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WFO releases White Paper *Challenges and Opportunities of Major Maintenance for Floating Offshore Wind*

- WFO's Floating Offshore Wind Committee (FOWC) releases its second publication
- FOWC's O&M Subcommittee pooled together practical insights on the challenges and opportunities of four major maintenance concepts for floating offshore wind
- While offsite approaches are perceived as more feasible in the short-term, onsite approaches are expected to handle commercial-scale projects
- Commercial-scale floating wind asks for further integration of O&M considerations early on into the design phase and project contracts

WORLD FORUM OFFSHORE WIND (WFO) published its White Paper *Challenges and Opportunities of Major Maintenance for Floating Offshore Wind*. The report is the result of one year's worth of monthly discussions between participating WFO members during meetings of WFO's Floating Offshore Wind Committee on the topic of floating wind major maintenance concepts.

Experts in the industry gave their practical insights on four major maintenance concepts: tow-to-port, tow-to-shore, floating-to-floating and self-hoisting equipment. Differences in feasibility were identified between offsite and onsite approaches for major component replacement, with offsite approaches being perceived as more feasible in the short-term.

Technology innovations across all four maintenance concepts are required to address bigger turbines and larger arrays; these are expected to completely disrupt and transform current beliefs in major component replacement operations. Project-specific conditions ultimately influence the chosen O&M approach for a floating wind farm, with some example parameters listed in this report.

To optimize the business case, it is recommended to consider O&M issues alongside the early technological, financial, and logistics aspects of a floating wind project. Early communication at the design stage but also with stakeholders from ports and the insurance industry can help ensure that certain issues are not ignored in the CAPEX phase; facilitate the use of new technologies; and prepare the harbors crucial to delivering volume.

**Ilmas Bayati**, Chairman O&M Subcommittee, PEAK Wind:

“The commercial scale-up of floating wind farms requires a change of mindset about operations and maintenance. O&M will be a competitive differentiator and this white paper sets the scene on major repairs.”

**Gunnar Herzig**, Managing Director, WFO:

“This second floating offshore wind White Paper underlines WFO’s pragmatic approach of providing practical insights and recommendations for the industry developed by the industry.”

All WFO White Papers can be openly accessed on the WFO website: [www.wfo-global.org](http://www.wfo-global.org)

### **About WFO:**

WORLD FORUM OFFSHORE WIND (WFO) is the world’s only organisation 100% dedicated to fostering the global growth of offshore wind energy. WFO’s international members represent the complete offshore wind value chain including developers, manufacturers, service firms and other organisations. WFO is registered as a non-profit association (e.V.) in Germany with offices in Hamburg, Taipei, New York, and Tokyo. WFO’s unique profile facilitates access to governmental and international forums in order to open new markets and to advocate for global offshore wind growth.

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