



Tekmar Energy, manufacturers of subsea cable protection systems has developed a unique cable protection system (TEKLINK®) for offshore wind farm turbines.

Narec's capability and proven track record of working with the subsea industry, conducting prototype, demonstration and factory acceptance trials on state-of-the-art equipment in a controlled dockside environment has enabled Narec to play an instrumental role in testing Tekmar Energy's TEKLINK® system. TEKLINK® Cable Protection System improves the resilience and longevity of underwater cable connections as well as reducing offshore wind turbine installation costs.

Process

Narec's subsea testing facilities which include a wave tank, a tidal test facility, still water dock and simulated seabed were used by Tekmar Energy to conduct a one week period of wet trials on the TEKLINK® system.

The wet trial tests which were carried out in a flooded dock environment were essential to qualify the TEKLINK® Cable Protection System installation methods. These tests were witnessed by a wide range of end clients, installation contractors and third party consultants.

The operation included the use of 3-off 60 ton mobile cranes, 2-off teams of umbilical air-divers and 1-off Fugro observation ROV complete with sonar tracking

equipment. Both dry and wet installations of the TEKLINK® Cable Protection Systems were performed into j-tube and j-tubeless simulated pile stanchions.

Results

As a result of these trials, Tekmar Energy is now the supplier of Cable Protection Systems to Walney and Ormonde Offshore Wind Farms (OWF) and has an initial order to commence installing the system on Greater Gabbard OWF.

The trials were witnessed by a variety of specialist marine installation contractors and large developers including: Dong Energy, VSMC, Fugro, RES, RWE, ODE, TechnOcean, Ramboll, CTC Marine, Fluor, SubOcean, JPK and PMSS.

Tekmar statement

Gary Bland, Managing Director, said: "The Offshore Wind Industry is emerging very quickly and presents a steep learning curve for many companies. It is essential to fully test our products and allow our clients and their partners to familiarise themselves and have input into the design and installation procedures in a controlled environment.

"Developing and proving our products prior to field installation is a key component in maintaining our leadership and this combined with the ability to access high quality facilities such as at Narec in Blyth gives us a unique industrial advantage."

A specialist deliverer of



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Advancing Renewable Energy