Press Release
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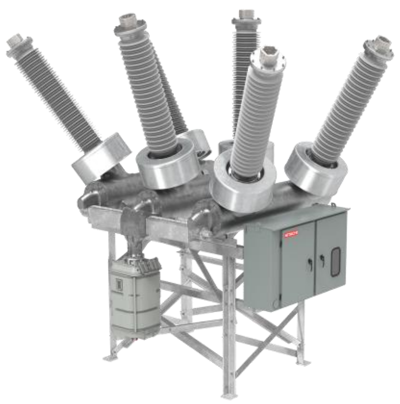
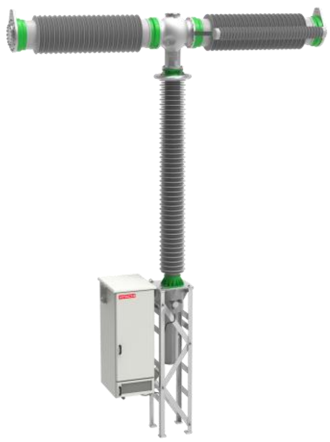
Hitachi Energy helps customers accelerate SF_6-free grid modernization with new EconiQ wins

Strong global customer momentum demonstrates rising demand for SF_6-free technologies that modernize power grids without compromising reliability.

- Customer orders include the new EconiQ 245 kV dead tank circuit breaker from Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) and Wesco in North America, and the EconiQ 420 kV 80 kA live tank circuit breaker from Tennet Germany
- Unveiled at CIGRE in Paris, the expanded EconiQ portfolio helps utilities to move away from SF_6, while supporting grid modernization and decarbonization goals





Paris, August 24, 2026 Hitachi Energy, a global leader in electrification, today announced the launch of new additions in its EconiQ® high-voltage portfolio at CIGRE 2026 in Paris, reinforcing the company’s leadership in SF_6-free technologies for the grid of the future.

As nations accelerate efforts to cut carbon emissions, replacing sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6) in power grids is a crucial step toward more sustainable infrastructure. Hitachi Energy is supporting this transition with its latest solutions, including the EconiQ 300-kilovolt (kV) circuit breaker, available as a gas-insulated switchgear (GIS) or a 245 kV dead tank circuit breaker (DTB), and the EconiQ 420 kV 80 kiloamperes (kA) live tank circuit breaker (LTA).

SF_6 remains the most widely used insulating and interrupting medium in high-voltage switchgear, prized for its performance but increasingly faulted for its negative climate impact. However, it is 24,300 times more potent than CO_2 and can linger in the atmosphere for over a millennium. These SF_6-based switchgear technologies are used in transmission and distribution networks worldwide, making them a critical part of resilient electricity systems. For utilities and corporations pursuing net-zero goals, eco-efficient technologies like Hitachi Energy’s EconiQ can help reduce the grid's environmental footprint while maintaining the reliability customers depend on every day.

EconiQ is Hitachi Energy's portfolio of SF_6-free high-voltage switchgear that has pioneered several world-first innovations. With the introduction of new voltage levels, EconiQ's footprint continues to expand, with more than 4,000 units ordered from customers in 40 different countries worldwide.

"Every SF_6-free project helps customers reduce the long-term environmental impact of their grids while continuing to deliver the safe and reliable power their communities and industries need," said Markus Heimbach, CEO of the High Voltage Products Business Unit at Hitachi Energy. "Switchgear is built to last for decades. The choices utilities make now about what goes into their substations will still be shaping grid emissions in 2060. That is exactly why we are expanding EconiQ rating by rating, so customers have proven, SF_6-free options at the voltage and performance levels they need today."

Customer wins demonstrate growing demand for SF_6-free grid technology
Both new EconiQ products have found enthusiastic acceptance from utilities seeking to stay ahead of evolving SF_6 regulations and achieve their own sustainability commitments. It demonstrates that utilities and infrastructure partners are moving from ambition to action by deploying SF_6-free technology in power grids.

In North America, Hydro One and Wesco have placed orders for the new EconiQ DTB 245 kV, highlighting the demand for sustainable grid solutions that can be deployed without compromising reliability or operational performance.

Hydro One, Ontario's largest electricity transmission and distribution service provider, is investing in infrastructure and technologies that support a reliable, resilient and sustainable electricity system. The new EconiQ 245 kV circuit breakers will help modernize Hydro One's transmission infrastructure while supporting efforts to reduce environmental impacts, strengthen grid resilience and prepare for future growth across the province.

"Ontario's electricity demand is increasing, and continued investment in innovative, sustainable solutions is critical to maintaining a reliable and resilient grid," said Lindsay Zylstra, Vice President, Supply Chain, Hydro One. "As we build and modernize Ontario's electricity system to support growth, we will continue to work with trusted suppliers that invest in Canada and Ontario. Hitachi Energy's continued expansion in the province helps strengthen our supply chain and ensures access to the equipment and technology needed to power Ontario's future."

Headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, **Wesco** is a FORTUNE 500™ company with approximately $24 billion in annual sales in 2025 and a leading provider of business-to-business distribution, logistics services, and supply chain solutions.

James Cameron, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Wesco Utility, said, "As the first purchaser of Hitachi's 550 kV EconiQ Circuit Breaker, we fully support our customers need for infrastructure that performs as reliably as existing solutions, while helping them meet their sustainability goals. The new EconiQ DTB 245 kV switchgear checks both boxes."

In Europe, transmission system operator **TenneT Germany**, following a successful EconiQ installation in Oberhaid, has ordered Hitachi Energy's new EconiQ 420 kV 80 kA live tank circuit breaker. The solution supports TenneT Germany's commitment to a lower-emission, highly reliable transmission network across Germany. Its higher fault-current rating gives the operator greater capacity to manage a grid carrying more renewable energy and cross-border power flows, while supporting the reliability of its more than 25,000 km network.

By adding 300 kV and a higher-current 420 kV rating to the EconiQ family, Hitachi Energy is giving customers more practical options to replace SF_6 across a wider range of grid applications. The expanded portfolio helps close gaps where utilities have historically had no SF_6-free alternatives, making it easier to align long-term grid investments with regulation, sustainability targets, and the energy transition.

About Hitachi Energy
Hitachi Energy is a global leader in electrification, powering the electricity era to meet the energy demands of today, and the next 25 years. As the energy arm of Hitachi Group, over three billion people depend on our pioneering, mission critical technologies to power their daily lives. With over a century of innovation, we are addressing the most urgent energy challenge of our time: driving the evolution of the world's energy system to ensure abundant, secure, affordable, and sustainable power for today's generation and the next. With an unparalleled installed base in over 140 countries, we are the grid ecosystem partner across the utility, industry, data center, and transportation sectors. Headquartered in Switzerland, we employ over 56,000 people in 60 countries and generate revenues of around $20 billion USD.
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Through its Social Innovation Business (SIB) that brings together IT, OT (Operational Technology) and products, Hitachi aims to be a global leader in continuously transforming social infrastructure through digital, contributing to a harmonized society where the environment, wellbeing, and economic growth are in balance. Hitachi operates worldwide across four sectors – Digital Systems & Services, Energy, Mobility, and Connective Industries – as well as a Strategic SIB Business Unit focused on new growth areas. With Lumada at its core, Hitachi creates value by combining data, technology and domain knowledge to solve customer and social challenges. Revenues for FY2025 (ended March 31, 2026) totaled 10,586.7 billion yen, with 606 consolidated subsidiaries and approximately 290,000 employees worldwide. Visit us at www.hitachi.com.