



# A Converterless Drive Train Concept for Grid Friendly Wind Turbines

**The WinDrive Success Story**

**Uwe Reimesch**

**GM Sales – Voith Turbo Wind**

# VOITH

One of the large family-owned companies in Europe



**1867**

First Workshop

**2010**

5 Billion Euro Sales

39,000 Employees

100% Family owned

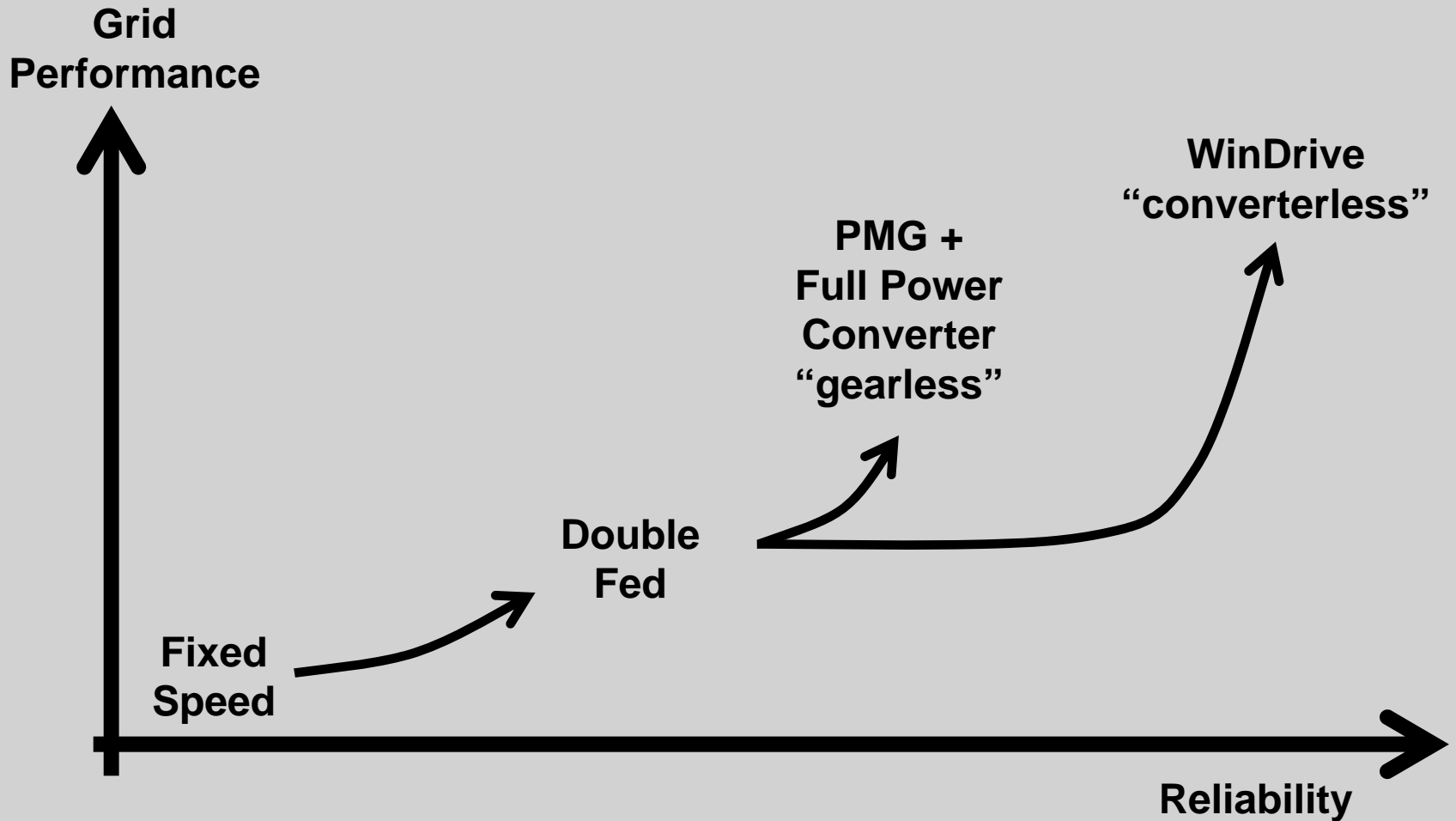
## The WinDrive Success Story



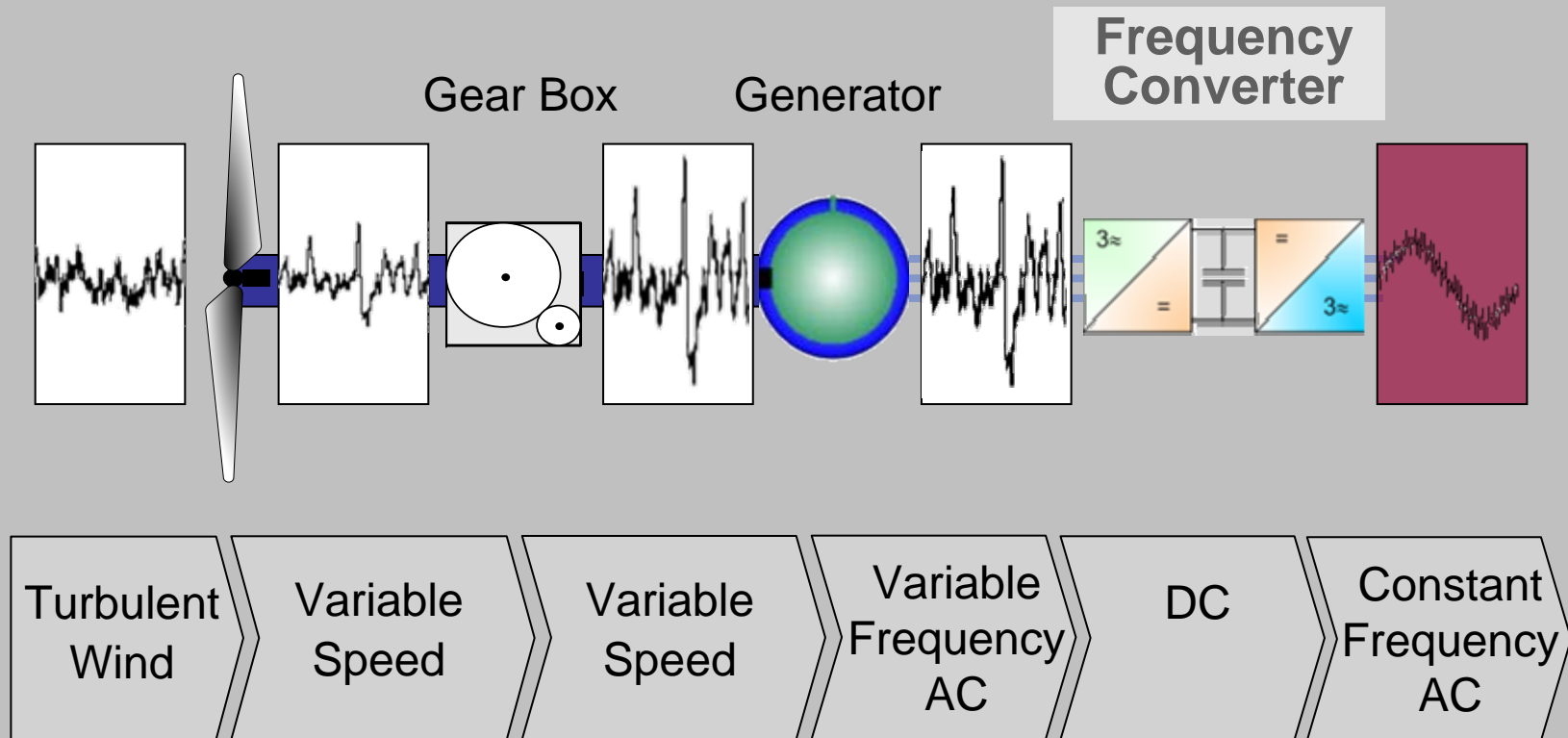
**"There is nothing  
more powerful than an idea  
whose time has come."**

Victor Hugo

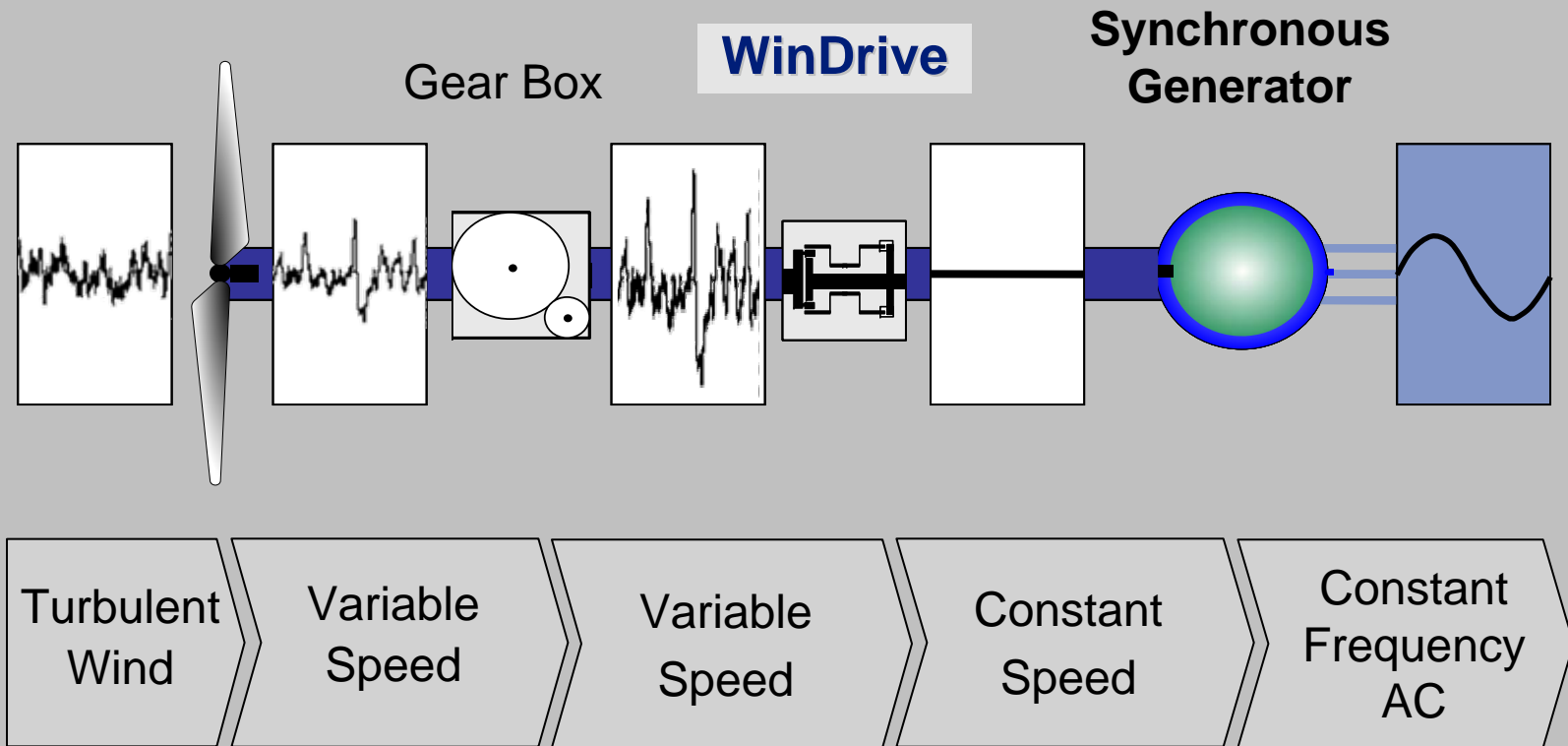
# Wind Turbine Evolution



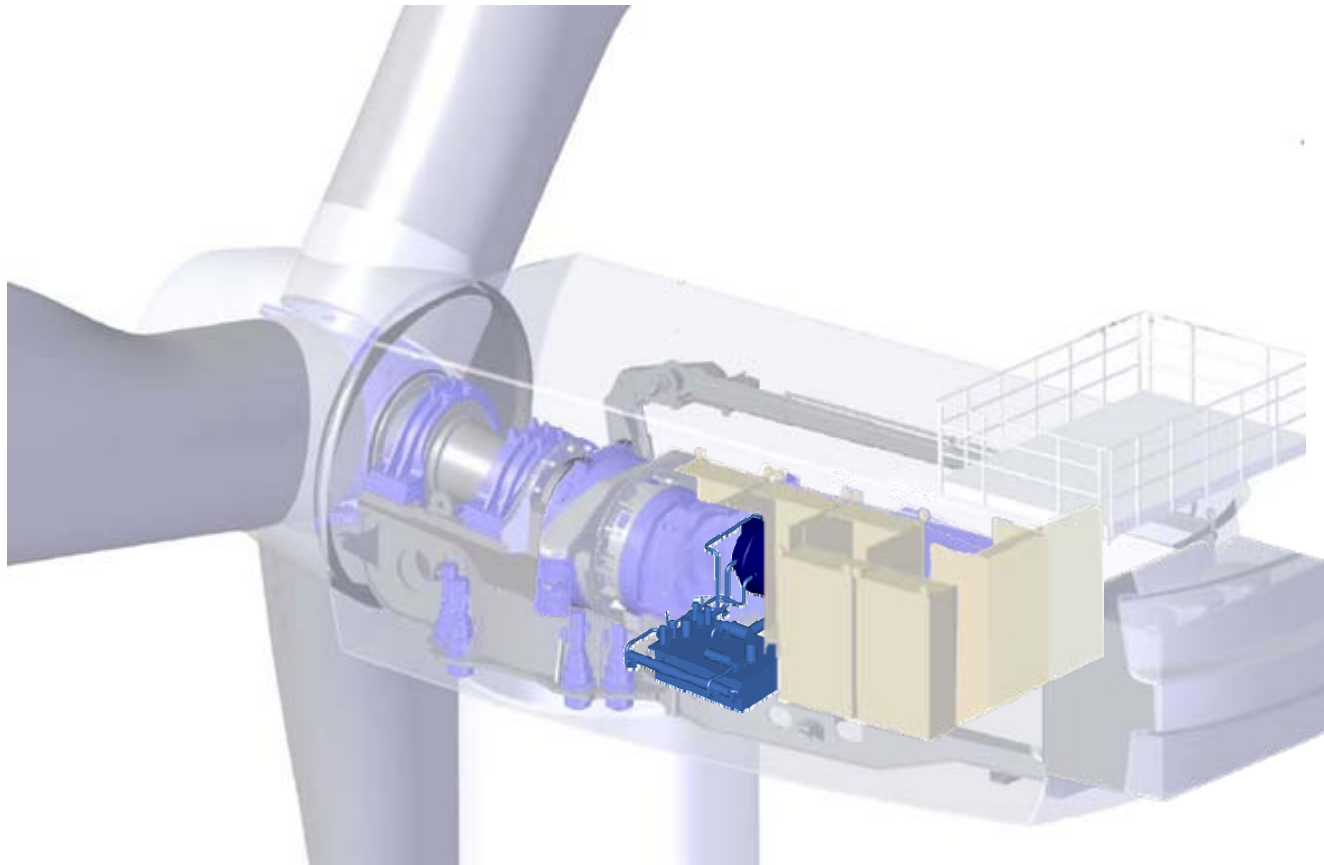
# Traditional Drive Train Concept with Frequency Converter



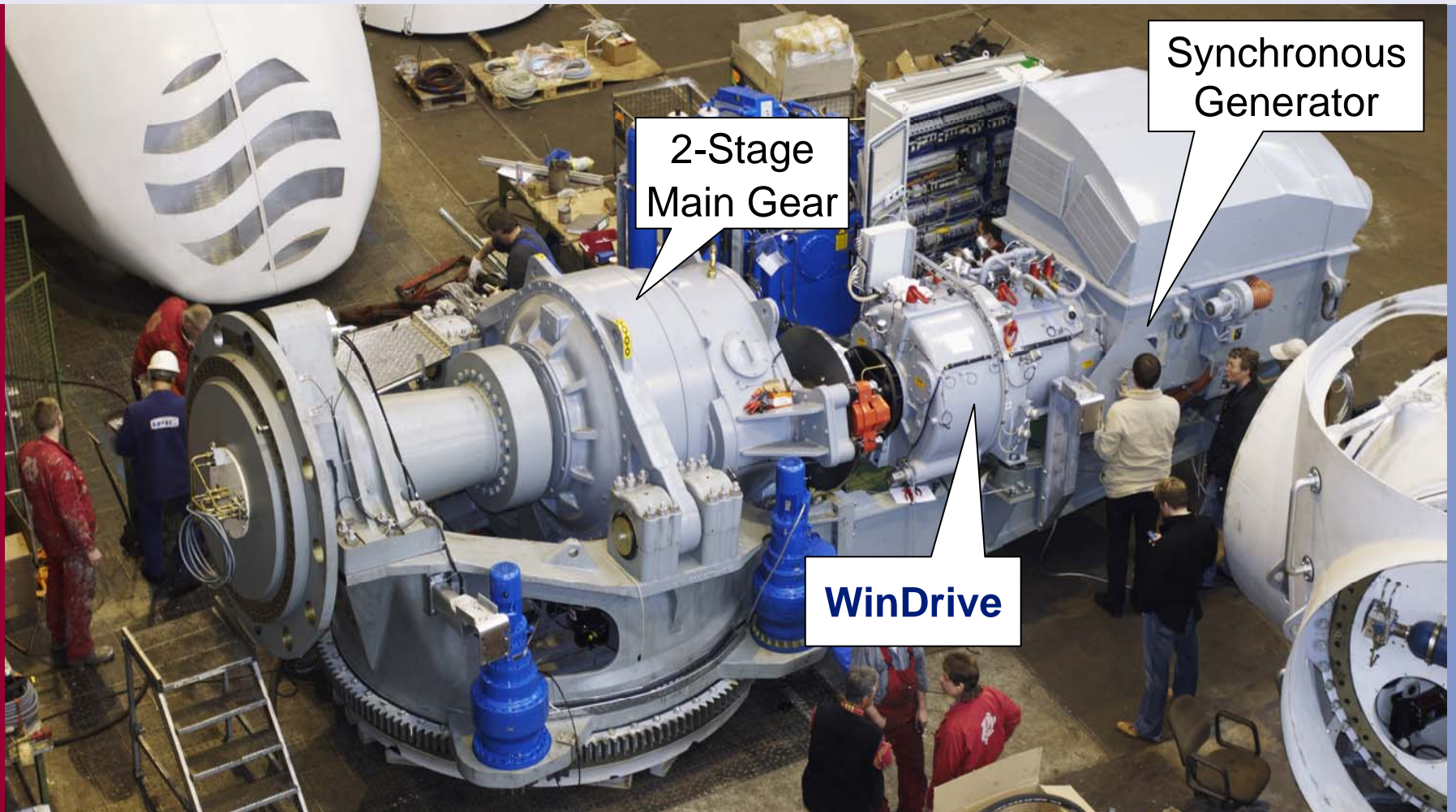
# Innovative Drive Train Concept with WinDrive for Large Wind Turbines without Frequency Converter



# Concept Drive Train



# Concept



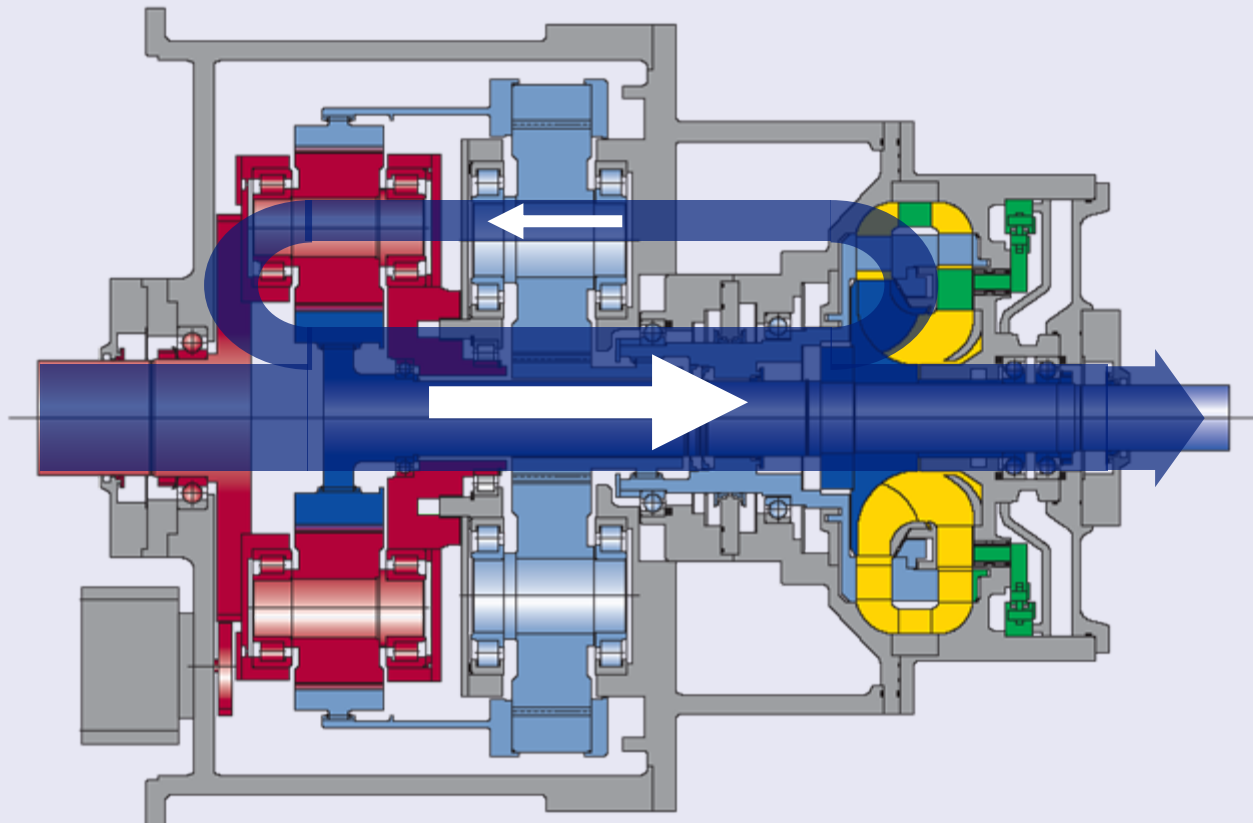
2-Stage  
Main Gear

Synchronous  
Generator

WinDrive

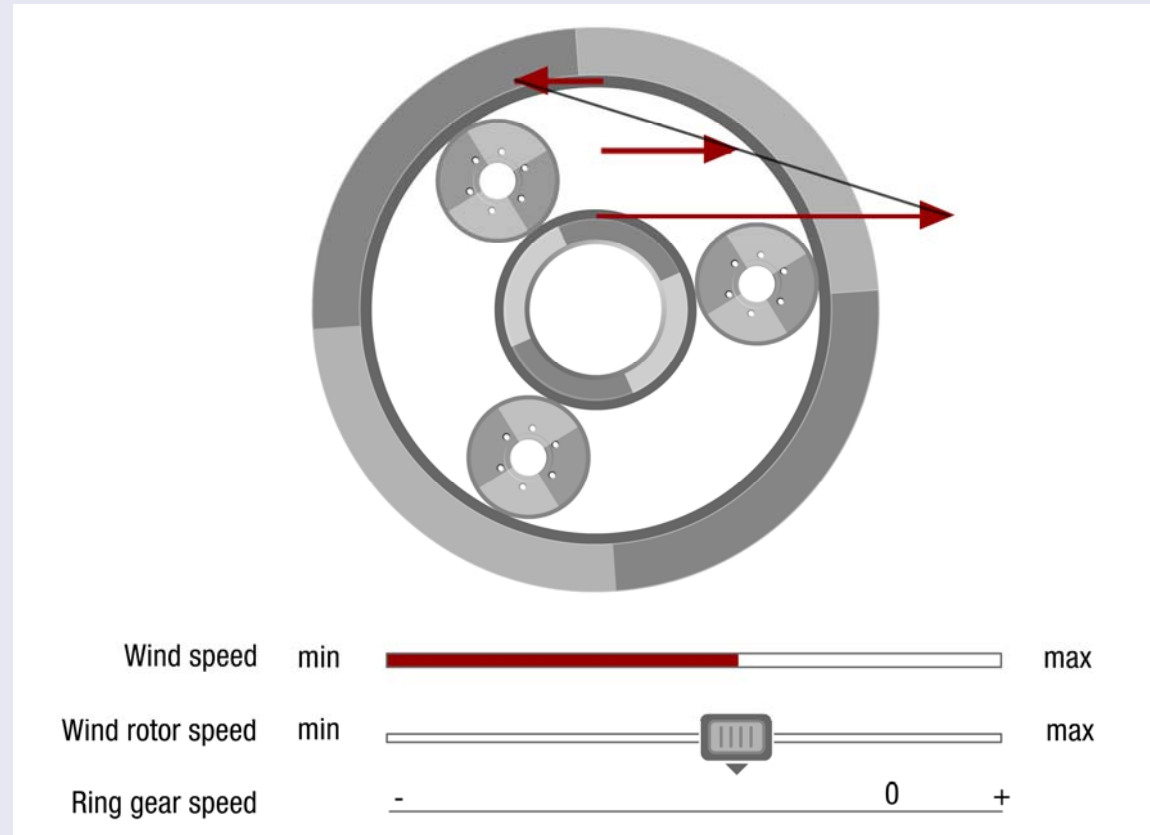
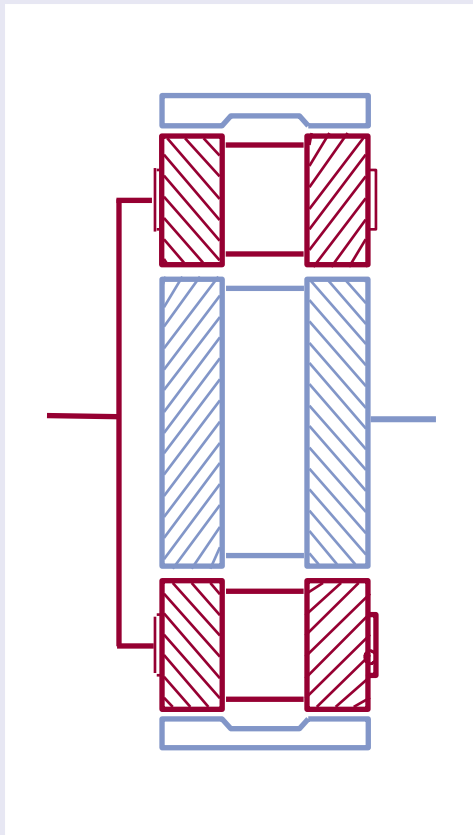


# Function WinDrive



# Function

## Superimposed Planetary Gear



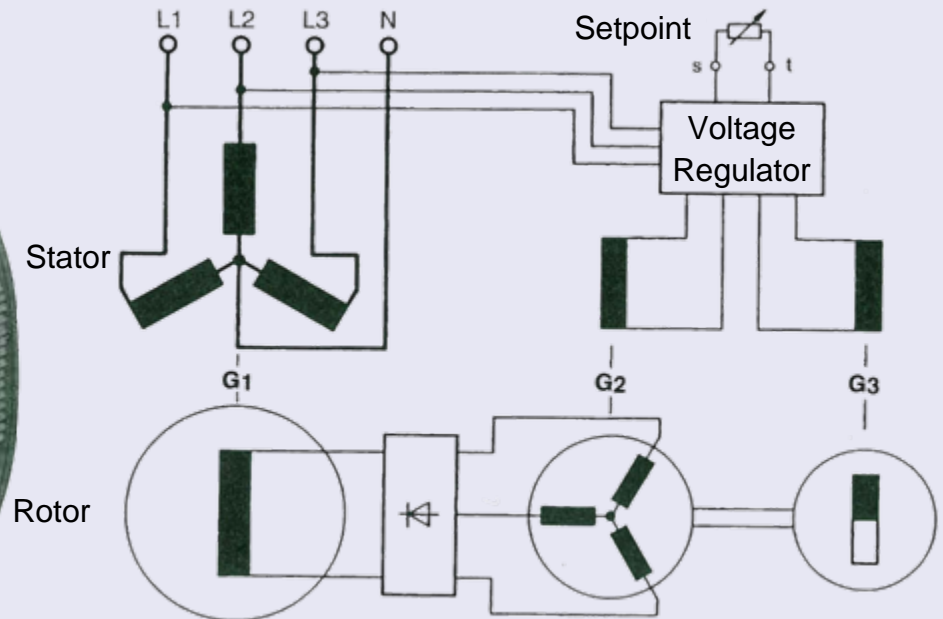
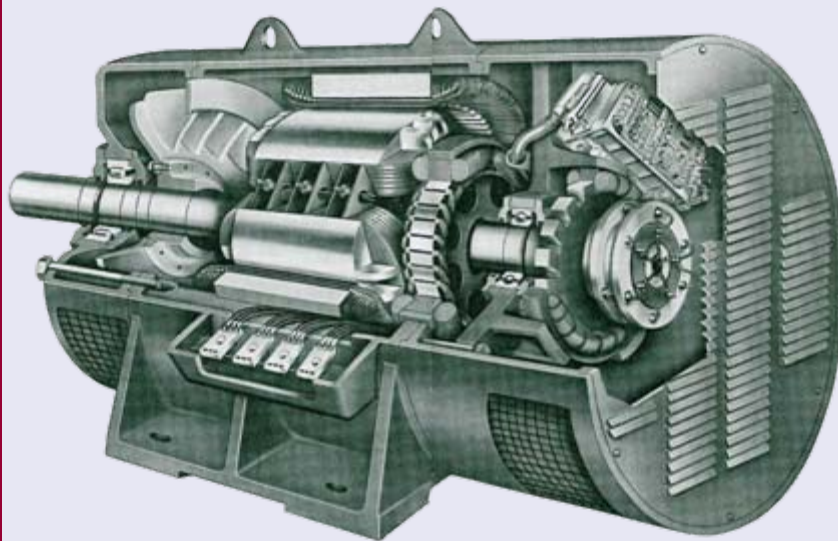
## Grid Requirements

### What does the Grid want?

- 1. Feed In Quality:** **Low Inrush Current**  
**Low Flicker Effect**  
**Low Harmonic Frequencies**
- 2. Grid Support:** **Dynamic Adjustment of Active and Reactive Power**  
**Low Voltage Ride Through Capability and High Reactive Short Circuit Current**  
**Support of Grid Voltage and Grid Frequency**
- 3. Transmission:** **High Static and Transient Grid Stability at Low Short Circuit Ratio (SCR)**  
**Capability of Black-Start and Isolated Operation**

# Synchronous Generator

## Which Machine can deliver what the Grid wants?



**G1** = 3-Phase Main Machine

**G2** = 3-Phase-Excitation Machine

**G3** = Supporting Excitation Machine

# Full Grid Code Compliance by Synchronous Generator

## What are the Benefits?

### **Advantages of Synchronous Generator for the Grid:**

- Low Harmonics & Low Flicker Effect
- Precise Adjustment of Reactive Power (Inductive & Capacitive)
- Voltage Drop to 0 Volt & High Short Circuit Current (Inductive)

### **Advantages of Synchronous Generator for the Operator:**

- Established Basis of Worldwide Electricity Generation (~ 99%)
- Low Maintenance & High Efficiency (vs Asynchronous Generator)
- Proven Robustness & High Reliability (No Slip Rings, No Brushes)

**Result: Lowest Cost of Energy**

# Reliability

## Frequency Converter Technology



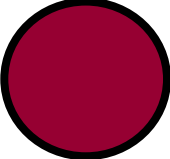
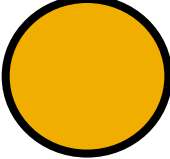
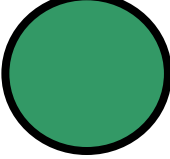
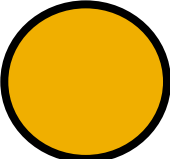
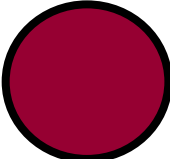
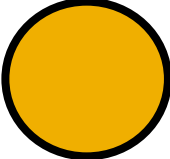
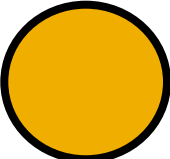
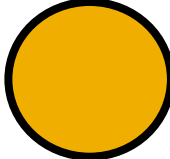
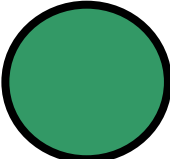
**MTBF < 2 Years**

## Variable Speed Drives Oil- & Gas Industry (1-34 MW)



**MTBF > 39 Years**

## Technology Comparison

|               | gearless                                                                            | gear & converter                                                                      | converterless                                                                         |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| light         |    |    |    |
| simple        |   |   |   |
| grid friendly |  |  |  |

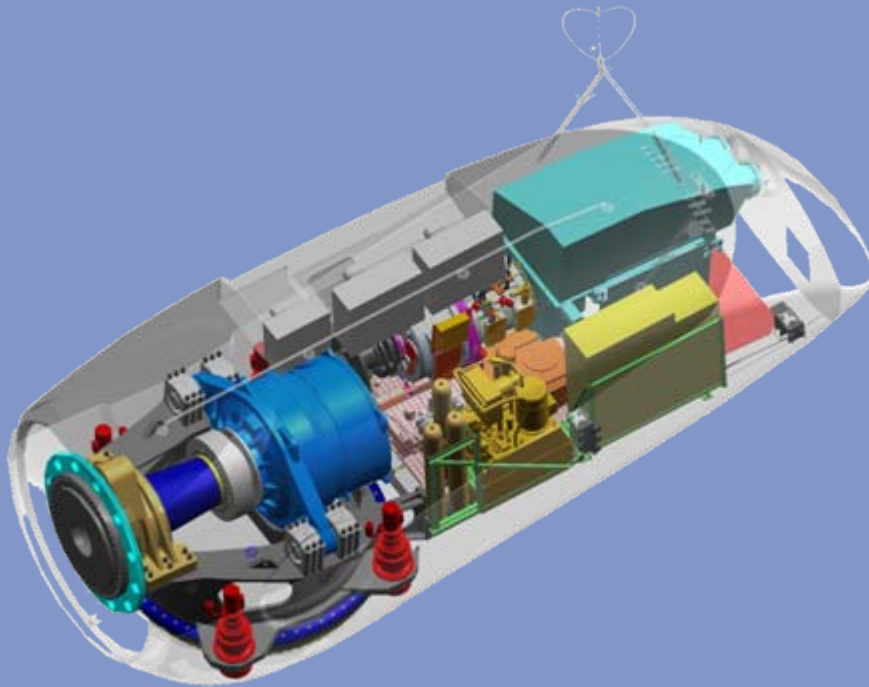
## The WinDrive Success Story



**“The time has come”**



## The WinDrive Success Story



**Lübeck, Germany 2005:**

Development start of  
2 MW turbine with DeWind

“Creating a grid friendly  
turbine by upgrading from  
DFIG to WinDrive  
technology – evolution  
instead of revolution“

## The WinDrive Success Story



**Cuxhaven, Germany 2007:**  
First kWh fed into grid by  
DeWind D8.2 prototype

“After a 12 month  
development period the  
prototype was up and running  
in auto mode within 40 hours“

## The WinDrive Success Story



### **Veladero, Argentina 2008:**

Highest turbine at 4 200 m  
above sea level (DeWind D8.2)

“Reliable performance in thin air  
between diesel gen sets and  
rock crushers“

## The WinDrive Success Story



**Bremen, Germany 2009:**  
Development of 6.5 MW turbine  
with second partner BARD

“The WinDrive System is the perfect combination of existing technology and convincing innovation that allows us to meet the requirements of the utility companies“

## The WinDrive Success Story



**Lanzhou, China 2009:**  
Development start  
of 2 MW Wind turbine with  
Lanzhou Electric Corporation

“Replacing DFIG by high tech  
made in Germany to build  
China’s first 10 GW wind farm“

## The WinDrive Success Story



### **Beijing, China 2009:**

Development start of 3 MW turbine with Guodian United Power

“Top 5 power provider in China and largest windfarm operator in Asia to apply state of the art technology to the fastest growing market for wind power“

## The WinDrive Success Story



### **Texas, USA 2010:**

“Little Pringle“ to become first wind farm using WinDrive technology

10 sets of DeWind’s D8.2

“Successful connection of a converterless and gridfriendly wind farm with power station like behavior“

# Status Quo

## Proven Track Record



Cuxhaven, Germany  
2 MW, 50 Hz



Veladero, Argentina  
2 MW, 50 Hz



Sweetwater, USA  
2 MW, 60 Hz



Hilltop, USA  
2 MW, 60 Hz

|                     |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Start</b>        | <b>Dec 2006</b> | <b>Dec 2007</b> | <b>Jan 2008</b> | <b>Feb 2009</b> |
| <b>Availability</b> | <b>100%</b>     | <b>100%</b>     | <b>100%</b>     | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Drive Train</b>  |                 |                 |                 |                 |



# Status Quo

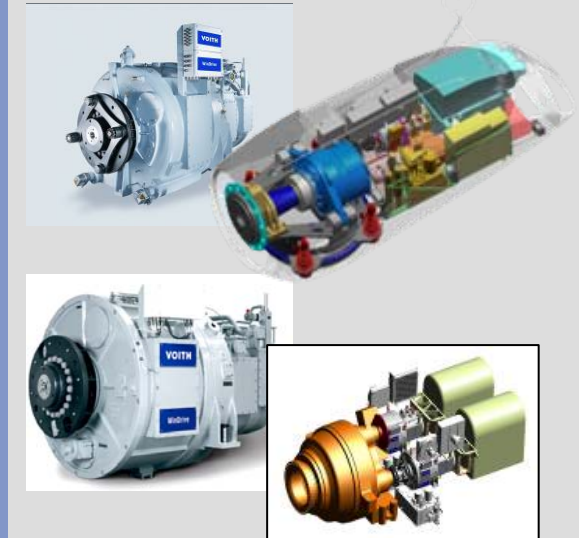
## One, Two, Four



**One Record**  
Highest Turbine



**Two Awards**  
Innovation Price Finalist  
Hermes Award Winner



**Four Partners**  
DeWind, BARD, LEC,  
Guodian United Power

## The WinDrive Success Story



**“The time has come”**

## The WinDrive Success Story



**“You have come”**

The logo features the word "VOITH" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Below it, the tagline "Engineered reliability." is written in a smaller, white, italicized sans-serif font. The text is centered on a dark blue background. The background is framed by vertical stripes: a red stripe on the far left, a light blue stripe, a yellow stripe, another light blue stripe, and a red stripe on the far right.

**VOITH**

*Engineered reliability.*