Nabtesco (headquarters: Chiyoda-ku Tokyo; President & CEO: Kazuaki Kotani) is pleased to announce that it has received an order for our solar tracking azimuth drive equipment from an EPC solar power plant construction company, Cobra Thermosolar Plants Inc. (headquarters: USA). The equipment will be installed at the Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Plant, Tonopah, Nevada in USA (details on the following page), of which Cobra Thermosolar Plants Inc. has been contracted for the EPC.

The central receiver method is considered to be the most promising among the various types of solar thermal power generation technologies that also include parabolic trough and dish stirling. The solar tracking azimuth drive equipment enables heliostats to track the sun to collect and reflect the sun’s rays to the central receiver of solar thermal power plants. Delivery of the equipment is to be completed by March in 2013.

Nabtesco has a track record as the world’s largest supplier of precision reduction gears for industrial robots, and will now take this opportunity to expand its business into the solar thermal market.

*Solar Thermal Power Tower Plant (image)
[About Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Plant]

Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Plant is a central receiver power plant with a generating capacity of 110 MW. Its construction in Tonopah, Nevada has been commissioned by Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC. Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC, is the operator of the plant and an affiliate of US-based SolarReserve, LLC, a major developer in the solar thermal power generating business.

[About SolarReserve]

SolarReserve, LLC – headquartered in Santa Monica, Calif. – is a solar energy project development company developing large-scale solar energy projects worldwide.

SolarReserve’s 110 MW Crescent Dunes solar energy project, currently under construction in Nevada, is the largest project of its kind in the world and sets the new standard for solar energy storage technology with electricity generation double that of comparably sized photovoltaic, direct steam and trough-style solar thermal facilities. SolarReserve’s molten salt, concentrating solar power tower technology was successfully demonstrated in California under a U.S. Department of Energy-sponsored pilot project in the late 1990s.

*The solar tracking equipment (Azimuth drive) on the rear of a heliostat (image)