



Press release

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Turbine installation at Belgium's largest offshore wind farm crosses the finish line

Construction works at SeaMade, Belgium's largest offshore wind farm, have crossed the finish line with the last of 58 turbines successfully installed on 30 November. The SeaMade wind farm will provide green energy for 485,000 households and will lead to a significant reduction of annual CO2 emissions of at least 500,000 tonnes.

Offshore construction of the SeaMade wind farm started in September 2019 with the installation of the foundations. DEME was responsible for the Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Installation (EPCI) of the foundations, turbines, inter-array and export cables, as well as for the installation of two offshore substations. DEME's DP2 offshore installation vessel 'Apollo' installed 58 Siemens Gamesa 8.4 MW turbines on the monopile foundations.

Bart De Poorter, General Manager DEME Offshore: "Completing this large-scale project in such a short timeframe could only be achieved because of the integrated Balance of Plant approach and through extensive cooperation with our client, as well as the relentless efforts and determination of all the teams involved. This was also the first turbine installation project for 'Apollo'. The crew has put in an excellent performance, particularly given the extra coronavirus restrictions they faced. At DEME we are all very proud to have played a key role in the development of this important wind farm, which is a vital step in helping to realise the Belgian government's ambitious climate targets."

Mathias Verkest, CEO SeaMade and Otary: "Claiming that 2020 has been an eventful year for Otary is quite an understatement. However with the SeaMade project, Otary has now realised the largest offshore wind farm in the Belgian North Sea on time and on budget despite these challenging times. All parties were well determined to deliver the project before year-end 2020, as instigated by the Belgian government. Mission accomplished. Through many contributions of contractors and team members, even COVID-19 could not stop or delay our project, which remains quite remarkable! Sincere thanks to the whole Otary team and all parties involved for achieving this impressive milestone. This is only possible through an incredible commitment, dedication and a countless number of hours of all the project teams."

About DEME

DEME is a world leader in the specialised fields of dredging, solutions for the offshore energy industry, infra marine and environmental works. The company can build on more than 140 years of know-how and is a front runner in innovation and new technologies.

DEME's vision is to work towards a sustainable future by offering solutions for global challenges: a rising sea level, a growing population, reduction of CO2 emissions, polluted rivers and soils and the scarcity of natural resources.

DEME can rely on 5,200 highly skilled professionals and a modern fleet of over 100 vessels. In 2019 the company achieved a turnover of 2.62 billion euros. www.deme-group.com

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About SeaMade:

SeaMade combines two concessions: the Seastar Concession (252 MW) and the Mermaid Concession (235 MW). The two wind farms, located 40-50 km off the Ostend shore, consist of 58 turbines of 8.4 MW, for an aggregate maximum capacity of 487 MW.

The realisation of the SeaMade offshore wind farm will increase the total offshore wind capacity installed in the Belgian North Sea from 1,775 MW to 2,262 MW, good for an annual production of over 8 TWh. This is approximately 10% of the total Belgian electricity demand, and 50% of the total Belgian household consumption. The reduction of more than 600,000 tons of CO2 emissions brings us another step closer to global decarbonisation.

Through the cooperative company ECO2050, the public can also invest in Otary's offshore wind farms themselves: Rentel and SeaMade. Via the website www.eco2050.be one can consult the information note and subscribe to shares.

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