggen, Managing Director of SKM Market Predictor.

“We are virtually happy that this difficult beginning has turned into a great success, which we hope will become an annual occasion. I would also like to thank our co-organizers who helped us greatly on the arrangement, namely RAO Nordic, our Exclusive sponsor, and ERC, the Official sponsor. I would also like to thank our General media partner, Montel AS, who helped announce the event”, – added Konstantin Morozov.



“We are delighted that RAO Nordic have supported the conference. This is a great tool of creating the general understanding of what is going on in the region’s energy sector, as well as in exchanging views and experience. Participation in this event has been very useful and promising for our business. We hope this conference will be organized on an annual basis”, – concluded Oleg Zakataev, Deputy Managing Director of RAO Nordic.

The actual **program** of the conference, **presentations** of the speakers’ reports, as well as **photos** of the event are available on the conference website under the following link:  
<http://www.skmenergy.ru/en/conference>.

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## Editor’s notes:

### **About SKM Market Predictor**

*Since 1992 SKM Market Predictor has been a major supplier of unbiased power market analyses and holds no position in the power market. The company provides services that are tailored to meet the needs of traders, producers, distributors, merchant banks and executive management. Holding a market share of more than 30% within Scandinavia, SKM Market Predictor serves clients in several other European countries and is recognized as providing the highest quality of professional analysis and consultancy advice. SKM has extensive experience of price forecasting in regulated as well as deregulated markets. Since 1998 SKM Market Predictor has been organizing energy conferences devoted to discussion of relevant issues and developments in the industry.*

[www.skmenergy.com](http://www.skmenergy.com), [www.skmenergy.ru](http://www.skmenergy.ru)

### **About RAO Nordic**

*RAO Nordic Oy is a subsidiary of JSC Inter RAO UES, which is an international energy holding company that has affiliates in 14 countries in Europe and Asia. Company was established 2002 and it is one of the largest energy companies in Finland. RAO Nordic is a member of Nord Pool electricity exchange and it sells electricity directly to end users in Finland. RAO Nordic Oy participates in trading both in physical and financial electricity market and it is actively expanding to European markets. RAO Nordic is part of the Assets Management function of Inter RAO UES and helps the company to develop and maintain*



*strong positions in the commercially attractive energy markets. RAO Nordic has an essential role in successfully implementing JSC INTER RAO UES' strategy in Europe.*

[www.raonordic.com](http://www.raonordic.com)

### **About UAB Energijos Realizacijos Centras (ERC)**

*UAB Energijos Realizacijos Centras (ERC) has been an independent supplier of electricity since 2002 when the Lithuanian electricity market was officially liberalized. Since then ERC has intensively developed trade relations with energy providers in Russia and Belarus, as well as with large-scale electricity consumers in the Baltic States and within Scandinavia. Supplementing electricity trading, ERC actively develops investment projects in the energy and real estate sectors.*

[www.ercentras.com](http://www.ercentras.com)

### **About Montel AS**

*Since 1990 Montel has been supplying the financial and commodities markets with information from and for the players in these markets and has become the most widely used information service within the energy industry. More than 850 companies throughout Europe now rely on Montel as an indispensable source for power market data. Real-time Internet service MontelPowernews attracts over 4,000 unique users weekly, while Montel's magazines are printed in more than 20,000 copies in overall. Since 2003 Montel has established itself as the largest independent conference host in the Nordic power market.*

[www.montelpowernews.com](http://www.montelpowernews.com)