

## Press release

### TU Delft team wins 2011 Design Challenge with Curacao Ecopark

**Willemstad, Curaçao** (July 7, 2011) – A team of four TU Delft master students has won the prestigious 2011 Design Challenge with their design of an Ocean Energy Ecopark for Curaçao Airport. The team was assigned their project by Bluerise and Curacao Airport Holding and has studied the possible benefits the re-use of cold water from a seawater air-conditioning, or SWAC, system could bring. Their comprehensive report covers analyses of a large number of technologies, including agriculture, aquaculture, algae cultivation and electricity production. The resulting Ecopark design clusters these technologies and provides opportunity for research, educational and commercial use. The available abundant resources of Curaçao make it a very suitable location for the Ecopark.

Their winning design will be presented at the University of the Netherlands Antilles on Thursday July 7 2011 at 3:30pm.

“We are very happy the team has won.” said Mr. Maurice Adriaens, Managing Director of Curacao Airport Holding. “The conclusions and recommendations in their report confirm our expectations that an ecopark that uses the effluent cold water of a SWAC system can bring a lot of value to the airport and to the island as a whole. The team’s realistic and viable design of the Ecopark could allow local and international tenants, both in the R&D and commercial stages of their business, to use the cold water resource to grow their business. The airport sees many opportunities to involve the academic world, as we think an ecopark would bring a unique proposition for research and education on green technologies. We believe this can be very beneficial to UNA’s K-zone.”

“We are extremely proud our team has won the Design Challenge.” said Mr. Remi Blokker, CEO of Bluerise, a technology provider of Ocean Thermal Energy Systems. “The result of their six months of hard work is a balanced report where a thorough analysis of both technical and economical aspects is made. The report shows the synergetic benefits the various technologies would bring. We believe the concept of an Ocean Energy Ecopark could be a valuable contribution to the envisioned Airport City the Curacao Airport is currently working on. For future tenants, like ourselves, it would create a unique business opportunity, being one of the very few locations world-wide with this mix of renewable resources available.”

“Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion, or OTEC, can significantly contribute to a sustainable energy supply, by exploiting the vast renewable energy potential, the cold water, in our oceans.” Said Mr. Ad van Wijk, Professor of Future Energy Systems, Faculty of Applied Sciences, TU Delft. “This project is innovative and contributes significantly to the technology development of Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Technology.”

#### **About Curaçao Airport Holding N.V.**

Curaçao Airport Holding, as owner of the airport premises, is officially responsible for overseeing the Curaçao airport operator (CAP) and its adherence to the standards and agreements set forth in the agreement signed with the government of Curaçao. Curaçao Airport Holding is also responsible for the Development of the Airport City; this concerns a total of 450 ha of land adjacent to the airport which has the potential to become a sophisticated service hub

# CURAÇAO AIRPORT HOLDING N.V.

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predominantly for the (growing) Northern Latin-American market. Curaçao Airport Holding sees Curaçao International Airport as a 'Hub', connecting the Americas, transforming from an airstrip into an Airport City; a dynamic environment attracting aviation and non-aviation linked businesses of all types, stimulating and facilitating the increase of passengers and cargo traffic and creating a powerful engine for the necessary economic development of Curaçao.



**About Bluerise BV**

Bluerise is a technology provider in the emerging Ocean Thermal Energy market. Ocean Thermal Energy, with its low-cost, baseload generation capabilities, its huge potential and the possibility to generate electricity, cooling, drinking water and fuels, is on its way to become one of the leading renewable energy sources. Bluerise is closely affiliated with the Delft University of Technology and is member of the European Ocean Energy Association (EU-OEA) and the Dutch Energy from Water Association (EWA).

**Not for publication:**

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