The Age of Offshore Wind in the UK

June 2024



OffshoreWind IndustryCouncil

Growing the UK Supply Chain, **Creating Future Jobs**

The growing offshore wind supply chain includes manufacturing offshore wind turbine blades, fabrication of steel turbine foundations, cable production and the services required to develop, construct and operate our offshore wind farms.

Our Industrial Growth Plan (IGP) sets out the priorities and actions to grow the UK's manufacturing and technology capabilities, boosting our economy and securing supply of vital components.

The IGP builds on OWIC's Supply Chain Capability Analysis which outlines the £90 billion economic opportunity that offshore wind offers in the UK.

OWIC's recent report identifies 9 areas of focus for the UK supply chain growth.





JDR Cable Systems, Blyth

- 4,000km+ of inter-array cables designed and produced for offshore wind farms
- £130 million new subsea production facility in Cambois will be completed in 2024, including a high-voltage subsea cable production line
- 508 UK employees

Smulders, Newcastle

- Specialists in steel structure construction, 450 UK jobs
- The yard was set up in 2016 for the final assembly of jacket foundations, and was bought in 2021 to enable production and assembly of jackets, transition pieces and substations
- £70 million invested in the yard

Hutchinson **Engineering**, Liverpool

- In-house design, serial manufacture, coating, fit-out and quay-side assembly of Secondary and Logistics steelwork
- 170 employees

SeAH Wind, Teesside

- The company will invest £650 million in total to build the world's largest offshore wind monopile manufacturing facility, located in the UK
- 750 direct jobs and 1,500 further supply chain jobs are set to come from the SeAH manufacturing facility

Associated British Ports, Port Talbot

- A floating wind hub, with the potential to unlock at least £1 billion of investment, create nearly 10,000 new jobs, and realise multiple billions of further investment as more floating wind is deployed
- Plans to develop new and repurposed infrastructure for the future to enable the port to host manufacturing



- Provide concept development, design, manufacturing and testing of polymer-based product solutions to support domestic and international wind farm projects
- 300 employees in Aberdeen

Siemens Gamesa, Kingston upon Hull

- 2,300 wind turbine blades manufactured in their Hull factory, now producing 108m long blades for Moray West project
- The plant has been expanded three times since 2016; investment in factory and adjacent port exceeds £500 million with more likely in the future
- 1,200+ direct employees and growing, supporting 250+ indirect roles



James Fisher Renewables, East Anglia

- Operate and maintain the Greater Gabbard high-voltage transmission network
- Hold a 15-year asset maintenance contract to support the Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) with grid connection
- Up to 50% of the on-site workforce and suppliers are local to the East Anglia area



Vestas, Isle of Wight

- 12,000 wind turbine blades built since 2020
- Offshore blades designed at this site are responsible for 50% of Vestas bladerelated patents worldwide
- 700+ jobs in manufacturing and R&D







Offshore Wind is Already Delivering in the UK

Investing billions into the UK

In just over 20 years, the UK has built a total of 43 offshore windfarms and since 2016, the industry has invested over £50 billion in new offshore windfarms.

Backbone of UK clean power

Offshore wind generates almost a fifth of the UK's electricity, which is enough to power more than 16 million homes. By the end of the decade, offshore wind will supply half of the UK's electricity.

Global technology leadership

The UK has the largest offshore wind market in Europe and is also a global leader in floating offshore wind. We have the largest pipeline of floating offshore wind projects in the world.

Energy for consumers and economy

Offshore wind is one of the lowest-cost ways of generating new electricity, providing cheap power for consumers, strengthening our energy security and tackling climate change. Even when a new gas plant is built at the lowest possible cost, offshore wind is still the cheapest solution. Every IGW of offshore wind saves billpayers £200 million compared to gas.

Our Priorities for the Future

1. Delivery & unlocking barriers

- Implement a Transmission Acceleration Action Plan to halve grid build-out timelines
- Co-existence of aviation & wind
- Environmental Compensation measures & a Marine Recovery Fund to speed up consent

Scan the QR code to read about our Strategic Compensation work

2. Industrial strategy & investment

- Strategic supply chain investment aligned to the Industrial Growth Plan (IGP)
- A new strategic approach to unlock industry port investment
- Future CfD allocation that provides certainty and enables investment

Scan the QR code to read about the Industrial Growth Plan

3. Jobs & just transition

- The industry currently employs 32,000 people and is set to employ 100,000+ by 2030
- Working with partners to deliver our skills strategy and training in affected areas

Scan the QR code to read the refreshed OWIC People & Skills Plan









OWGP in Numbers*



The Offshore Wind Growth Partnership (OWGP) is the UK's flagship supply chain growth funding and business support organisation dedicated to offshore wind, funded by OWIC.



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