

Saitec secures offshore site in BiMEP to install the first grid-connected floating wind turbine in Spain

- **DemoSATH is a concrete floating foundation using a 2MW turbine to be installed off the coast of Biscay (Spain), in the Biscay Marine Energy Platform (BiMEP).**
- **About 70% of the project budget will be supplied by local Basque companies.**
- **SATH will become the World's 9th technology to reach multi-MW prototype level, the 5th European one, and the 3rd concrete floater installed worldwide.**



Saitec Offshore Technologies and the open sea test site **Biscay Marine Energy Platform** (BiMEP) have signed today a contract to install [DemoSATH](#) project off the Basque Coast.

The Project will test the very **first floating wind foundation connected to the Spanish grid using SATH Technology**. Marine operations are planned by the end of 2021. Once connected to the grid, DemoSATH is expected to supply electricity to almost 2,000 homes.

With a **2MW wind turbine**, the structure, which will be approximately 30 metres wide and approximately 67 meters long, will be assembled in the **port of Bilbao**. From

there, it will be towed to its anchorage point in BiMEP, **2 miles off the coast** where the sea is about **85 metres deep**.

BiMEP is a public company established in 2011 for the development, construction, operation, maintenance and management of an open sea testing centre. Owned by Basque Energy Agency, EVE (75%) and Spanish Ministry for Ecological Transition and The Demographic Challenge through the Institute for Diversification and Energy Savings, IDAE (25%).

Luis González-Pinto, Chief Operations Officer of Saitec Offshore Technologies has said: "This **real-scaledemonstrator** is a massive step for us. A major milestone that could be considered as one of the most challenging gates to go through **in order to achieve commercialization**. As if this was not enough, we have the chance to develop this project in our homeland using BiMEP testing area. Basque Country has a very active industry on the offshore wind sector, and we think that this project could become the spearhead for **Basque floating wind sector**".

David Carrascosa, Chief Technical Officer of Saitec Offshore Technologies, has declared: "DemoSATH Project will not only focus on technological validation, it will also prove the **local content potential** of SATH's manufacturing as a result of the combination of both **civil construction and offshore supply chains**. We estimate that at least **70% of the contracting budget will be awarded to local industry**".

Project objectives

Main aim is to **analyse its behavior** under real operational and extreme conditions, **collect data and gain real-life knowledge** from the construction, operation and maintenance of the unit. The pilot project will last 3 and a half years: 18 months for the planning and construction of the plant, followed by a two-year operating phase.

The ultimate objective is to **gather experience** to implement improvements and optimizations to future commercial projects.

A pioneer solution

The need for full **decarbonisation of the Economy** and the impressive progress of **renewable energies** have gained in recent years have led to a **promising future** for floating wind energy. It has a clear role in the transition that our society has been demanding.

Considering that most of the coastal areas in the world have **depths greater than 60 meters**, floating offshore wind is the best instrument to take advantage of the full potential of the wind to generate clean energy.

SATH Technology (Swinging Around Twin Hull) is based on a twin hull made of modularly prefabricated and subsequently braced concrete elements. The float can align itself around a single point of mooring according to the wind and wave direction. The technology stands out as the 9th installed worldwide, the 5th European, and the 3rd tested using concrete around the world.

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Saitec Offshore Technologies

Saitec Offshore Technologies is a spin-off from Saitec. Founded in 2016, the company is created to globalize offshore wind by developing SATH technology, a competitive and cost-efficient concrete floating solution that removes the barriers related to water depth, reduces both CapEx and OpEx and enhances local content. The outfit also offers associated engineering services related to this field and the Blue Economy.