

DemoSATH construction is set to begin

Saitec Offshore Technologies and RWE Renewables award manufacturing and assembly contract for DemoSATH floating project to Ferrovial

- ! The construction package covers site preparation, concrete precasting, procurement of steel bulkheads and assembly of the floater along with management of the supply chain.
- ! The various sections of the floater will be first precast and then assembled proving the efficiency of the industrial fabrication.
- ! 90% of the construction budget will be destined to the local supply chain.
- ! Commissioning is scheduled for 2022.

Bilbao, 28 October 2020.- Leading global infrastructure operator Ferrovial has been selected for the manufacturing and assembly of the SATH floating platform in the **DemoSATH project** lead by Saitec Offshore Technologies in collaboration with RWE Renewables. The construction package will last 14 months and covers **site preparation, concrete precasting, procurement of steel bulkheads and assembly of the floater along with management of the supply chain.**

The award of the construction contract is a significant milestone for the project and kicks-off the on-site works in the already granted area of the **Port of Bilbao (northern Spain)**. Work will start in November 2020 under strict health and safety rules to protect against Covid-19, and **will create around 60 local jobs during the peak of the project.**

In February 2020, RWE Renewables and Saitec Offshore Technologies announced they were joining forces to test a floating platform for wind turbines off the Basque Coast. The DemoSATH project will deploy the **first multi-megawatt floating offshore wind turbine connected to the Spanish grid**. RWE Renewables will finance part of the project costs and contribute its extensive experience as the second largest player in offshore wind globally, gaining access to the resulting findings in return.

The SATH Technology floater is based on a twin hull, made of modularly prefabricated and subsequently braced concrete elements. It can align itself around a single point of mooring depending to the wind and wave direction.

David Carrascosa, Chief Technology Officer of Saitec Offshore Technologies: “Our ambition is to rapidly advance towards commercial production. DemoSATH is therefore not only proving the technical feasibility of the SATH technology, but is also demonstrating how these structures can be mass produced. Ferrovial is the perfect partner to rely on and to ensure we meet our objectives.”

Sven Utermöhlen, Chief Operating Officer Wind Offshore Global of RWE Renewables GmbH: “We are pleased to see that the DemoSATH project is entering the manufacturing phase now and making good progress towards offshore installation in 2022. We see great potential for floating wind farms worldwide, especially in countries with deeper coastal waters, where this opens up attractive opportunities. As part of this large-scale demonstration project, we are gaining experience with an innovative concrete-based platform technology that will help us to position ourselves in this growth market.”

Alberto Val, Ferrovial Construction Manager in Basque Country: “This is Ferrovial's first floating offshore wind project and it represents a great opportunity to add value to the project, based on our experience in marine construction and landmark pre-stressed concrete structures. Moreover, this project has a large innovation component, not only because of the materials but also because of the manufacturing and assembly processes that it will develop.”

For the prototype, the structure and the 2MW wind turbine will be assembled in the port of Bilbao. The base of the structure will be approximately 30 meters wide and approximately 64 meters long. The platform, including the turbine, will be towed to its anchorage point in a test field (BIMEP) 2 miles off the coast at a depth of 85 meter. Hybrid mooring lines, composed by chains and fiber, anchored to the seabed will hold the floating body in position. The unit is expected to go into operation early 2022. The power generated by DemoSATH will provide enough annual electricity to meet the power needs for 2,000 homes and will prevent emissions of more than 5,100 tons of CO2 into the atmosphere.

The objective of the project is to **collect data and gain real-life knowledge** from the construction, operation and maintenance of the unit. DemoSATH will test the **offshore behaviour of the platform** in addition to the **construction procedure** to be used in future for mass production. The various sections of the floater will be first precast and then assembled in order to prove the efficiency of the industrial fabrication conceived by Saitec Offshore Technologies for upcoming commercial windfarm developments.

SATH technology will also demonstrate its capacity as a **local content enabler**, largely due to the use of concrete as main construction material. The DemoSATH project will spend **90% of its construction budget with the local supply chain** (less than 50km away from the site.)

About Saitec Offshore Technologies

[Saitec Offshore Technologies](#) is a spin-off from Saitec Engineering, an infrastructure engineering company with more than 30 years of experience. Saitec Offshore Technologies was created with the objective of globalizing offshore wind by developing a cost-efficient concrete floating technology which effectively removes the barriers related to water depth.

SATH technology (Swinging Around Twin Hull) was conceived as a truly game-changer for

floating wind market which reduces both CapEx and OpEx and enhances local content.

The company is currently participating in calls for tenders and developing commercial projects all over the world with a particular focus in UK, France and Japan, where the company has its own subsidiary (Saitec Offshore Japan KK).

About RWE Renewables

RWE Renewables, the newest subsidiary of the RWE Group, is one of the world's leading renewable energy companies. With around 3,500 employees, the company has onshore and offshore wind farms, photovoltaic plants and battery storage facilities with a combined capacity of approximately 9 gigawatts. RWE Renewables is driving the expansion of renewable energy in more than 15 countries on four continents. By the end of 2022, RWE Renewables targets to invest €5 billion net in renewable energy and to grow its renewables portfolio to 13 gigawatts of net capacity. Beyond this, the company plans to further grow in wind and solar power. The focus is on the Americas, the core markets in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

About Ferrovial

Ferrovial, a leading global infrastructure operator, is committed to developing sustainable solutions. It is a member of Spain's blue-chip IBEX 35 index and is also included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index and FTSE4Good; all its operations are conducted in compliance with the principles of the UN Global Compact, which the company adopted in 2002.

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