

VIRTUAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AGAIN SETS OUT ON A FESTIVAL TOUR

The Interactive Lorry bearing the logo ‘Energy for Our Future’, which presents the exhibition of MVM Paks Nuclear Power Plant Ltd. and MVM Paks II Ltd., is ‘bringing’ nuclear energy to the ‘homes’ of thousands of festival-going young people and families this year, too. Visitors may also control the nuclear power plant virtually.

Again this year, several thousand festival-going young people and Hungarian families hungry for culture can become familiar with nuclear energy in greater detail, can put questions to the experts of the Paks Nuclear Power Plant and can get to know more about the operation and capacity maintenance of the Paks Nuclear Power Plant.

On the lorry, the experts of the nuclear power plant show the history, present and future of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes: visitors can become familiar with the nuclear power plants in the world, the history of the Paks Nuclear Power Plant – which has been operating safely for three decades – and plans relating to its continued operation, the Hungarian electricity grid, as well as the flora and fauna of Paks and its environs. The lorry has been touring the country already for the fifth year; with its help, nearly 200,000 people so far could become familiar with the operation of nuclear power plants, the role of nuclear-based power generation in the electricity system in Hungary and the importance of the capacity maintenance of the nuclear power plant in the national economy. In addition to informative presentations, visitors to the interactive exhibition can also try out in the ‘virtual power plant’ what it feels like to control the nuclear power plant, which accounts for more than half the energy generated in Hungary, and how the country would plunge into darkness and how the price of electricity would increase if the output of the power plant were reduced.

‘We have a number of alternatives in principle for producing electricity, but only nuclear power plants guarantee electricity generation at a predictable and competitive price, reliably, at a significant industrial scale, and without environmental pollution,’ said György Felkai, Communications Director of the MVM Group. ‘Yet in global competition, sufficient quantities of energy that can be purchased at a favourable price are a priority for all Hungarian and, in fact, European citizens and companies. In Hungary, the electricity generated at the Paks Nuclear Power Plant has been keeping the price of electricity at an affordable level for years. With their outstandingly safe operation, the four Paks units account for more than half of the electricity generated in our country, and since they do not emit pollutants into the atmosphere, they save the oxygen demand of two million people every year, i.e. the annual oxygen output of forests in Hungary. For this very reason, it is important to ensure that when the operating nuclear power plant units will have to be shut down, the new units constructed to replace them will already be available.’

One of the principal goals of the interactive exhibition illustrating the Paks Nuclear Power Plant and the use of nuclear energy is to provide hands-on information to families and young people about the safe and economic implementation of lifetime extension and capacity maintenance.

In July, August and at the beginning of September, festival-going young people can become familiar with nuclear energy even between two concerts at the VOLT Festival held in Sopron, the EFOTT Festival organised this year in Miskolctapolca and the Szeged Youth Days Festival. Fans of arts and cultural events can encounter the interactive exhibition of the nuclear power plant in the Valley of Arts in Kaposvár and at the Debrecen Flower Carnival, the Szerencs Chocolate Festival and the Nyíregyháza Vidor Festival.