



PRESS RELEASE

Tohoku EPC joins globalCOAL

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globalCOAL® announced today that **Tohoku Electric Power Co., Inc** ('Tohoku EPC') has joined its online coal trading platform.

Based in the Miyagi Prefecture of Japan, Tohoku EPC is a power utility serving 7.6 million retail and corporate customers. At approximately 8 million tonnes per annum, the company's coal consumption is the second largest amongst Japan's power utilities. Tohoku EPC owns two coal-fired power plants; the Noshiro power plant which has a 1,200 MW capacity, and the Haramachi power plant which has a 2,000 MW capacity.

With the addition of Tohoku EPC, globalCOAL now counts 14 Market Members from Japan, representing 9% of total membership. Japan's Electric Power Development Company ('J-Power') is also a shareholder of globalCOAL.

"As one of the leading parties in the annual Japanese benchmark price negotiations, Tohoku EPC is one of the most influential power utilities in Japan, and we are delighted to receive its support", said Richard Richardson, Head of Asian Markets at globalCOAL. "In the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, coal's role in Japan's energy mix has become more critical than ever. We are pleased to see the globalCOAL online trading platform bringing additional flexibility and efficiency to the JPU's coal procurement strategy."

About globalCOAL®

globalCOAL was founded by leading members of the world coal industry to promote screen trading of standardised coal products. The company has developed the world's leading electronic marketplace for thermal coal, as well as a range of standardised coal quality specifications, a Standard Coal Trading Agreement (SCoTA®), and robust methodology for coal price index calculation. globalCOAL is also cooperating with leading energy exchange ICE Futures Europe to develop the coal Futures market. For more information, please visit www.globalcoal.com

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