

Press release

DemoSATH floating unit launched into water

- **The load-out and launching operation of the floating wind turbine was successfully performed after its onshore construction in the Port of Bilbao**
- **DemoSATH is ready to be installed at the BiMEP area by the end of this summer**

Bilbao, 20 July 2022

Saitec Offshore Technologies and RWE achieved another milestone in the DemoSATH project with the successful completion of the launching operation of the floating unit. The project moves forward at a fast pace for its installation later this summer. During the next months the submarine dynamic cable will be deployed at the installation site and the floater will be towed out to be connected to it, as well as to the mooring lines that were previously installed in late April.

The load out and launching operations were performed at Punta Sollana quay, in the Port of Bilbao (Spain), where the prestressed concrete platform was previously constructed and assembled, and equipped with a 2 MW turbine.

Firstly, the DemoSATH unit was loaded onto the semisubmersible barge's deck by means of Self-Propelled Modular Transporters. The barge was then ballasted down lower into the water until the DemoSATH unit became buoyant, after which it was towed off.

Araceli Martínez, Chief of Engineering at Saitec Offshore Technologies: "This is a great step forward for the DemoSATH project. The load-out and float-off operations were an important milestone to fulfill as they were the first of their kind executed for the SATH floating offshore wind turbine. The operations were thoroughly planned between all the parties involved and the final performance was excellent. Once afloat, it took less than 45 minutes to safely berth the DemoSATH wind turbine at quay. After the successful completion of the launching in the Port of Bilbao, we are proud to announce that the demonstrator is ready to become the first floating wind turbine to be commissioned to the mainland Spanish Grid during the next months."

Martin Dörnhöfer, Director of Floating Wind at RWE Renewables: "We are glad to see DemoSATH has been launched safely and successfully. This is another important milestone towards the offshore commissioning of the floating turbine later this year. For us at RWE it is also another milestone on our way to unlock the great potential of floating wind globally,





especially in countries with deeper coastal waters, like the US, France, UK, Norway and – certainly – Spain. We aim to have one gigawatt of floating wind capacity in construction or operation by 2030. Jointly with our other pilot projects, DemoSATH enables us to gain early experience for our future developments. Its innovative concrete-based platform further broadens our knowledge on innovative floating wind concepts.”

Teresa Ribera, Third Vice-President of the Government of Spain and Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, participated in the event and highlighted: “These companies have shown a pioneering spirit to develop this project and prove this technology. We now want to work with companies like this to help them take it forward and make floating wind a reality.”

Saitec Offshore Technologies and RWE Renewables entered into the partnership to develop DemoSATH project in 2020. The 2MW unit using SATH Technology will be installed in a test field (BIMEP) which is two miles off the Basque coast, where the sea is 85 meters deep. The SATH design allows the pre-fabrication of concrete components and uses a single-point-of-mooring system that allows the structure to yaw around its mooring and passively align itself to the wave and current direction. The aim of this demonstrator project is to test the technology for its industrialisation for offshore wind farms in deep waters.

Image material for media purposes is available in the [RWE multimedia library](#) (image rights: Saitec Offshore Technologies).





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About Saitec

Founded in 1988, Saitec is one of the most prestigious engineering firms in Spain. With a strong commitment to innovation, sustainable development and respect for the environment, Saitec Engineering offers a wide range of services throughout the entire engineering value chain (planning, design, construction and operation).

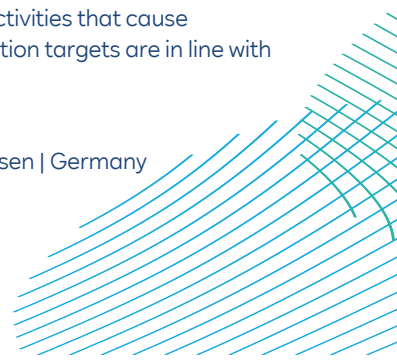
The field of activity comprises transport infrastructure projects (railways, roads), water engineering, architecture, town planning, environment, industry and energy services for both public and private companies, as well as joint ventures. Saitec Engineering also provides consultancy services in highly specialised fields such as tunnels and underground works, geology and geotechnical engineering, structural engineering, innovation, construction and computer engineering. Seeking international growth by going global, in 2008, the company decided to expand the business aiming to share its experience and know-how in fastest-growing markets.

About Saitec Offshore Technologies

Saitec Offshore Technologies is a spin-off from Saitec. Founded in 2016, created to globalize offshore wind by developing SATH technology, a competitive and cost-efficient concrete floating solution that removes the barriers related to water depth, reduces both CAPEX and OPEX and enhances local content. The outfit also offers associated engineering services related to this field.

RWE Renewables

RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With an extensive investment and growth strategy, the company will expand its powerful, green generation capacity to 50 gigawatts internationally by 2030. RWE is investing €50 billion gross for this purpose in this decade. The portfolio is based on offshore and onshore wind, solar, hydrogen, batteries, biomass and gas. RWE Supply & Trading provides tailored energy solutions for large customers. RWE has locations in the attractive markets of Europe, North America and the Asia-Pacific region. The company is responsibly phasing out nuclear energy and coal. Government-mandated phaseout roadmaps have been defined for both of these energy sources. RWE employs around 19,000 people worldwide and has a clear target: to get to net zero by 2040. On its way there, the company has set itself ambitious targets for all activities that cause greenhouse gas emissions. The Science Based Targets initiative has confirmed that these emission reduction targets are in line with





the Paris Agreement. Very much in the spirit of the company's purpose: Our energy for a sustainable life.

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