

SWISSKITEPOWER — NOVEL WIND ENERGY EXTRACTION TECHNOLOGY

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SwissKitePower is a collaborative research and development project being conducted by three Swiss technical institutes and Alstom Switzerland AG. With a recently awarded federal grant from the Competency Center for Energy and Mobility, the project aims to develop a vision of what a kite power plant will look like, how it will function and what markets it will serve. The long term goal of the project is to set the stage for the installation of a pilot plant within Switzerland which will demonstrate the functionality and long term reliability of the technology.

The roles of the project partners will be briefly presented, but the talk will focus on the kite test bench which is currently under development at FHNW. This system has been designed and constructed through a series of student projects over the past two years. Apart from serving as a useful tool for airborne wind energy research, its didactic value has also been noteworthy. An overview of the system as well as preliminary test and simulation results will be presented.



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