



SCOTLAND'S OFFSHORE WIND SECTOR

SUPPLY CHAIN IMPACT 2020
A SNAPSHOT





- 1 LEASK MARINE
- 2 GREEN MARINE
- 3 PORT OF CROMARTY FIRTH
- 4 GLOBAL ENERGY GROUP
- 5 FRASERBURGH HARBOUR
- 6 FIRST SUBSEA
- 7 DEKRA
- 8 RIGMAR
- 9 STORMGEO
- 10 TVP FILM & MULTIMEDIA
- 11 GIBB SAFETY
- 12 MONTROSE BAG COMPANY
- 13 UTILITY ROV SERVICES
- 14 PICT OFFSHORE
- 15 BRIGGS MARINE
- 16 PARTRAC
- 17 HALO COMMUNICATIONS
- 18 AERIAL VISION
- 19 EDEN SCOTT
- 20 SCOTTISH OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY COUNCIL
- 21 SHEPHERD AND WEDDERBURN
- 22 MERRICK TRAINING



AS SCOTLAND'S OFFSHORE WIND SECTOR CONTINUES TO GROW, AND WITH THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT SETTING OUT THAT 11GW OF DEPLOYMENT BY 2030 "IS POSSIBLE IN SCOTTISH WATERS BY 2030", IT'S NO WONDER THAT THIS YEAR'S SUPPLY CHAIN IMPACT REPORT IS MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN EVER.



The dedication, ingenuity and skill of companies from the very south west of Scotland to our northern isles is helping tap the economic and environmental benefits from our truly remarkable offshore wind resource.

With projects like Neart na Gaoithe, Seagreen and Moray East under construction and Kincardine, the European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre in Aberdeen Bay, Beatrice and more generating power, the number of contracts awarded to businesses involved in sectors as diverse as TV production, safety and survival and weather forecasting has grown in 2020, and will continue to do so.

This publication, the second in what will be a developing series, brings together a snapshot of those companies. The energy transition is now well underway in Scotland, with renewables providing the equivalent of 90% of the country's electricity consumption, and we have far more to do on renewable heat and transport. As that transition accelerates, as it must if we are to tackle climate change, the opportunity for businesses like these to become involved in our industry are enormous.

Scottish Renewables is working alongside economic development agencies and both governments to ensure that the pathway for them to do so is clear and stable. A new section in this document looks at the work of both the Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council and the DeepWind and Forth and Tay Offshore clusters which work alongside it. These organisations have been formed as collaborations between the private and public sectors with the health of indigenous supply chain companies at their heart, and as they develop I'm confident that we will see many more of those companies appear in the pages of this publication in coming years.

Claire Mack
Chief Executive
Scottish Renewables

UTILITY ROV SERVICES

Utility ROV Services was awarded a contract to conduct boulder relocation and post-clearance survey works on the Moray East Offshore Wind Farm.

The firm, which has its HQ in Glenrothes, Fife, supplies remotely-operated units which can be used for underwater tasks such as cutting and dredging.

It specialises in renewables, offshore oil and gas and decommissioning.

The 2019 deal brought with it a period of growth that saw the company recruit four additional full-time employees who provide support to the key areas of its business: projects, equipment support and engineering.

In 2020 the company, which employs around 40 people, has worked on offshore wind projects including Hornsea Two, Triton Knoll, Kriegers Flak and East Anglia ONE.

URS, which was launched in 2013, also returned to the Moray East Offshore Wind Farm for a second phase of route-clearance operations.

The company has also been investing heavily to develop its tooling technology into dredging and underwater vehicles which will be used in high-current and shallow-water areas.

It has also worked on the Beatrice and Nearth na Gaoithe projects, as well as the Kincardine Offshore Wind Farm – part of a new wave of floating projects.

Patrick Crawford, URS Managing Director, said: “I’m delighted with the year we have had, especially given the current circumstances. Our rate of development and continuous innovation has been paramount to our success, ensuring that we diversify with every passing project.”

“I’M EXTREMELY PROUD OF THE COMMITMENT AND DETERMINATION THAT THE TEAM HAS SHOWN. THEY HAVE RISEN TO THE CHALLENGE AND DELIVERED PROJECTS TO AN EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH STANDARD, EVEN WHILST WORKING REMOTELY THROUGHOUT A PERIOD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INSTABILITY.”



RIGMAR

Building on the success of its contract award from Vattenfall in 2019, offshore services firm Rigmar has completed its second season of work on the European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre in Aberdeen Bay.

The Aberdeen-based company has had further contract awards in the offshore wind sector, including being engaged to carry out various underwater surveys, inspection tasks and maintenance activities on two other offshore wind farms in North East Scotland.

Rigmar’s CEO Keith Nelson said: “Despite these challenging times, thanks to the hard work of everyone at Rigmar and the excellent relationships that we have with our customers, we have been kept very busy this year and our offshore teams are delivering great results.”

“Consequently, we are able to invest in this sector and will be introducing new service lines in 2021.”



SHEPHERD AND WEDDERBURN

Shepherd and Wedderburn has advised developers throughout the delivery of a number of Round 3 and Scottish offshore wind projects, with its Clean Energy Group supporting the delivery, financing, operations and maintenance of offshore wind farms across the country.

The leading clean energy law firm is at the heart of the renewable energy industry, working on projects including Moray East, Moray West, Nearth na Gaoithe, Hornsea One and Hornsea Two.

Across its offices in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, London and Dublin, the firm has more than 90 specialist lawyers and 30 years’ experience working in the energy sector.

In addition, its lawyers are also advising on consents, property and regulatory matters for East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO for ScottishPower Renewables.

The firm’s Head of Clean Energy, Clare Foster, said: “Shepherd and Wedderburn remains at the forefront of the offshore wind sector as we move forward on the new offshore wind licensing rounds.”



CLARE FOSTER, SHEPHERD AND WEDDERBURN



PORT OF CROMARTY FIRTH

The Port of Cromarty Firth has recently invested £31 million in a 45,000-square-metre quayside expansion spurred on by Scotland’s future pipeline of offshore wind developments, supporting hundreds of jobs across the country.

The latest infrastructure investment will create a new 372-metre berth with a minimum water depth of 12 metres and more than more than 100,000 square metres of accompanying laydown area.

THESE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS COME AS PART OF A £50 MILLION INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BY THE PORT OVER THE PAST SEVEN YEARS TO SUPPORT THE OFFSHORE ENERGY INDUSTRY

These latest developments come as part of a £50 million infrastructure investment by the port over the past seven years to support the offshore energy industry and, together with other facilities throughout the Cromarty Firth, create a renewables hub.

The Cromarty Firth is perfectly placed to capitalise on the future offshore wind developments identified in Crown Estate Scotland’s ScotWind Leasing round.

In total, 14 of the 15 proposed project sites are close to the Port, which operates within the sheltered deep water of the Cromarty Firth, one of the UK’s finest natural harbours.

With extensive offshore engineering, manufacturing and logistics expertise, the Cromarty Firth’s local supply chain has developed significant experience in offshore renewables.

This is a result of the integral role which the Port has played in the Beatrice and Kincardine offshore wind farms, as well as more than 40 years supporting the offshore oil and gas industry.

Chief Executive Bob Buskie said: “Establishing a renewables hub in the Cromarty Firth will create sustainable employment opportunities and bring economic benefits to the region.”

MONTROSE BAG COMPANY

Montrose Rope and Sail, a family business founded in 1789, is one of the oldest firms in the Angus town.

Its offshoot, the Montrose Bag Company, has moved beyond its traditional roots and now provides staff and contractors working on the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm with kit bags, designed in a variety of sizes. The locally-made bags are used by crew for carrying items such as clothing and supplies which are needed for work both offshore and onshore.

The firm pair traditional handcraft skills with modern technology to produce the 100% waterproof PVC bags in a wide variety of shapes, colours and sizes that can be personalised or custom made to suit.

The majority of bags produced are bespoke and feature company logos. Offshore work began in the oil and gas sector, however the company anticipate orders in renewables to continue to rise as offshore wind sector continues to grow.

The company, which employs 21 people, uses skilled craftspeople and sources materials locally whenever possible.

As it designs, develops and manufactures in-house it is able to design new tailored products in the renewables sector.

Montrose Bag Company also recently became a member of the Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group with a view to expanding its network in offshore renewable energy.

Neil Paton, Managing Director of Montrose Bag Company, said: “One of the reasons we have been so widely used by the oil and gas sector is that as a locally-based company we can turn around bags very quickly and use sophisticated computerised systems to ensure high quality and consistency time and time again.

“Offshore wind is becoming a really important market for us every year, which is reflected in Scottish projects like NnG making enquiries about our wide range of bags.”



BRIGGS MARINE

With its headquarters in Burntisland, Fife, Briggs is ideally located to support the development, construction, operation and maintenance phases of Scottish offshore wind farms.

The company has a proven track record in successfully delivering projects across the marine sector, in particular subsea cable installation and maintenance, cable route planning and preparation, construction, engineering support, diving, survey, vessel charter, aids to navigation and environmental response.

With a range of clients across the energy, defence and port sectors, Briggs has developed a depth of knowledge and experience during its 50 years in business that is unmatched in this sector.

Briggs' well established supply chain delivers efficiency, certainty and value for money across the renewable energy industry.

In 2019, Briggs Marine began working on the Neart na Gaoithe project, providing nine demarcation buoys to show the perimeter of the wind farm site. Briggs' vessels were also used during the export cable preparatory work in 2020.



Briggs continues to provide support to renewable energy projects across the UK and is expecting this area of business to continue to grow.

With its own fleet of coastal workboats, cable storage and cable handling equipment, dive spreads, survey vessels and lifting equipment, Briggs is well equipped to carry out the subsea and seabed preparation tasks such as pre-lay grapnel runs, route clearance, unexploded ordnance survey and ground investigation.

For major installation projects, Briggs' teams regularly conduct shore-end installation and seabed stabilisation packages.

Briggs' Subsea & Environmental Director, Craig English, said: "The start of a large offshore wind project can be the most challenging phase and minimising risks is critical."

"We operate maintenance agreements for subsea infrastructure with several renewable energy providers, working across north west Europe to keep renewable energy flowing."

BRIGGS CONTINUES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS ACROSS THE UK AND IS EXPECTING THIS AREA OF BUSINESS TO CONTINUE TO GROW.

TVP FILM AND MULTIMEDIA

Working from a head office in Aberdeen, the TVP team are experts in video production, 3D animation and aerial imagery.

TVP, established in 1983, has a long history of working in the oil and gas industry, and ventured into the renewables sector in 2015.

The company started working with the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm in 2019, producing a health and safety induction film for the project's new contractors.

A family business, TVP also produce conceptual animations which allow people to view 3D models of proposed wind farm sites. These animations show in specific detail how a wind farm will look from different locations, viewpoints and flythroughs.

STORMGEO

StormGeo is playing an important role in the development and construction of the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm.

From its base in Aberdeen StormGeo has a team of 39 dedicated experts who provide weather intelligence and advanced data to a range of sectors.

The company started work on NnG in 2019, providing the project with four daily weather forecasts and access to a web-based portal which can be viewed anywhere, anytime. The portal contains the most up-to-date weather charts and data, providing information which allows the NnG project team to make important decisions on which vessels can navigate in and around the site of the offshore wind farm.

Depending on the vessel, some can operate at wave heights of 3.5 metres, while others can only operate when waves reach a maximum height of 1.5 metres. In Scotland, approximately 15% of StormGeo's work comes from renewable energy, but that is expected to increase as the sector grows.

Ricky Wood Jnr, a director at TVP, told how a fifth of the company's business is now in the green energy sector.

He said: "We have really enjoyed working with the NnG project team and are happy that the health and safety film we produced was so popular."

"The growth of the renewable energy sector has been huge for us and we estimate that around 20% of our business is now within the industry."

"Having worked on a number of offshore wind farms, we really hope many more doors in this industry will open for us."

Alan Binley, Managing Director of StormGeo, said: "We've been working on NnG for just over a year now providing regular weather forecasts to the project team."

"We use model-driven data and artificial intelligence to create the most accurate forecasts possible. This allows the NnG project team to make important decisions each day knowing they have the most up-to-date information at hand."

"Because of working on huge projects like NnG, we have seen the renewable energy side of our business grow to become a major focus for us in Scotland."





FRASERBURGH HARBOUR

The Moray East Offshore Wind Farm's two-storey operations and maintenance hub is currently being built by Muir Construction, with completion expected in the summer of 2021.

The major new facility at Fraserburgh Harbour, which is being constructed on the quayside, will be the base from which the wind farm will be operated and maintained.

This building, when complete, will contain a marine co-ordination centre, a 24-7 operational control room, a maintenance workshop and stores, associated admin offices and staff welfare facilities.

It will also oversee the coordination of main component exchanges, the management of all spares and logistics, management of marine co-ordination activities and the management of procurement and supply chain activities.

A marine coordination centre has also been constructed by the developer at Fraserburgh Harbour's Middle Jetty and includes a 60-metre pontoon, quayside crane and fuel storage facility to service the crew transfer vessels involved in the transport of personnel and equipment to the wind farm.

Temporary offices and welfare facilities are also located within this area. This facility has been operational since the middle of August 2020 and will be utilised during the construction of the wind farm, and will also be used for the operation and maintenance phase of the facility when operational

A SPOKESMAN SAID: "FRASERBURGH HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS ARE PLEASED TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS DEVELOPMENT AND WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTINUE TO BRING BY MEANS OF EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS, SUPPLY CHAIN OPPORTUNITIES, AS WELL AS THE ASSOCIATED BENEFITS TO THE WIDER ECONOMY."



AERIAL VISION

Drone services provider Aerial Vision has had another busy year.

The Lanark firm maintained its high-quality unmanned aerial service system throughout 2020.

In this year's inspection season its work with Equinor, working offshore from the port of Wells-Next-The-Sea in Norfolk, highlighted the need for attention to detail and safe working practices on small vessels during the coronavirus pandemic.

Its working practices were so effective that they were rolled-out to the entire fleet servicing the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm.

The firm won the coveted SSE Offshore UAS Blade Inspection contract to inspect SSE wind turbine blades over, at least, the next three years.



It also supported SSE throughout the Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm's construction phase.

Aerial Vision is now working to ready itself for further inspection work on offshore wind farms as well as onshore sites in Europe, the UK and Scotland.

Aerial Vision has also invested in research and development and has integrated automation into new, purpose-built aircraft to be used for inspection duties on offshore wind farms.



EDEN SCOTT

Eden Scott is one of the country's leading independent recruitment firms, particularly in the green energy market.

In 2020 it has seen a spike of companies who have traditionally been focussed on the oil and gas sector moving into offshore wind and floating offshore wind, especially following the launch of ScotWind Leasing.

And it has seen firms rapidly adopt their engagement model to partner with developers who have a track record in the sector, including EDF Renewables and SSE Renewables.

Eden Scott has also seen an increased appetite for remote working post-COVID-19 which has widened its talent pool.

Michelle Lownie, COO and co-founder of Eden Scott said: "It is an incredibly exciting time for the renewables industry.

"COP26, the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November, is going to shine a light on this country and our approach to climate change like never before.

"Thankfully it is top of the agenda for both the UK and

Scottish Governments, but what is more encouraging is the phenomenal talent we have in this country.

"The global demand for the knowledge and skills we have is incredible. Equally exciting is growth we are seeing in the number of start-ups operating in this sector.

"THIS COUNTRY'S ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT HAS DEFINITELY ENGULFED THE RENEWABLES SECTOR, AND EDEN SCOTT IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HELPING THE MANY EXCITING RENEWABLE BUSINESSES FIND THE VERY BEST TALENT TO GROW."



GLOBAL ENERGY GROUP

Global Energy Group is at the forefront of Scotland’s offshore wind journey and has invested £90 million in Scotland in the past nine years.

The Inverness-based firm has established itself as one of the major players in the renewable energy sector. It has secured major storage and marshalling contracts for offshore wind at its Port of Nigg facility in the Cromarty Firth for both Beatrice and Moray East offshore wind farms, serving as a staging port for 103 foundation jacket structures before they are transported out to Moray East.

The facility, which is ideally located to support ScotWind Leasing sites, will see work on a new multi-million-pound 800ft quayside expansion, giving much-needed space to deliver on growing clean energy opportunities. The ambitious company has spent £50 million on its Port of Nigg site since acquiring it in 2011.

Chairman Roy MacGregor believes the strategic location and investment made at the site to date mean it’s in a perfect location to be at the centre of the future of clean energy, creating further job opportunities as well as bringing much-needed sustainable economic benefits to the local area.

He said: “With a busy schedule of planned wind farm

developments in Scotland and the rest of the UK, the continued investment being made at the Port of Nigg will help secure Scotland’s place on the map for the delivery of clean energy.

“Global now has great experience in this work and this will further establish the Port of Nigg as an important port supporting the offshore wind industry.”

Executive Director of Renewables & Energy Transition, Iain Sinclair, added: “Global Energy Group’s skills and experience, coupled with our world-class facility at the Port of Nigg, puts us in a great position to truly impact the energy transition.

“Together with the new East Quay and 19 additional acres of reclaimed land, Global has ambitious plans for further developments that will secure our position as a major player within the renewable industry, creating jobs and opportunities for years to come.”

MERRICK TRAINING

During construction of the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm members of the project team must manoeuvre off-road vehicles in tough driving conditions and navigate through narrow access roads in rural locations.

Merrick Training, based in Dumfries and Galloway, has provided a comprehensive programme of practical and classroom exercises to help them do so safely since 2019.



The specialists make sure the NnG staff have all the skills needed to drive the 4x4s in challenging conditions.

Alistair McGarry, Director and Senior Instructor, said: “We are excited to see the renewable sector grow in the way it has and as we see more offshore wind farms like NnG go into construction we would love to be a big part of it.

“COVID-19 has created uncertainty for a lot of businesses, but we do know that there will always be a need for training.”

HALO COMMUNICATIONS

Halo Communications provides voice, data and IT services for infrastructure projects across the UK, and became involved with Neart na Gaoithe project when its engineers assessed the feasibility of establishing cable routes and access to the site.

The connectivity provided by Halo via a series of cabling, 4G, satellites and IP addresses now means the wind farm can be managed and operated remotely - something which - is particularly important during winter storms.

Once the telecommunications are in place and NnG is operational in 2023, Halo will continue to work on the project, providing round-the-clock technical support and maintaining and upgrading the technology as and when required.

The company, based in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, works across many sectors throughout the UK and Ireland. The 12-strong team made its first foray into the renewable energy sector five years ago with consultancy work for EDF Renewables on the Fallago Rig onshore wind farm.

Managing Director Allan Moffat said: “We’re now nearly a decade working in the renewable energy sector and projects like Neart na Gaoithe have become a big part of our business.

“Just as wind turbine technology is continuing to evolve at a fast pace, our industry is fast-moving too and it’s imperative that we keep up with the latest technology and telecommunications on an ongoing basis.”



PARTRAC

Glasgow-based marine data acquisition company Partrac has been working on the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm since 2009.

It specialises in providing oceanography, marine geosciences and environmental services for engineering and energy projects.

NnG was the first offshore wind farm the firm had worked on, and it has since grown from a team of three to 20 after securing further work in the renewable energy sector.

Partrac's surveys are essential to NnG. To measure the height and force of the waves and the water depth at the wind farm the Partrac team place specialist buoys in the sea – one at the wind farm site's northernmost tip and one at the southernmost tip.

These 'fitbits for the sea' track the surface of the water, collecting data which is broken down and analysed.

This allows the NnG project team to make vital decisions on when it is safe to install turbines and when personnel can safely access them.

PICT OFFSHORE

Fife-based Pict Offshore is a new joint venture between Ørsted, the world's largest developer of offshore wind, and Limpet Technology, a Scottish height safety innovator.

Its first product, the 'Get Up Safe' system, is a heave-compensated personnel hoist aimed at transforming the way that maintenance technicians access offshore wind turbines. Each high-tech system resembles a small crane, assembled at a bespoke facility in Inverkeithing, with fabricated parts sourced from local suppliers.

In October 2020 Pict announced a multimillion-pound contract to supply 165 Get Up Safe systems to Ørsted's Hornsea Two offshore wind farm. The presence of a GUS system on each turbine at Hornsea Two makes it the first offshore wind farm to entirely design-out boat landing structures on the turbine's foundations. With the GUS

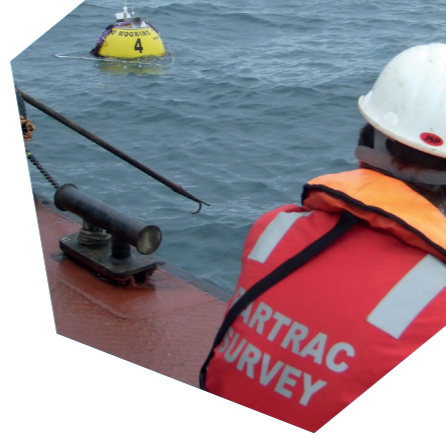
The firm also specialises in dredge monitoring, innovative marine technology and offers coastal and marine consultancy.

Sam Athey, Commercial Director and Co-founder, said: "You can't construct a wind farm without information on sea conditions."

"NnG was the first offshore wind farm we worked on and it has opened up new opportunities for our company."

"We are now well-established in the industry and our company does 50% of its business in the renewable energy sector."

"This is just the tip of the iceberg. With a UK Government target to reach 40GW of capacity from offshore wind by 2030, technologies evolving, and more floating wind farms expected to be built, we expect to see significant growth over the next decade."



system used to transfer technicians, ladders are no longer necessary, streamlining the foundation and reducing steelwork requirements.

Pict's Managing Director, Philip Taylor, said "Ørsted's decision to deploy the GUS system at Hornsea Two is a bold and transformative move designed to increase safety and reduce costs for the next generation of offshore wind farms. With other offshore wind developers now taking a strong interest in the system, we think that it's a vision that will be shared by the industry."

LEASK MARINE

Leask Marine remains at the forefront of the offshore wind industry - working on over 22 offshore wind farms across Europe and, from 2019, North America.

Operating from Kirkwall in Orkney the company offers vessel charter, commercial diving and international marine construction services.

Leask Marine is involved in almost every major offshore wind project in Scotland and northern Europe.

The company has accumulated over 57,972 hours of operations for over 21 Tier One contractors and completed projects for 15 global renewable energy utility businesses such as Ørsted, ScottishPower Renewables, Vattenfall, E.ON, EnBW, EDPR, and EDF Renewables.

GIBB SAFETY AND SURVIVAL

Gibb Safety & Survival was selected to provide the Neart na Gaoithe project with Personal Protective Equipment as well as safety and survival apparatus.

Gibb Safety and Survival is one of the most experienced and qualified suppliers in the offshore energy sector.

With its headquarters in Aberdeen, the company has around 30 staff in Scotland and began working on NnG in 2019, supplying the project with workwear, clothing and marine survival equipment.

Gibb Safety and Survival also provides the project team who work offshore with working at height equipment and a full scope of other personal protective equipment.

Leask has just completed horizontal directional drilling work on the Moray East Offshore Wind Farm and diver-supported cable cleaning and bend stiffener installation at London Array offshore wind farm.

Other projects have included the Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm in the Moray Firth, Dogger Bank and ScottishPower Renewables' East Anglia ONE and TWO offshore wind farms.

Leask Marine is also only one of three firms in the UK that have to date received the coveted Fit 4 Offshore Renewables accreditation - a programme developed with industry input to provide a unique way in which the UK supply chain can bid for work in the offshore renewable energy sector.

It continually supports projects like Beatrice, Moray East and others in construction.

Managing Director Douglas Leask said: "The company is going to keep expanding in the offshore wind sector, with its innovations, knowledge and experience being called upon across the globe."



In addition to providing workwear and equipment, the company also service and manage all equipment they provide the project in house at their state of the art facilities.

Gibb Safety and Survival comes from a background in the oil and gas sector but the business has adapted its model over the past 15 years to allow it to play a part in offshore wind developments, becoming a leading distributor and specialist in the sector, supporting projects like Beatrice, Moray East and others during their construction..

The firm also invests in the local economy and supports young people through an extensive apprenticeship scheme.

Lee Sparkes, Gibb Safety & Survival's European Sales Manager, said: "With an ever-growing reputation for its customer-first approach, working on a project like NnG will prove invaluable for us as we move forward to an exciting future."



FIRST SUBSEA

Mooring experts First Subsea are going from strength to strength, having developed quick, simple and failsafe methods to connect mooring and power cables to offshore wind turbines.

The company won the contract to provide the bend stiffener, connector assemblies and platform mooring connectors to what will become the world's largest floating offshore wind farm.

The company, part of Aberdeen-based First Tech Group, supplied critical key parts used in vessel station-keeping and cable protection for the Kincardine Offshore Wind Farm, operated by Cobra Group.

First Subsea's platform mooring connector was developed specifically to address the shortfall in mooring technology in the floating offshore wind market.



The connector allows the mooring lines to be pre-laid on the seabed prior to the arrival of the wind turbine structure, eliminating the need for expensive construction vessels and significantly reducing installation times. The technology is now being used at hundreds of facilities around the globe.

Greg Campbell-Smith, Sales and Business Development Director, said: "It is exciting to be part of the early stages in the development of floating offshore wind, which is an essential component of the UK's energy transformation."

"Our products enable floating wind projects to be installed more quickly, keeping installation costs lower, in turn helping developers offer lower strike prices."

DEKRA

DEKRA, based in Westhill, Aberdeenshire, is a world-class health and safety specialist helping firms across the globe to reduce operational risk and adopt a culture of care.

Health and safety is of paramount importance during the construction of large infrastructure projects like Neart na Gaoithe.

DEKRA works closely with EDF Renewables UK, the joint owner and developer of NnG, to be best-in-class in health safety consultancy, with zero harm as a core value.

DEKRA Vice President Mark Walker said: "When we work with an organisation we want their employees and leaders to tell us about the 'perfect day', and we work out ways so that every day can look like this."

"WE CONTINUALLY CONSIDER AND SEEK OUT MARGINAL GAINS. THE AGGREGATION OF THESE GAINS IS THE PHILOSOPHY OF SEARCHING FOR A TINY MARGIN OF IMPROVEMENT IN EVERYTHING YOU DO."

GREEN MARINE

Green Marine (UK) is a marine services contractor which has been providing vessel charter and assistance to many of the UK's largest offshore wind farms.

Its involvement in these projects typically starts with pre-construction surveys and lasts through to long term operations and maintenance vessel charters.

In addition to the offshore wind sector, Green Marine is arguably a world leader in the still-emerging wave and tidal energy sectors, with few developers choosing not to involve them in their operations, or as technical consultants.

In recent years the company has made investments to develop its capabilities, with additional crew transfer vessels, equipment and personnel to expand their service offering, which now includes hydrographic and ROV services.

The firm also has an in-house team of naval architects and engineers who work with the operational teams, which has proved a winning combination, carrying out bespoke engineering, procurement and construction contracts for a range of major clients.

Managing Director Jason Schofield said: "Since the formation of Green Marine the company has gone from strength to strength, building up a solid reputation and portfolio of repeat clients."

"This has all been achieved with the dedication and hard work of our employees which has been recognised globally, with the company winning multiple industry awards, the most recent being the Outstanding Service Award at the Scottish Green Energy Awards in 2019."



THE SCOTTISH OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY COUNCIL

The Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council (SOWEC) is an established partnership between the Scottish public sector and the offshore wind industry.

As part of the UK's Offshore Wind Sector Deal between government and the offshore wind industry, the Scottish Government formed SOWEC to help co-ordinate wider industry activity across Scotland.

Co-chaired by Scottish Energy Minister Paul Wheelhouse and Brian McFarlane of SSE, its aim is to harmonise a Scotland-wide response to the Offshore Wind Sector Deal.

It also works directly with DeepWind and Forth and Tay Offshore clusters to achieve its ambitions.

CLUSTERS FOCUS

DEEPWIND

The DeepWind supply chain cluster is the largest offshore wind representative body in Scotland, with more than 520 members.

Participants are drawn from industry, academia and the public sector, with networking sessions and meet-the-buyer events linking supply chain companies with the developers who need their services.

DeepWind's mission is to help members achieve greater benefit from the current and future development of offshore wind in the UK and internationally. It specialises in fixed and floating offshore wind in deeper waters.

The DeepWind cluster stretches along the Scottish coastline from Wick in the far north to Montrose in the North East.

Its geography is based on the offshore wind projects that are currently covered by the DeepWind offshore developers, who are the core members of the cluster.

Since the start of the ScotWind Leasing round, DeepWind's ports and harbour members now extend around the North Coast, Northern Isles, Western Isles and West Coast.

DEEPWIND NOW HAS 25 PORT AND HARBOUR MEMBERS REPRESENTING COVERAGE OF MORE THAN 80% OF THE SCOTTISH COASTLINE.

ITS GOALS ARE TO:

- Deliver at least 8GW of offshore wind in Scottish waters by 2030.
- Develop a plan for offshore wind's contribution to achieving Scotland's climate change ambition of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045.
- Create a competitive, commercially-attractive offshore wind sector in Scotland which can deliver both domestically and in the global offshore wind market, with a focus on project development, deeper water capability and innovative technology solutions.
- Work to increase local content in line with the ambitions set out in the UK Sector Deal, developing a sustainable, world-class supply chain in Scotland.
- The number of offshore wind jobs in Scotland will increase to more than 6,000; an increase of 75% on 2019 figures.

FORTH AND TAY OFFSHORE

Forth and Tay Offshore is a leading partnership of industry, academia and public sector with a focus on offshore wind activity in the east coast of Scotland.

We believe that a successful offshore wind sector and local supply chain will deliver jobs, investment and export opportunities in line with the UK Sector Deal and be a key part in the path to net-zero.

The organisation's growing membership consists of more than 250 Scottish companies who are based or work close to offshore wind farms in Scotland. In cooperation with our partners, Forth and Tay Offshore champions the capabilities, assets, businesses and people operating in our region to promote a leading global supply chain.

FTO's key activities include:

Connecting regional supply chain companies to prospective customers in the offshore wind sector.

Attracting inward investment from developers and suppliers to make the east coast of Scotland the location of choice for supply chain investment.

Working with colleges and universities to deliver innovative new solutions in the sector while continuing to promote the skills required to meet industry's standards.

Championing the east coast of Scotland as a prominent renewable energy hub.



Thanks to:



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