

BOSKALIS BOKALIFT 2 COMPLETES FIRST FOUNDATION INSTALLATION FOR REVOLUTION WIND

The first XXL monopile foundation for Ørsted's Revolution Wind offshore wind farm has been successfully installed by Boskalis' crane vessel Bokalift 2.

Boskalis is set to install 66 more XXL monopiles and two offshore substations. In the coming months, a variety of specialized vessels and tools will be deployed for the Revolution Wind project.

The Bokalift 2 is primarily used for installing the XXL monopiles, while the Bokalift 1 will handle the installation of secondary steel components around the foundations. Additionally, Boskalis' semi-submersible heavy transport vessels will transport the monopiles to the wind farm site.



WORLD-FIRST 18MW WIND TURBINE INSTALLED IN CHINA

The quest to construct and operate the world's largest wind turbines has reached a new milestone with the installation of an 18MW giant at a coastal testing center in southeast China.

Dongfang Electric Corporation, a state-owned power equipment and services firm, announced that it had successfully installed an 18MW semi-direct drive high-power offshore wind turbine at a coastal wind power test base in Shantou City, Guangdong Province.

This massive turbine, with a diameter of 260 meters and a blade swept area of 53,000 square meters, is expected to generate 72GWh of electricity annually, meeting the power demands of 36,000 households.

For perspective, the 53,000 square meter blade swept area is equivalent to 7.4 standard soccer fields, while the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) playing field covers around 20,000 square meters.

Dongfang Electric Corporation projects that a single 18MW turbine will save over 22,000 tonnes of standard coal and cut carbon dioxide emissions by more than 59,000 tonnes each year.

Additionally, the efficiency of 18MW wind turbines reduces the number of turbines needed for a wind farm, thereby lowering construction, operation, and maintenance costs.

This installation follows the 2023 competition between China Three Gorges Corporation and Ming Yang Smart Energy to install and operate a 16MW wind turbine. China Three Gorges claimed victory in September by successfully installing and operating a 16MW turbine for at least 24 hours.





JUMBO OFFSHORE COMPLETES MONOPILE REMOVAL IN TAIWAN

Dutch heavy lift shipping and offshore transport and installation contractor Jumbo Offshore has successfully completed the removal of two monopiles at the Yunlin offshore wind farm in Taiwan.

The operation was conducted using Jumbo Offshore's DP2 heavy lift crane vessel, Fairplayer, which was deployed from Europe to assist with the onsite tasks.

Jumbo Offshore secured the contract from Yunneng Wind Power (YWPC) earlier in 2024 for the monopile removal at the Yunlin offshore wind farm.

This contract marked an expansion of Jumbo Offshore's existing responsibilities, which included the transportation and installation (T&I) of transition pieces.

The additional project scope required the removal of two monopiles that had previously experienced a pile run during an earlier phase. This process involved underwater cutting of the monopiles into sections, followed by their recovery, transport, and offloading. The Fairplayer vessel was equipped with an underwater abrasive cutting and lifting tool from Claxton Engineering Services, along with an ROV from IKM subsea and survey equipment from Reach Rubsea.

Using this equipment, the Fairplayer successfully removed the monopiles. The individual sections were then transported in the vessel's cargo hold to a local port in Taiwan and offloaded at the quayside.

The entire project took five months to complete, including the vessel's journey from Europe to Taiwan.

"The close interaction of the project teams facilitated an efficient execution, within tight schedule and budget constraints. The hands-on project management approach, combined with in-house technical expertise, resulted in a well-coordinated monopile removal campaign. We look forward to continuing the close collaboration with Jumbo Offshore until the remaining work scopes on the Yunlin project are completed," said Jochem Tacx, Package Manager at YWPC.





APOLLO AND DOF UNVEIL PIONEERING £145K STUDY ON GIGAWATT-SCALE FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND INSTALLATION

In a major development for the offshore renewable energy industry, Apollo and DOF, in partnership with the ORE Catapult's Floating Offshore Wind Centre of Excellence (FoWCoE), have released the findings of a pioneering £145k study on methods for installing gigawatt-scale floating offshore wind farms.

The installation of a single, cutting-edge floating offshore wind turbine (FOWT) marks a significant achievement in marine operations. However, developing gigawatt-scale floating wind farms, which would require about sixty FOWTs, presents a tremendous scaling challenge.

Apollo and DOF, together with ORE Catapult, conducted a thorough study to tackle the unprecedented challenges involved in scaling up floating offshore wind turbines (FOWTs) to gigawatt-scale wind farms.



WORLD'S FIRST E-METHANOL-POWERED SERVICE VESSEL LAUNCHED

On June 1st, the world witnessed the launch of NB1094, the first service operation vessel powered by e-methanol, at Cemre Shipyard. This innovative vessel is a result of investments by Danish shipping company ESVAGT and offshore wind developer Ørsted.

Esvagt's groundbreaking project aims to revolutionize offshore wind service by promoting carbon-neutral and environmentally friendly solutions.

The vessel features batteries and dual fuel and pure methanol engines, enabling it to sail on renewable e-methanol derived from wind energy and biogenic carbon. This will result in an annual reduction of approximately 4,500 tonnes of CO2 emissions. By operating carbon-neutrally, NB1094 sets a new standard for "green vessels" in the industry.

Measuring 93 meters in length, this state-of-the-art vessel will accommodate 124 people and adhere to DNV classification rules while sailing under the Danish flag. The service operation vessel (SOV) will support Hornsea 2, the world's largest offshore wind farm, located off the Yorkshire coast in the North Sea.

To ensure crew comfort and safety, Esvagt has equipped the vessel with high-standard accommodations and spaces for recreational activities. The vessel will provide an efficient workspace and facilitate the safe transfer of technicians at the wind farm using a motion-compensated gangway, transfer boats, and a crane for lifting heavy spare parts.







HANWHA OCEAN UNVEILS CADELER'S FIRST M-CLASS MEGA JACK-UP VESSEL

The vessel was designed by Gusto MSC

The inaugural M-class wind turbine installation vessel for Cadeler, named Wind Maker, has been launched at Hanwha Ocean's shipyard in South Korea, according to offshoreWind.

Eneti, which merged with Cadeler last year, ordered two Gusto MSC NG16000X jack-up vessels from Hanwha Ocean, formerly Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering, in 2021.

Designed by Gusto MSC, the Wind Maker is equipped with a 2,600-tonne leg encircling crane from Huisman Equipment. This jack-up vessel is engineered to install turbines with capacities up to 20 MW at water depths of up to 65 meters. It can operate using either liquefied natural gas (LNG) or ammonia as alternative fuels.

Previously known as Nessie, Wind Maker is scheduled for delivery in the first quarter of 2025. Upon delivery, it will head directly to its first project at the Greater Changhua Offshore Wind Farm in Taiwan.



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FOUNDATION INSTALLATION BEGINS ON DOGGER BANK B

The team working on the world's largest offshore wind farm, Dogger Bank, has initiated the foundation installation campaign for the second phase of the project.

Seaway7's vessels Seaway Strashnov and Seaway Alfa Lift have started installing monopile foundations and transition pieces for Dogger Bank B. This follows the recent completion of all 95 transition pieces for Dogger Bank A, marking the end of the first phase's foundation installation.

Olly Cass, Project Director for Dogger Bank Wind Farm, remarked:

"These installation milestones represent years of dedication and hard work from our team and partners. As the largest wind farm of its kind, incorporating new turbine technology, we have developed innovative design and engineering solutions that will influence future offshore wind construction worldwide. We extend our gratitude to all the companies and individuals who have contributed to this achievement."

Wouter van Dalen, Project Director at Seaway7, added:

"We are pleased to have Seaway Strashnov back on the project to start foundation installation on Dogger Bank B, following its successful performance on Dogger Bank A. Our new heavy lift vessel, Seaway Alfa Lift, introduced to the project in October, operated through challenging weather to install transition pieces on Dogger Bank A, and now continues this work in phase B. Our collaboration with Dogger Bank Wind Farm and our subcontractors has been key to the excellent progress of the foundation installation."

The monopile foundations and transition pieces are critical for supporting GE Vernova's groundbreaking 13MW Haliade-X turbines. Manufactured by Sif and Smulders, these structures are being installed 80 miles off the Yorkshire coast by Seaway7. Monopiles, which are large-diameter steel tubes, are placed into the seabed using dynamic positioning technology. Each monopile weighs up to 1,424 tonnes and can reach lengths of up to 72.8 meters. Dogger Bank transition pieces feature a unique split-level design for safe installation and operation, with a record-breaking 8m flange connecting the monopiles and transition pieces.

This offshore milestone on Dogger Bank B follows the successful installation of the offshore HVDC platform for the wind farm's second phase in April.

A total of 277 monopiles and transition pieces will be installed across all three phases of the wind farm, with completion expected by 2026.

Steel for the transition pieces is being supplied by Tata Steel in Wales and processed in Corby and Hartlepool. South Tyneside-based Metec and Rochdale-based Granada Material Handling have also secured contracts with Smulders to support this innovative and world-leading project.

Designed in the UK by experts from Wood Thilsted, Dogger Bank Wind Farm's foundations have been optimized to withstand challenging wave loads in the Dogger Bank area of the North Sea, with installations in water depths of up to 32m and a minimum distance of 130km from shore.





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