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News Release

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Wind Turbine Delivered To Northern Maine Community College

Aroostook County – The largest and most expensive teaching tool ever purchased by Northern Maine Community College was delivered to the campus today, Wednesday, November 28 as part of the wind power program.

A used wind turbine, which previously operated in Denmark, was loaded on a ship earlier this month bound for Presque Isle via the port in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The turbine is a 12-year-old Vestas V-25 200 kW* nacelle assembly, which will be used to train students on operation practices for community-size wind turbines.

The price of the unit (along with shipping) is \$195,000 which is being funded by a donation through the Northern Maine Community College Foundation.

“Having a major piece of equipment like this was a dream for all of us involved in the planning and creation of the wind power program five years ago,” says NMCC President Tim Crowley. “Our wind power program is already a leader in New England, and this equipment will further advance the program and most importantly, the knowledge and skills of our students.”

The nacelle is being placed in the Wind Power Technology lab on a special mounting stand so that students can learn its operation without the tower safety and weather concerns of having to climb to the nacelle. A tower and the blades are not part of this purchase; rather the nacelle and hub assemblies. The nacelle houses the generator and controls of a wind turbine responsible for its operation.

“A functional nacelle and hub assembly will provide the opportunity for students to observe and interact with a complete operating system. This is a great way for the students to practice hands-on activities with trouble shooting and maintenance,” says Wind Power Technology Instructor Wayne Kilcollins.

A large crane was utilized to move the turbine from the transport to the ground for rolling into the lab. (See photos attached)

*As a comparison, the wind turbines on Mars Hill Mountain are 1,500 kW (1.5 MW).



