GE’s 3 MW Platform
POWERFUL AND EFFICIENT

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Since entering the wind industry in 2002, GE Renewable Energy has invested more than $2.5 billion in next-generation wind turbine technology to provide more value to customers—whether at the turbine, plant or grid level. Through the use of advanced analytics, GE Renewable Energy is redefining the future of wind power, delivering with proven performance, availability and reliability. With the integration of big data and the industrial internet, we can help customers manage the variability that comes with this resource for smooth, predictable power. Our onshore product portfolio includes wind turbines with rated capacities from 1.6-3.8 MW and flexible support services that range from basic operations and maintenance to farm- or fleet-level enhancements.

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GE’s 3 MW Platform

Extending the capability of the Digital Wind Farm to our 3 MW machines, GE’s powerful and efficient 3.2–3.8 platform is adaptable to a full spectrum of wind regimes. The platform includes the 3.6-137, our highest performing turbine for Class III winds.

GE has employed selected legacy components with proven performance for the 3 MW platform, helping to ensure the consistent performance and reliability for which GE wind turbines are known. Turbine models within the 3 MW platform share drivetrain and electrical system architecture, with both systems scaled and upgraded for improved performance and greater energy production, as compared to previous models.

Parameters of the 3 MW Platform

GE’s 3MW platform can be customized based on nameplate, rotor diameter and hub height.
Building Upon Proven Technology

Model introduction in Europe

Built from the maturity of its predecessors, the 3 MW platform increases the capacity factor, annual energy production (AEP) and application space. Component enhancements to the 2.5 MW models have resulted in a substantial performance increase, enabling the use of a 130- and 137- meter rotor on the 3 MW series and a nameplate ranging from 3.2–3.8 MW. These enhancements include gearbox and controls improvements, and a new aerodynamic structure enabling a greater blade length (130–137 meter rotor). Crafted for high reliability, GE’s 3 MW platform offers excellent availability that is comparable to the 2.5 MW series units operating in the field today.

Technical Description

GE’s 3 MW platform machines are three-blade, upwind, horizontal axis wind turbines with a rotor diameter ranging from 130 to 137 meters. The turbine rotor and nacelle are mounted on top of a tubular steel tower, with a range of hub height options that includes 85-, 110-, 131.4-, 134- and 164.5-meter variants. The turbines use active yaw control to keep the blades pointed into the wind. The 3 MW platform is engineered to operate at variable speeds and uses a doubly fed asynchronous generator with a partial power converter system.
Specifications

3 MW Platform
- Standard and cold weather extreme options
- Standard tower corrosion protection: C2 internal and C3 external with internal and external C4/C5 options available
- Rotational direction: Clockwise viewed from an upwind location
- Speed regulation: Electric drive pitch control with battery backup
- Aerodynamic brake: Full feathering of blade pitch

GE’s 3.2-130 IEC 2B/3A
- Up to 20% higher output than GE’s 2.5-120
- Improved load management system and more efficient drive train technology
- Same electrical system as 3.2-103 turbine
- Sound power level of 106 db(A), reduced noise modes available
- Tip heights include 150 m, 175 m, and 199 m rotor

GE’s 3.8-130 IEC 2B
- Up to 30% higher output than GE’s 3.2-103
- Increased electrical rating of 3.4 MW combined with 130-meter rotor
- 107 dB(A) normal operation sound power level, reduced noise modes available
- Tip heights include 150 m, 175 m, 199 m, and 233 m

GE’s 3.6-137 IEC 3B
- Up to 28% higher output than GE’s 2.75-120
- New blade for more efficient production in low wind conditions
- Sound power level of 106 dB(A), reduced noise modes available
- Tip heights include 178.5 m, 199 m, and 223 m
Features and Benefits

• Engineered to meet or exceed the 2.5 MW platform’s historic high availability

• Available grid-friendly options:
  — Enhanced Reactive Power, Low & Zero Voltage Ride Thru, Power Factor Control, WindFreeReactive Power

• Wind Farm Control System; WindSCADA®

• Available in both 50 Hz and 60 Hz versions

Construction

Towers:
• Tubular steel sections provide a hub height of 85 m, 110 m, and 131 m
• Hybrid pre-cast concrete/tubular steel towers for multiple hub heights
• Logistic friendly tower for a hub height of 85 m, 110 m, 131.4 m, 134 m, and 164.5 m

Blades:
• 63.7-meter blades (130-meter rotor); 67.2-meter blades (137-meter rotor)

Drivetrain components:
• GE’s 3 MW platform uses an enhanced gearbox, main shaft with double bearings, and generator with appropriate improvements to enable the 130- and 137-meter diameter rotor in medium and lower wind speeds.

Enhanced Controls Technology

The 3 MW platform uses enhanced controls features:
• GE’s patented Advanced Loads Control reduces loads on turbine components by measuring stresses and individually adjusting blade pitch.

• Controls were developed by GE Global Research to reduce extreme loads, including those near rated wind speeds, to improve annual energy production (AEP).

Condition Monitoring System

GE’s Condition Monitoring System (CMS) and SCADA Anomaly Detection Services, a complementary suite of advanced condition monitoring solutions, proactively detects impending drive train and whole-turbine issues, enabling increased availability and decreased maintenance expenses. Built upon half a century of power generation drivetrain and data anomaly monitoring experience, this service solution is now standard on GE’s 3 MW platform.
POWERFUL AND EFFICIENT
PROVEN, RELIABLE WIND ENERGY SOLUTIONS YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW.

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