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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **ORTECH – DEWI Wind Energy JV Announcement**

**TORONTO, February 24, 2006** - ORTECH and the German Wind Energy Institute (DEWI) are pleased to announce a joint venture to provide a broad range of high quality technical advisory services to the wind energy sector in North America. The purpose of the joint venture is to give investors, developers and wind farm operators in the U.S. and Canada access to world-class wind energy know-how. Emphasis will be placed on reducing uncertainty in energy output estimates, promoting consistent technical standards and providing an improved understanding of operating risks to the marketplace.

DEWI is recognized by banks and energy companies as the leader in technical know-how, due diligence advice and testing/verification services in continental Europe and world-wide. DEWI has carried out energy assessments for over 8,000 MW of installed wind generating capacity, including 1,100 MW as technical advisor to major European banks. DEWI and DEWI-OCC, the wind turbine certification branch of DEWI, also operate two unique wind turbine test facilities in northern Germany with prototype wind turbines of up to 6 MW installed power and 125 m rotor diameter which have been central to equipment certification, verification and standards setting for the wind industry world wide.

ORTECH has been providing meteorological and atmospheric testing, consulting and industry advisory services since 1953. ORTECH actively entered the wind energy sector in 2000 and has been involved in hundreds of MWs of wind and water power development projects. ORTECH offers services in wind resource assessment, project consulting, financial analysis and sector specific financial research.

“Thanks to years of hard work by our industry associations and supportive policy makers, the wind sector is now a \$1 billion+ per year investment market in North America,” said Uwe Roeper, President of ORTECH. “With wind energy moving main-stream, we must increase the level of technical know-how to better manage potential sector risks and uncertainties to ensure continued growth and success of the industry.”

Mr. Molly, President of DEWI said: "Predicting and managing the long term performance of wind farms requires quality technical know-how of the deployed equipment, the operating conditions and the wind resource. We look forward to sharing our 15-year experience with Europe's 40,000 MW install-base to help North American projects meet investor expectations."

For more information, please visit [www.ortech.ca](http://www.ortech.ca) and [www.dewi.de](http://www.dewi.de) or contact:

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