Two years after meeting <u>Sterblue</u> for the first time as part of the Free Electrons Programme, ESB is proud to announce that the French startup has been awarded a **long-term contract to complete independent inspections of turbine blades on its wind farms.** The decision was taken following numerous positive trials and an extensive competitive tendering procedure. The contract represents a highly successful outcome for the global Free Electrons accelerator programme.

Sterblue builds a platform for automatic inspection of industrial assets using off-the-shelf drones and artificial intelligence. From data capture to data analysis, the company covers the whole inspection process in one streamlined interface. This is a far superior method when compared to flying a drone manually and traditional inspections often carried out with binoculars and cameras. The inspections can also be undertaken throughout the Covid-19 pandemic in line with health advice to adhere to social distancing.