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**Tenova TAKRAF satisfactorily refurbished a big bucket wheel excavator in Kosovo.**

**Leipzig, March 4th, 2010.** Tenova TAKRAF has recently accomplished the refurbishment of a large bucket wheel excavator (BWE) SRs 1300, built more than 27 years ago by Tenova TAKRAF. The big machine left the erection yard perfectly in accordance with the budget and timing of the project, looking like a brand new machine and it travelled on its all new crawler tracks to its operating place in the Sibovc mine of KEK Kosovo, where it commenced to work immediately.

The complete mechanical and electrical revamping was realized in less than two years by the consortium TAKRAF/ABB/Vattenfall Mining Consulting and the local partners. The whole machine, of more than 1500t of weight, was dismantled in big portions and then refurbished or replaced in some parts to be finally reassembled and commissioned.

Under this EU financed project, ABB supplied all electrical components and Tenova TAKRAF provided the crawler, the giant slew bearing between upper and lower structure as well as the belt pulley. All of those parts were manufactured in Tenova TAKRAF's own workshop in Lauchhammer (Germany), as well as many more components to update the BWE to today's technological standards. In 2005 Tenova TAKRAF had already replaced the bucket wheel excavator's entire bucket wheel head including all drive components and today only one frequency control had to be modified. Local companies took care of the new corrosion protection, crane employment, scaffolding and the majority of the labour required for the works. This joint effort well prepared the machine for the next decades of operation in this huge coal deposit, containing more than 1 billion tons of coal reserves.

The successful completion of this job is another proof of the excellent collaboration between the coal miners in Kosovo and Tenova TAKRAF's engineers providing a valid support to the European Union to stabilize the energy supplies in the region.

Tenova designs and supplies advanced technologies, products and services for the metal and mining industries. Tenova operates close to its customers through a network of 33 companies based on the 5 continents. For more information visit our website at [www.tenovagroup.com](http://www.tenovagroup.com).