

# Floating Offshore Wind Subgroup

## Floating Substations Webinar

24th August 2023



Image source – BW Ideal

## Agenda for today's webinar

- 14.00 - Welcome and webinar functionality, **Jeya Calder**, Highlands and Islands Enterprise
- 14.05 - Introduction, **Ole Stobbe**, BW Ideol and Subgroup Co-chair
- 14.10 - Enabling Scaling of Floating Wind, **Frida Mattson** DNV
- 14.30 - Scalable and Market Ready Floating Substations, **Mathieu Roualdes**, BW Ideol
- 14.45 - Floating Substation Concept Development - **Justin Jones**, Petrofac
- 15.05 - Floating Substations – **Juan Antonio Gonzalez Diaz**, Semco Maritime
- 15.25 - Q&A Session, chaired by **Lucy Green**, Genesis Energy and Subgroup Co-chair
- 15.35 - End of webinar

**Frida Mattson**





WHEN TRUST MATTERS

# Enabling scaling of floating wind

## Floating Substation - Joint Industry Project

Frida Mattson, Consultant



# Floating wind innovation and standards development



## Activities

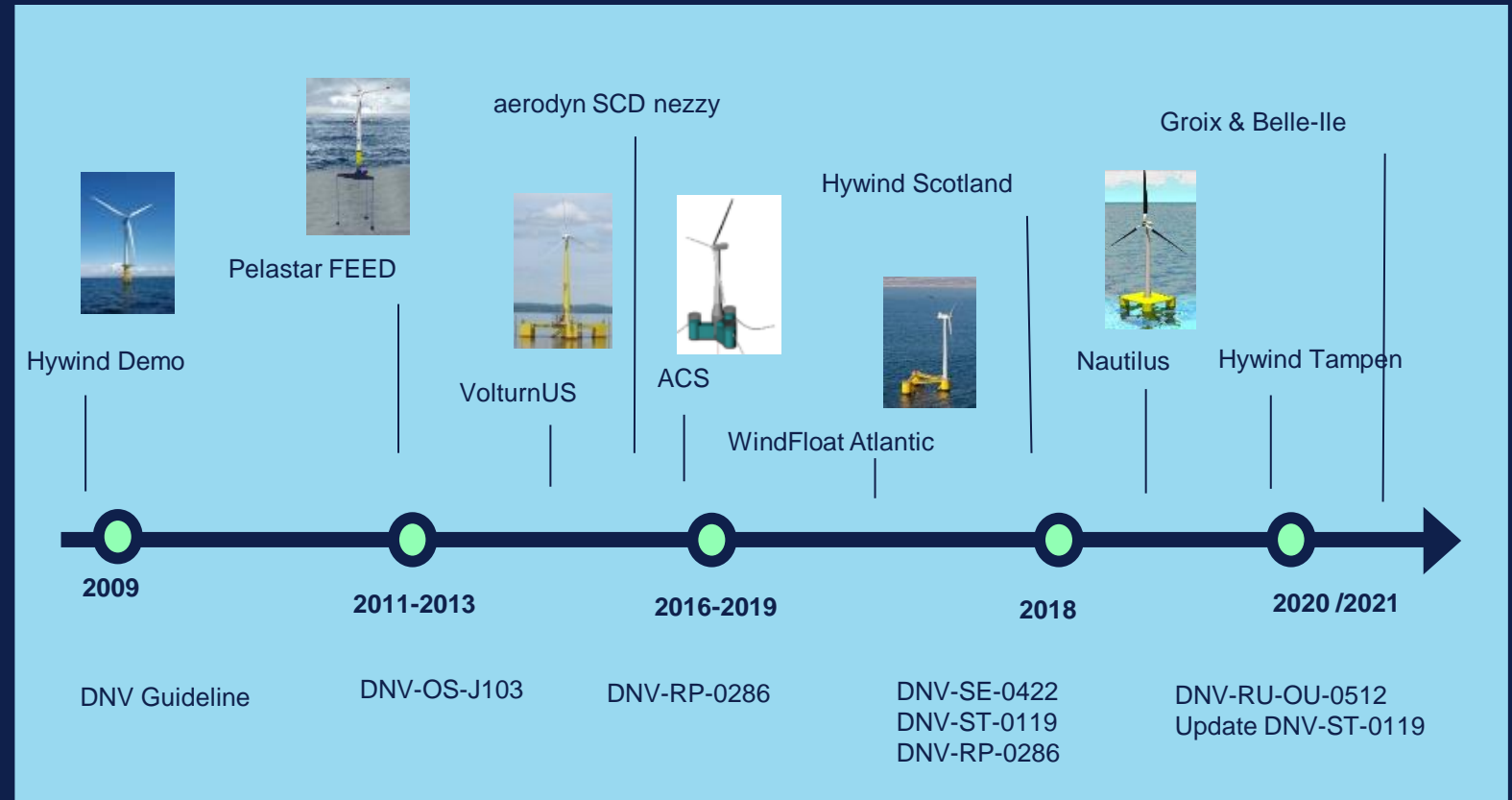
### Research & Development (R&D)

Participation in national and international consortia, working with academia and industry partners

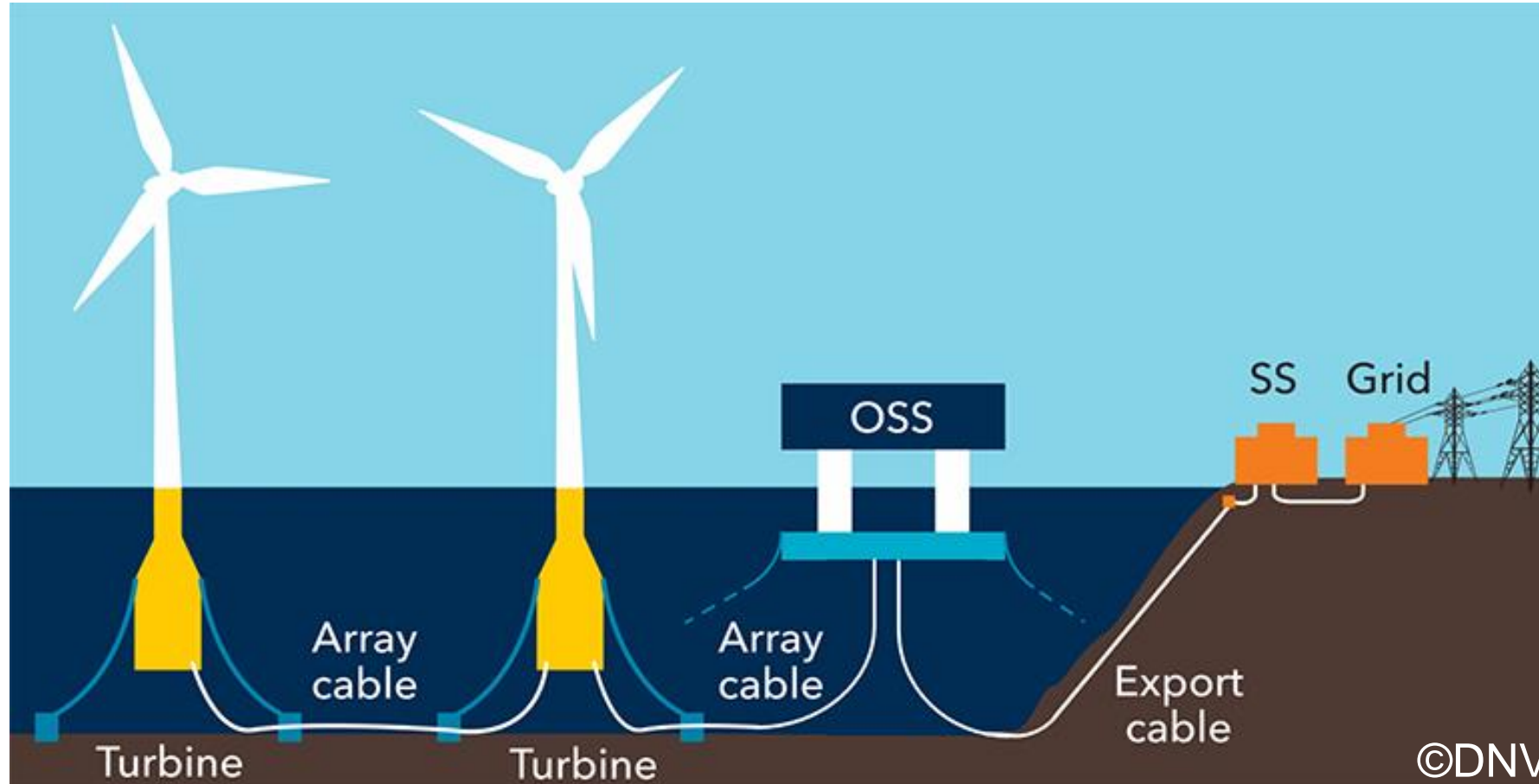
### Joint Industry Projects (JIP)

### Joint Development projects (JDP)

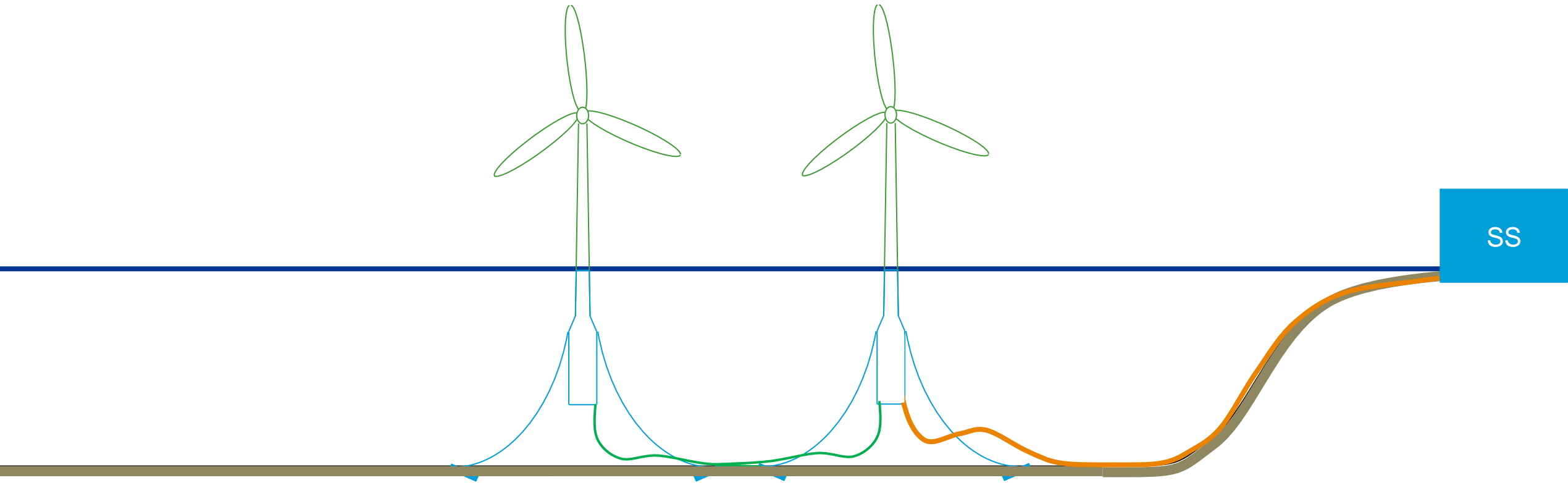
## Timeline



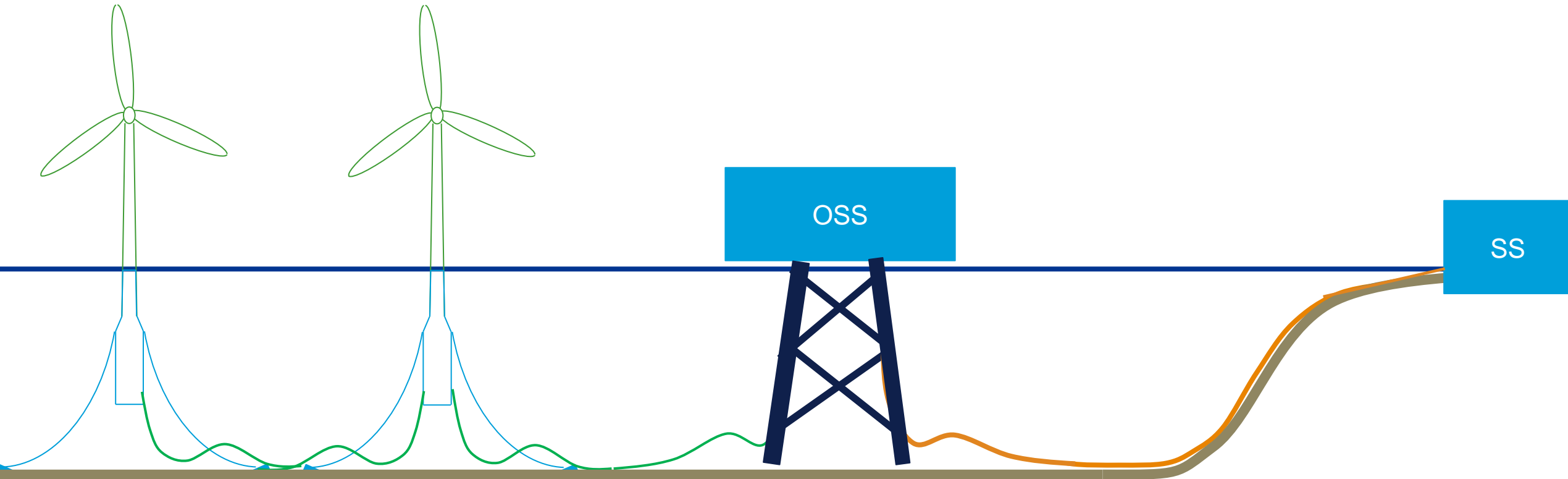
# Floating substations – an enabler for scaling floating wind



... demonstrators and pilot farms, close to shore

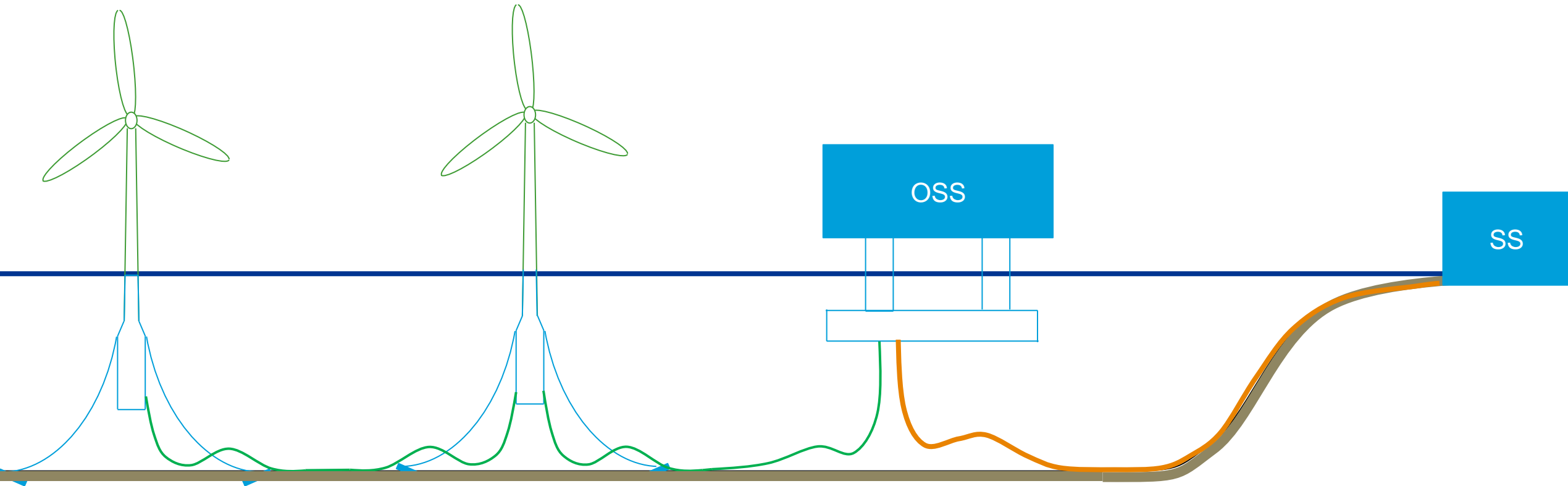


... commercial scale, further from shore





... commercial scale, OSS in deep water



# Offshore Substation development



Hitachi

>100 fixed HVAC OSS



TenneT

9 fixed HVDC OSS  
+ 4 under construction



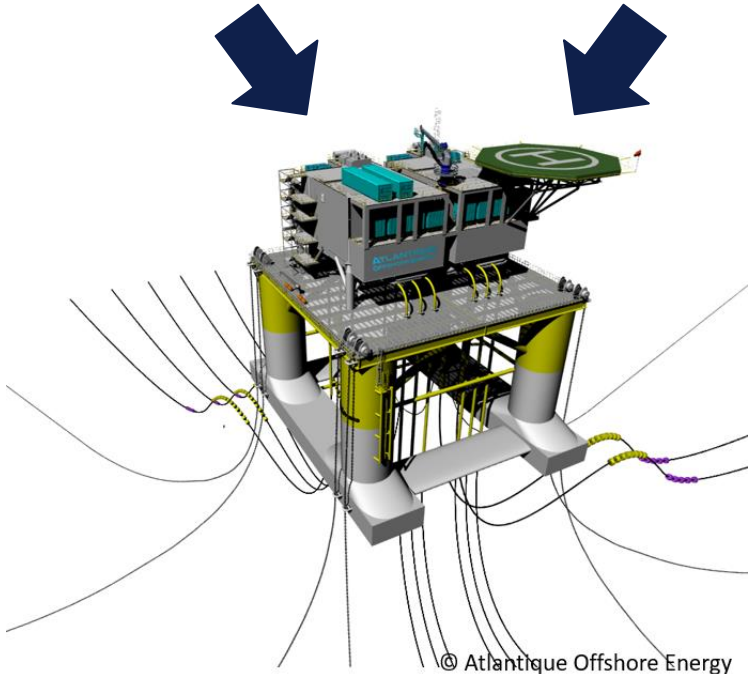
Fukushima-forward

Only 1 Demo Floating,  
Fukushima 2013, 2 MW,  
66kV

# Complexity

## Stakeholders:

- Wind farm developers
- Transmission System Operators
- HV equipment suppliers
- Cable suppliers
- Designers, EPCI, yards
- Societies



## Technical drivers:

- Water depth
- Distance to shore
- Metocean
- Wind farm size
- Input/Output voltage

← Criticality and acceptable probability of failure →

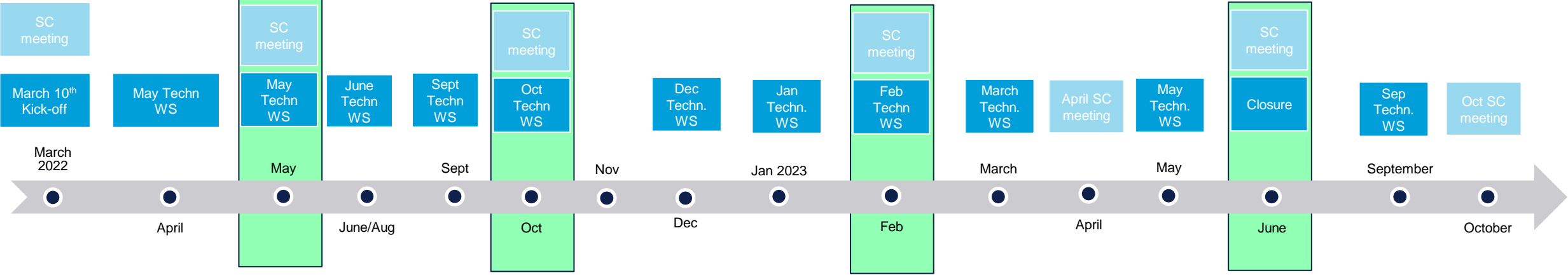
# JIP vision

*Enable scaling of floating wind with an acceptable level of commercial, technical and HSE risk, through suitable standards and guidelines for floating offshore substations*

# JIP objectives

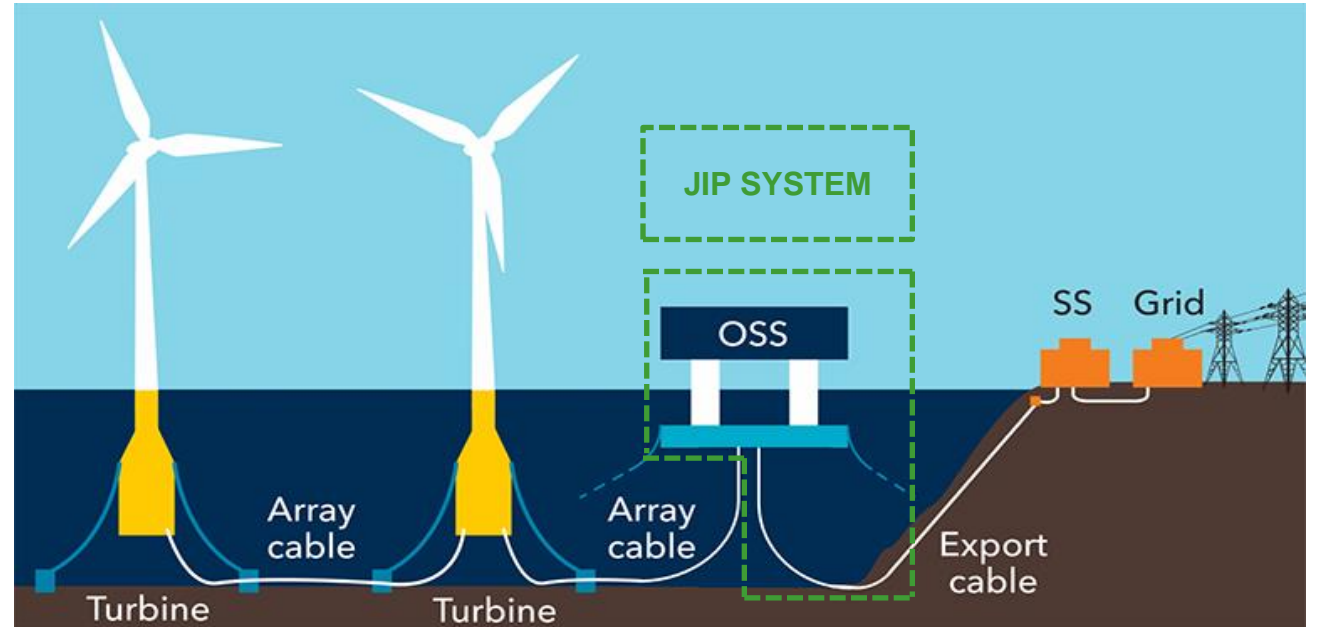
- ✓ *Identify gaps in technology*
- ✓ *Identify gaps in standards*
- ✓ *Establish joint understanding of best industry practice and technical requirements*

# Phase 1: Participants and timeline



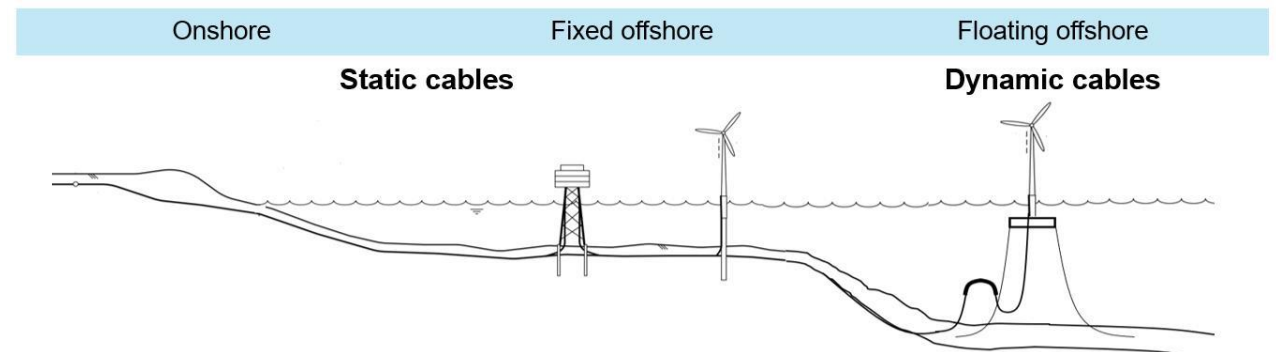
# Scope and Deliverables

- Six defined activities:
  1. Technology gaps
  2. Standards gaps
  3. Design basis
  4. Safety level
  5. Floater motions
  6. Dynamic export cable feasibility
- Developed content to feed into:
  - DNV-ST-0145 Offshore substations
  - RP for HV cables
- A final report with a summary of each activity will be published later this year



# Technology maturity overview

- ✓ Floaters, station keeping and ballast
- ✓ Power system architecture
- ✓ HVAC equipment
- ✓ HVAC dynamic cables
- ✓ Design process for optimal system cost-benefit
- ✓ HVDC equipment
- ✓ HVDC cable

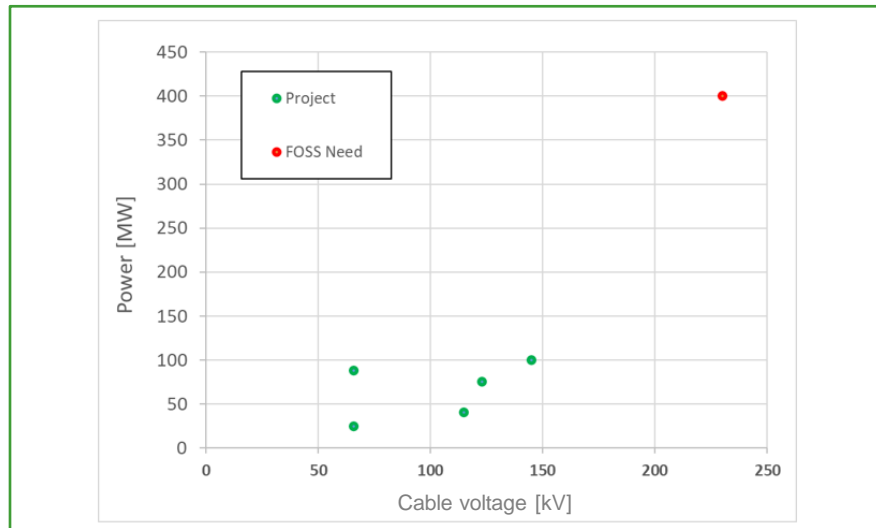


# Technology gaps HVAC

- Dynamic Subsea Cables
  - Experience exists from O&G
  - Export Cables (>200 kV): Under development
- HV equipment (transformers, switchgear,..)
  - Higher voltages and capacities than O&G/maritime
  - Uncertainties w.r.t. motions, fatigue, vibrations

Dynamic Cable System for AC Power Export VAC 3-Core

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT						THREAT ASSESSMENT							
ID	System	Function	Application area	Degree of novelty	Technology Category	Main challenge/uncertainty - HAZID	Inc. in Threat Ass.	Failure/Threat Mode	Failure/Cause Mechanism	Probability class	Failure Consequences	Consequence class	Risk Assessment
152	Fillers - properties (optional, other)	Fillers - properties (optional, other)			3	Material ageing/degradation due to temperature, marine environment and in-compatibility with other components in the cable cross-section.		Cracking/breakage of material	Fatigue	3	Reduced service life. Due to loss of global cable properties and subsequently locally higher loads in the cable cross-section.	3	3
150	Armour bedding (non-metallic)	Armour bedding (non-metallic)			3	Material ageing/degradation due to temperature, marine environment and in-compatibility with other components in the cable cross-section.				3		3	3
150	Armour (metallic, and non-metallic)	Armour (metallic, and non-metallic)			3	Mechanical fatigue due to dynamic loading, loss of armour via mechanical wear or compression.				3	Loss of power transfer. Due to rupture of cable cross-section.	5	15



TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT									
ID	System	Function	Application area	Degree of novelty	Technology Category	Main challenge/uncertainty - HAZID	Failure/Threat Mode	Failure/Cause Mechanism	Priority
<b>1 GIS - Array-side and Export-side</b>									
11	Housing (compartmentalized)	The function of the housing is to contain all the apparatus / sub-systems / components. The housing is intended to maintain the density / pressure of the insulating gas (SF6). Includes compartment interface equipment.	2 - Limited	1 - Proven	2	Sustained, repetitive motions / forces may result in deterioration of the sealing between compartments or with the ambient environment			
11.1	Permanent attachment of the equipment to the structure								
1.2	Busbars	The function of the busbars is to carry the current between the equipment.							
1.3	Insulators (post)	Insulator conductive mechanical the housing sufficient equipment levels.							
1.4	Penetrations (bushings)	Bushing conductive compartment (cables) component							

Hitachi



# Technology gaps HVDC

- Dynamic subsea cables
  - No experience to date for dynamic
- HV equipment (transformers, converters, switchgear, reactive equipment)
  - Larger and heavier
  - Limited/no experience with floater motion tolerance
  - Uncertainties w.r.t. equipment function, integrity, fatigue

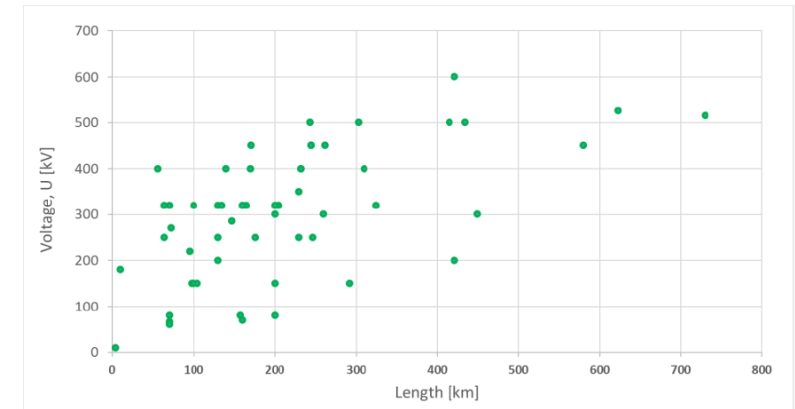
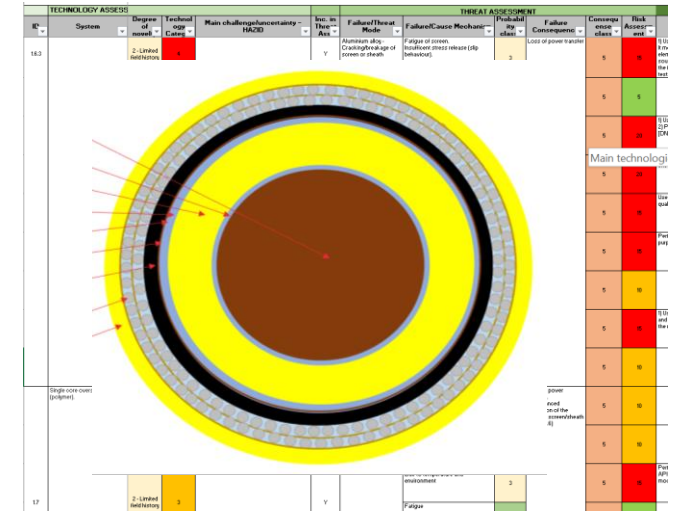
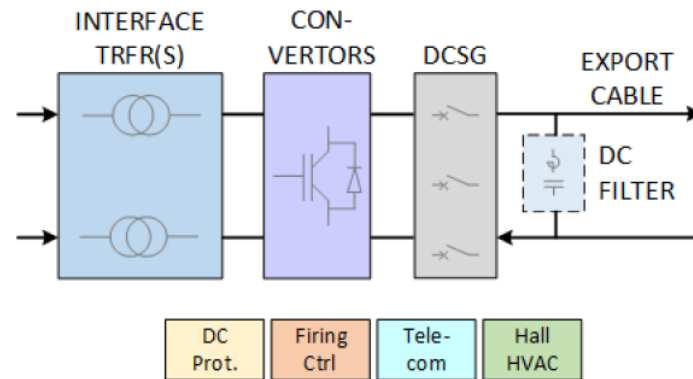
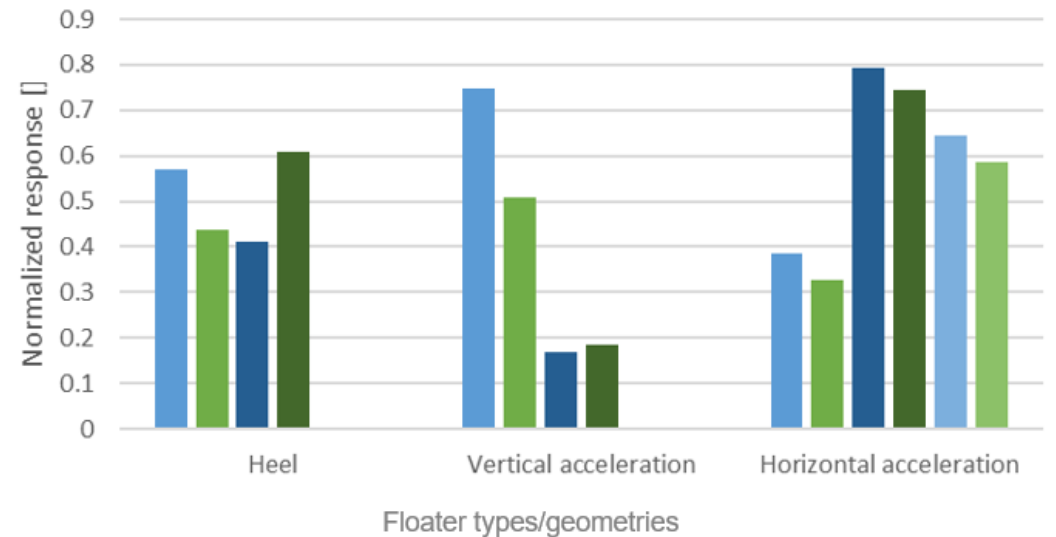
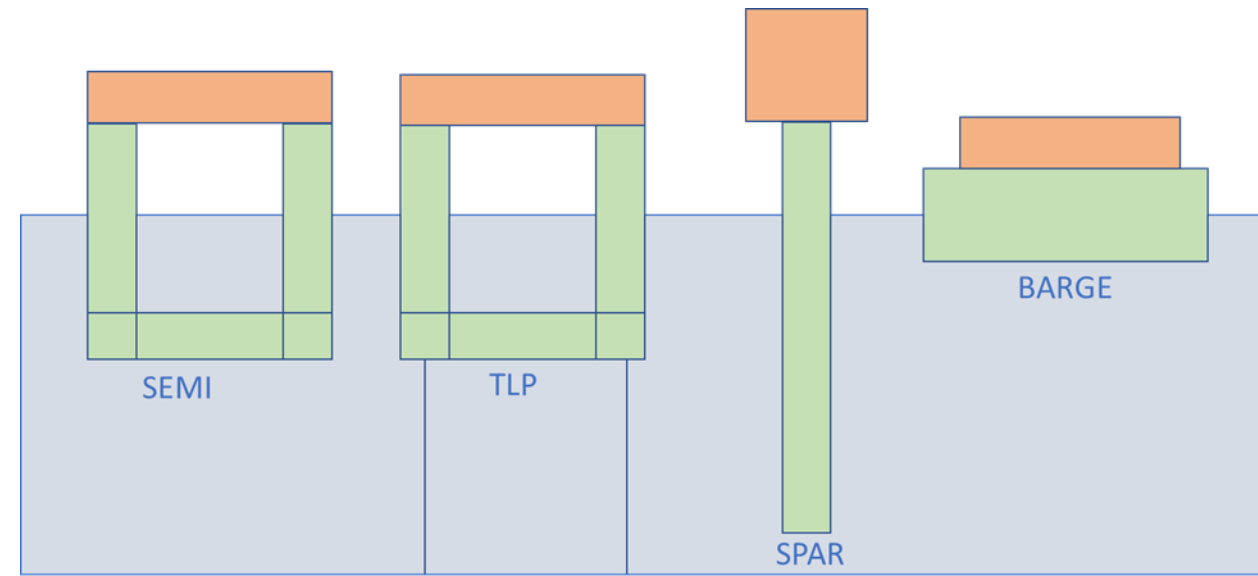


Figure 6-3 Voltage and length of existing HV DC projects in Europe /18/.

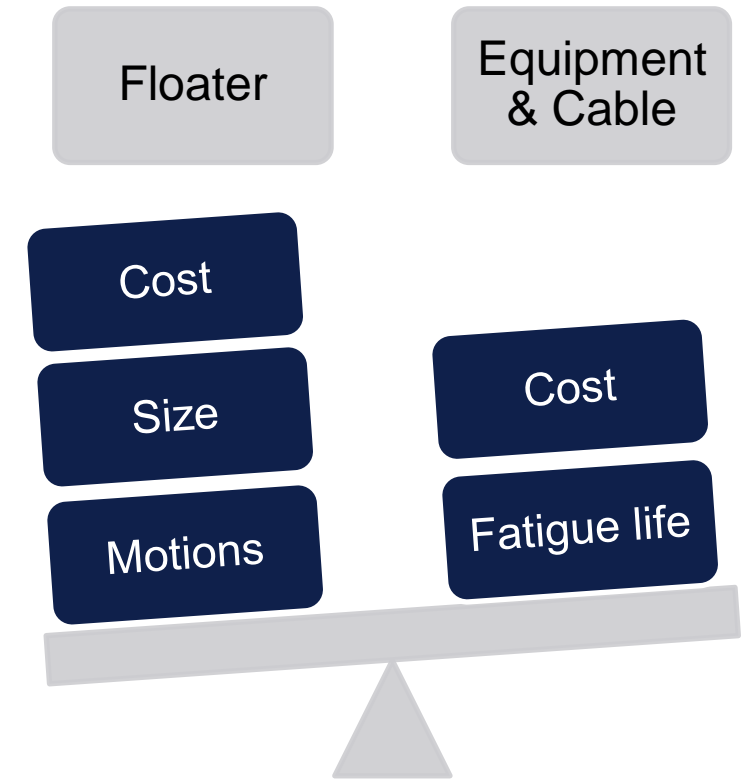
# Floater motions

- Feasibility of 4 main concepts, for various
  - Topside weights and dimensions
  - Water depths
  - 100 year significant wave height
- 6 semis, 6 TLPs, 6 SPARs, 4 barges
- Analysis to determine motions (accelerations, heel)
- Compare to 'JIP HV motion limitations'
  
- Also used in cable suitability study



# Summary & remaining challenges

- Floating substations are feasible
  - AC more mature than DC
  - We expect to see the first FOSS in the water by 2030 (AC)
  - Closing technology gaps and qualifying technology
  - Establishing a good design process; **Floater – HV equipment – Cable**
- 
- ...prepare for next phase of the project



# Thank you!

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**Mathieu Roualdes**

**BW** *ideol*

A large white wind turbine with three blades is mounted on a yellow floating substation platform in the middle of the ocean. The sky is overcast and grey. In the distance, another smaller yellow platform is visible on the horizon.

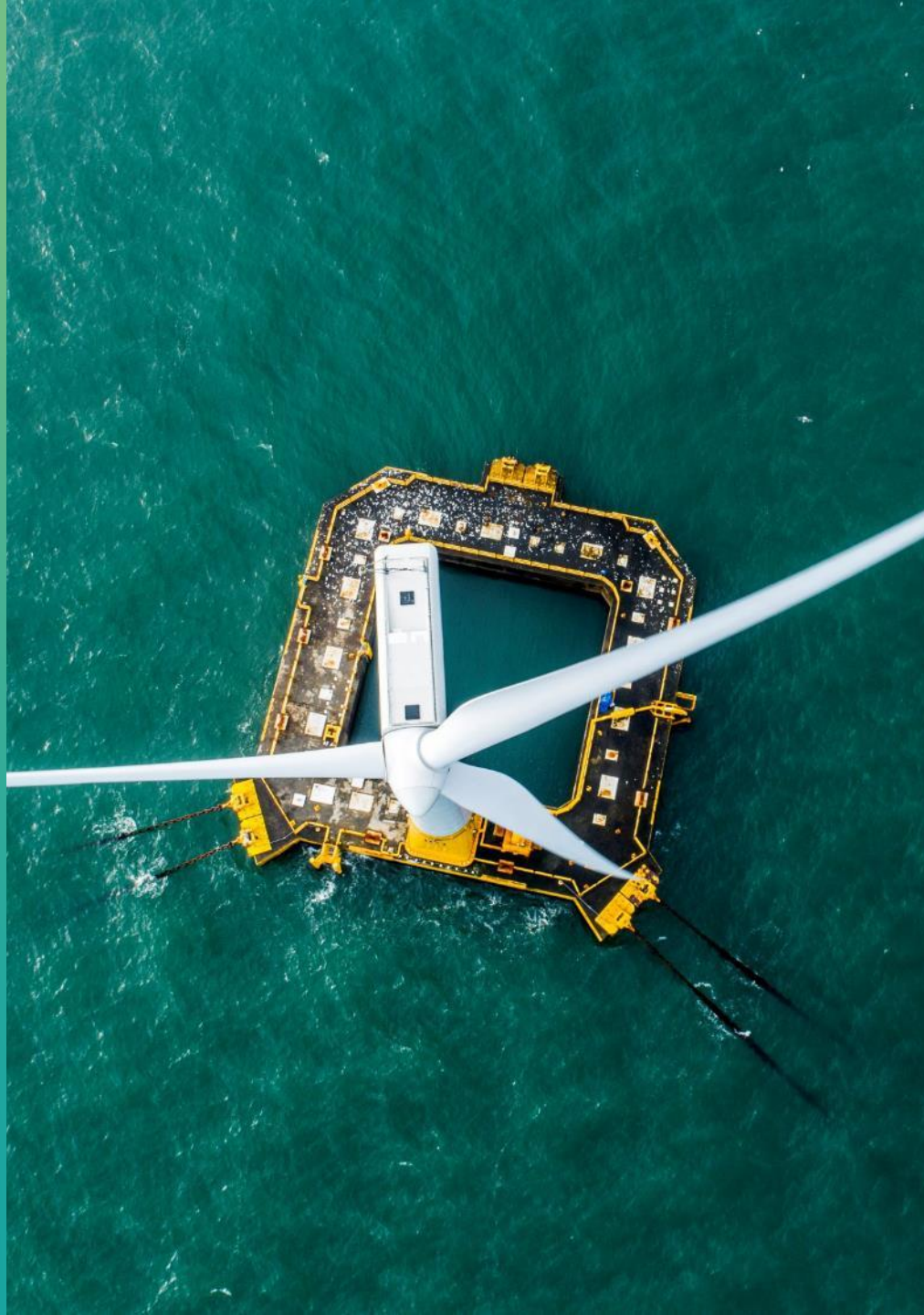
# Scalable and market-ready: Floating Substations based on the BW Ideol Concept

24/08/2023

BW *ideol*

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# Who we are



# An internationally acclaimed floating offshore wind leader

A proven technology with a unique competitive edge and an unparalleled return on experience

A pure-player and early mover in key strategic markets for floating wind

A multi-GW pipeline in partnership with leading local utilities and project developers



An extensive track-record financing and delivering complex and capital-intensive offshore projects

The logo for 'ideol' features a stylized wind turbine icon above the word 'ideol' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The 'i' and 'e' are blue, and the 'o' and 'l' are orange.



The logo for 'BW ideol' features a stylized wind turbine icon above the word 'ideol' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The 'i' and 'e' are blue, and the 'o' and 'l' are orange. The letters 'BW' are in a large, bold, blue font to the left of 'ideol'.



The logo for 'BW OFFSHORE BW ideol' features a stylized 'BW' monogram above the text 'BW OFFSHORE' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, the word 'ideol' is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with the 'i' and 'e' in blue and the 'o' and 'l' in orange.



# A two-leg strategy

**Sharing development risk and asset ownership**

**Supply EPCI and O&M services** in conjunction with our patented Damping Pool™ technology

## 2 main objectives



**Winning tenders and delivering on-time**  
and **on-budget** floating offshore wind assets

# Projects on all continents and in all key markets

South-Brittany Tender 

Up to 270 MW  

ScotWind *under development* 

960 MW (NE8)  

Mediterranean Tender 

2 X 250 MW  

EolMed *under construction* 

3 X 10 MW  

Japan 

5 site-specific and technology-exclusive joint development agreements with leading Japanese utilities and developers

Taiwan

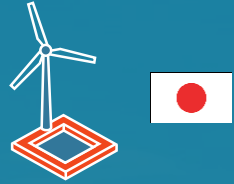
Design and engineering services contract for a commercial-scale wind farm with an undisclosed party

Target of  
**at least 10 GW**  
under  
development,  
under  
construction  
and in  
operation  
**by 2030**

+ soon to be disclosed commercial-scale projects in several European and Asian countries



**First full-scale offshore wind turbine installed in France**



**First full-scale foreign floating wind technology installed in Japan**



**Pioneer and leader in concrete hulls and synthetic mooring solutions**



**Buildable in steel or concrete**



**Outstanding power production and seakeeping performance**



**The most compact and shallow-draft solution when fitted with tomorrow's XXL offshore wind turbines**



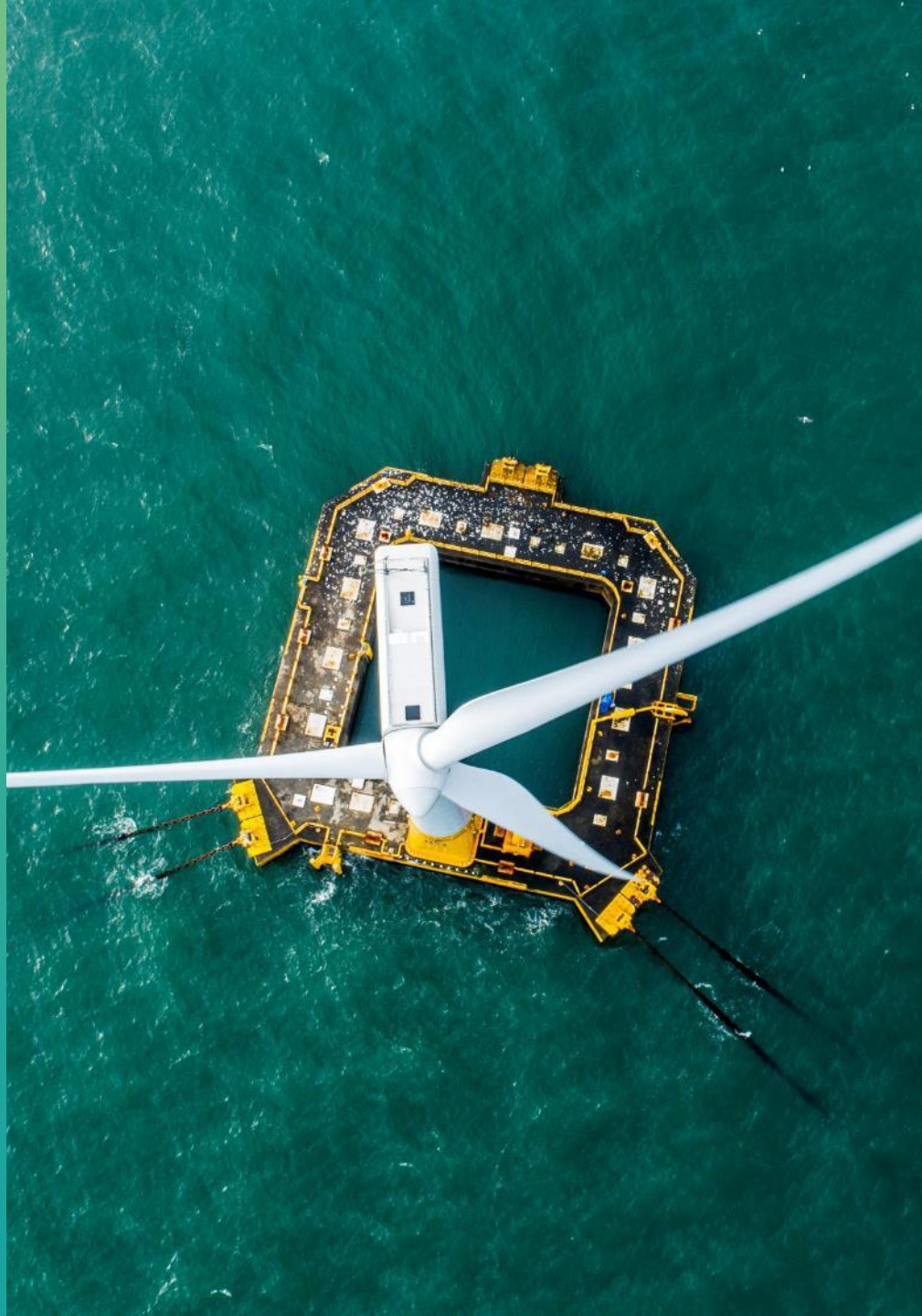
**Dozens of ongoing R&D projects to accelerate the cost reduction trajectory of floating wind**



The **missing link** for commercial scale floating wind farms

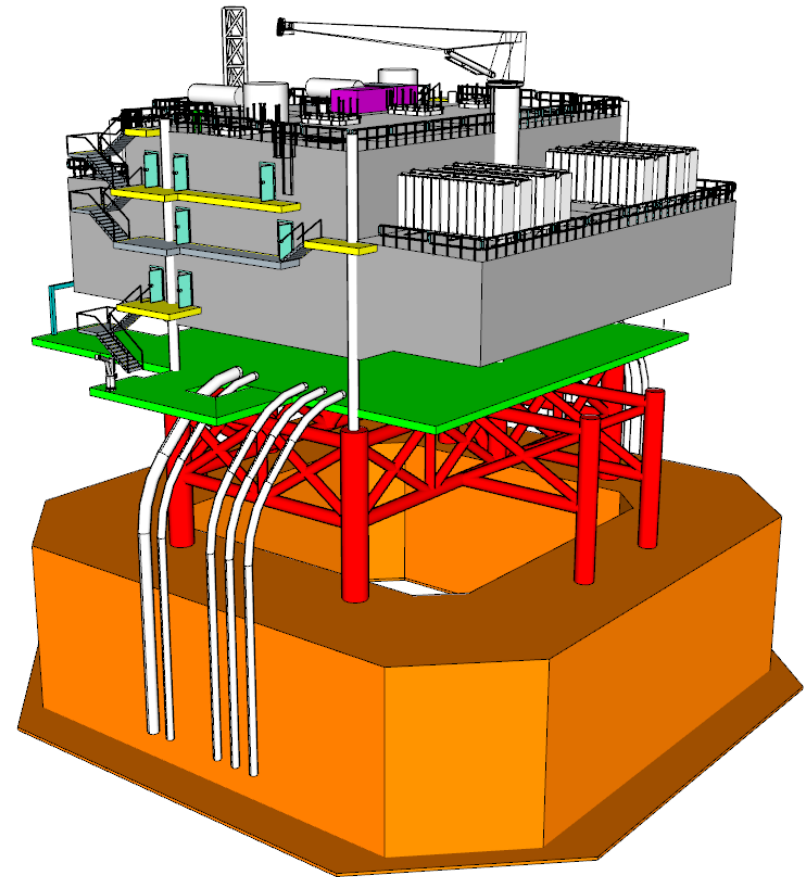
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# Optiflot



## Origin: Optiflot concept

- First presentation to an expert audience in June 2019 after 2 years of engineering and design towards a Floating Offshore Substations concept
- Lead together with Hitachi Energy (then ABB) and Atlantique Offshore Energy
- Participation from other specialist from Dynamic Cable Industry, Insurance and Finance
- Demonstrating that a market-ready solution is available to TSO and floating offshore windfarm developers



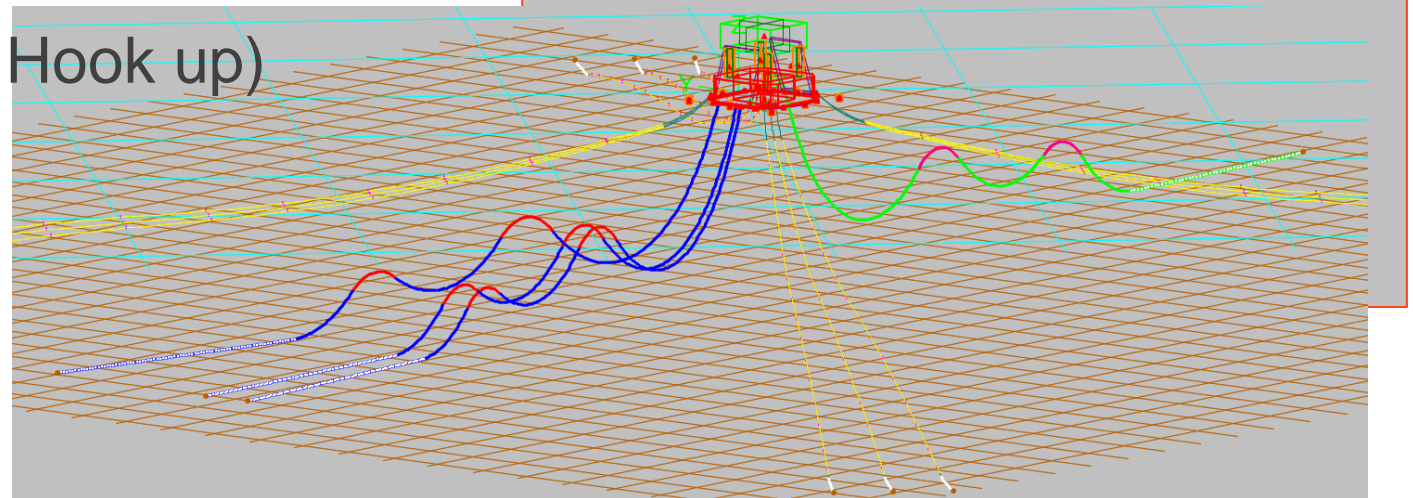
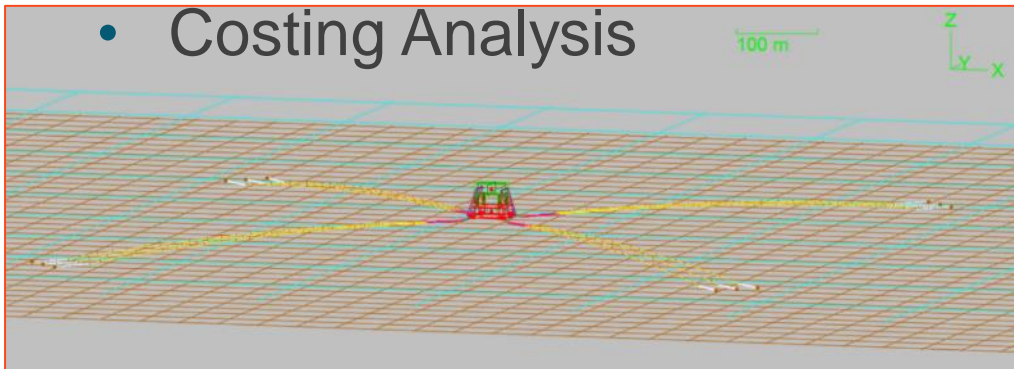
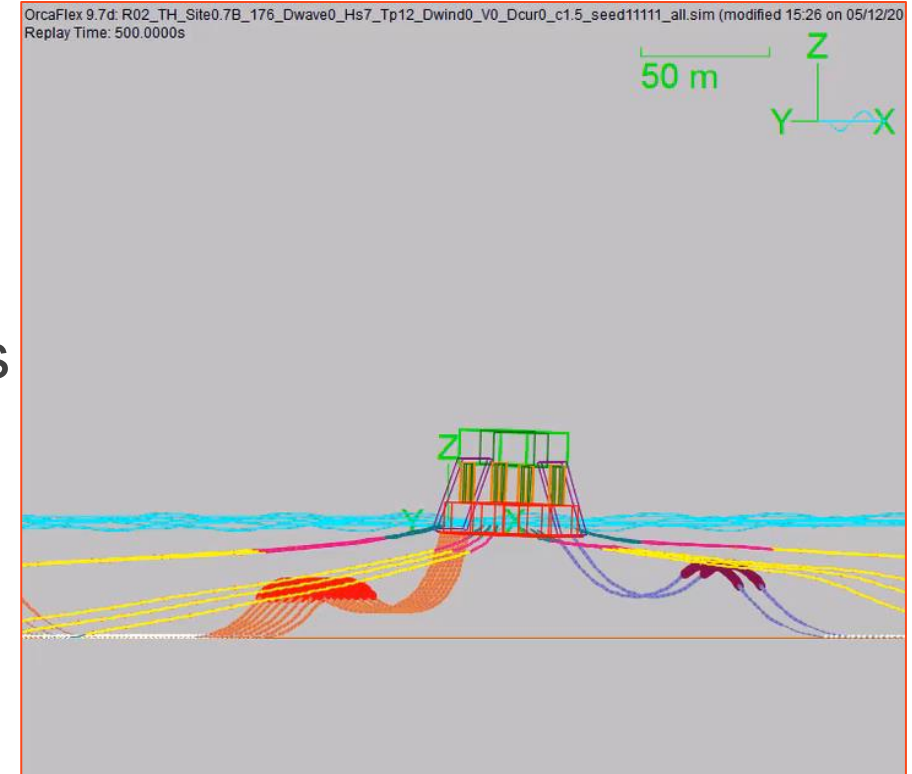
# Main functional requirements

- Standard design suitable for global deployment
  - topside payload and dimensions suitable for 200- 900 MVA capacity
  - Water depth from 60 m to  $\infty$
  - Various severe metocean conditions: Typhoons, North Sea, North Atlantic
- Standard HV equipment (with modifications to structural supports)
- Dynamic subsea cables:  
clash cable/cable, cable/mooring,  
fatigue calculation with **x10 safety** factor
- Deployable in shallow waters
- Propose all conventional substation functions (accommodation, power back-up, maintenance, access, etc.)

Water depth	Max significant wave height	Peak period	Wind speed at 10m	Surface current
45 m	10.0 m	12 s	41 m/s	1.5 m/s
100 m	13.0 m	14 s		
60 m	8.7 m	10 s		

# Main Design Activities

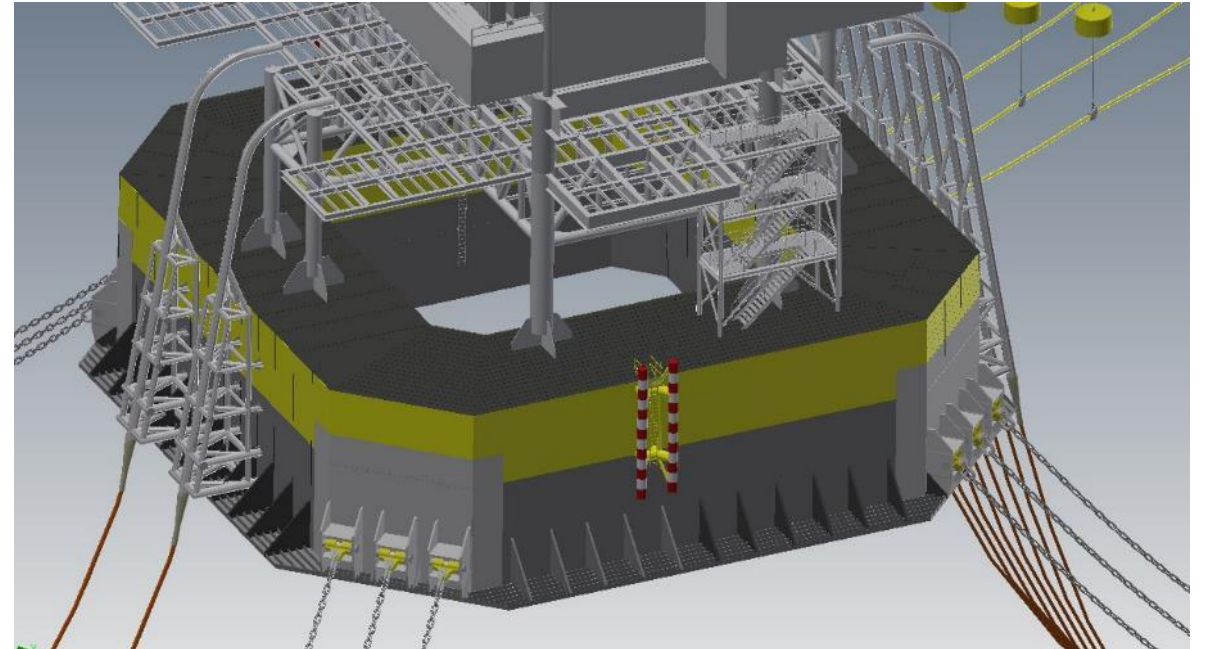
- System Layout
- Hull Design: Breadth, Draught, Freeboard, Access
- Structure Design
- Dynamic Cable Configuration
- Mooring System Design
- Construction and Installation Methods (incl Cable Laying and Hook up)
- Costing Analysis





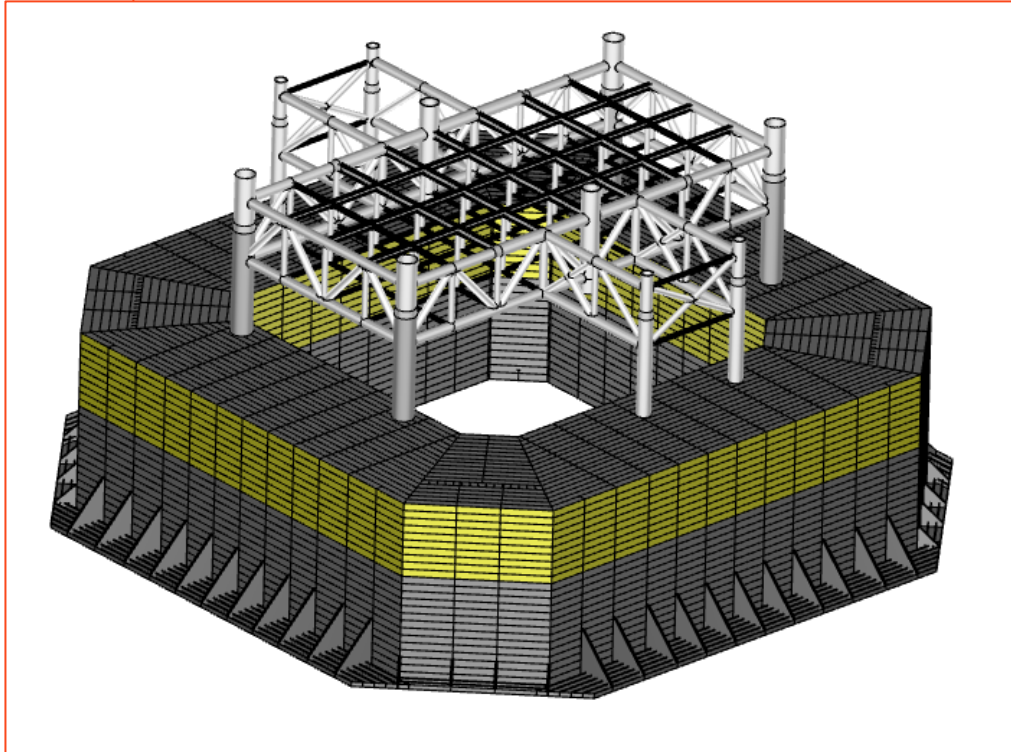
## Access

- **Boatlanding for CTV/SOV, access ladders**
- **Accessible from 2 direction**
- **Helicopter hoisting possible from topside roof**
- **Subsea position of mooring connectors allows vessels approach from either side**



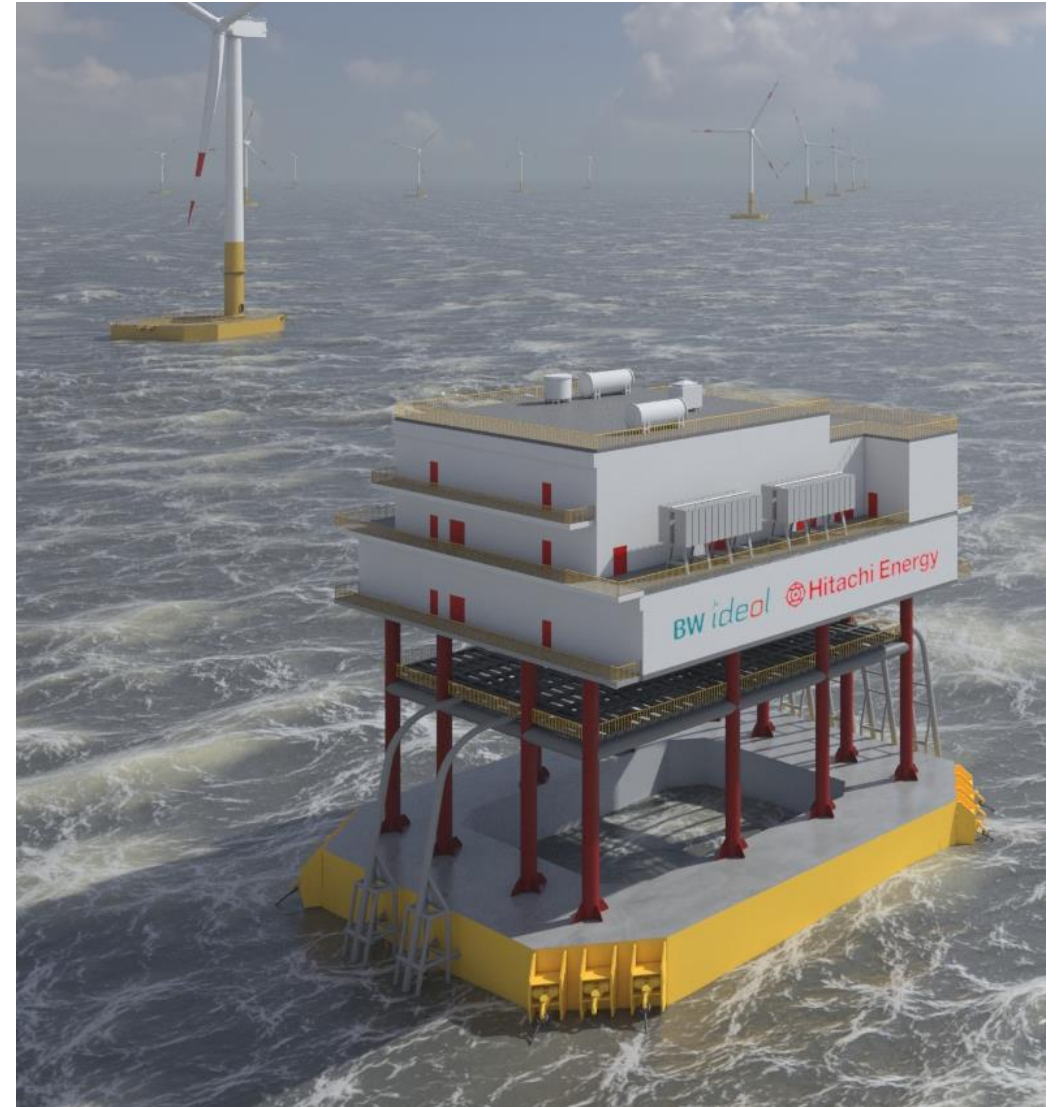
# IDEOL floating substructure

- Hull dimensions:
  - Breadth 43 x 43m
  - Height 12m
  - Moonpool width 25 x 25m
  - Skirt 3m (1m in corners)
  - Operational draft 7m
  - Floater z CoG 16m
  - Displacement 8150t
  - Max allowable topside weight : 4000t
- Topside support structure:
  - Integrated cable deck
  - Weight 350t
  - Topside air-gap 20m
  - Can accommodate several topside sizes
- I-tubes, cable ancillary structure, etc:
  - Weight 400t



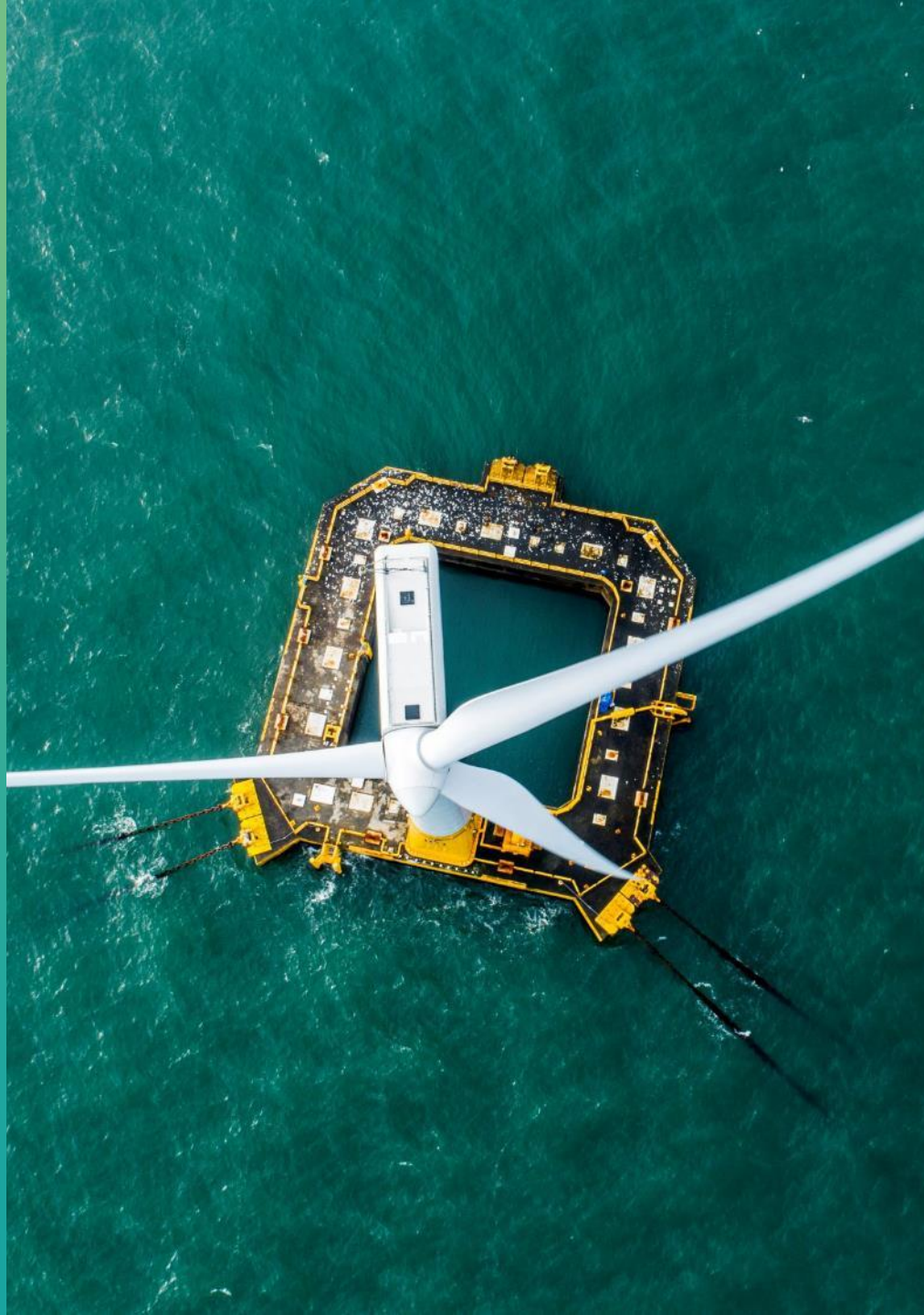
# Conclusions & Key Advantages

- High level of **modularization and standardization** to reduce cost and lead times
- Scalable modularized design adaptable to meet local content requirements, standards and certification requirements
- Well-adapted industrial solution with existing supply chain
- Equipment **accelerations and motions confirmed** with Hitachi Energy
- Quayside mating of hull and top-side and testing/ pre-commissioning
  - no offshore heavy lifts
  - lower weather risk
- Low-cost tow to offshore wind farm sites



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## Examples from the Real World



# Project A

## Windfarm:

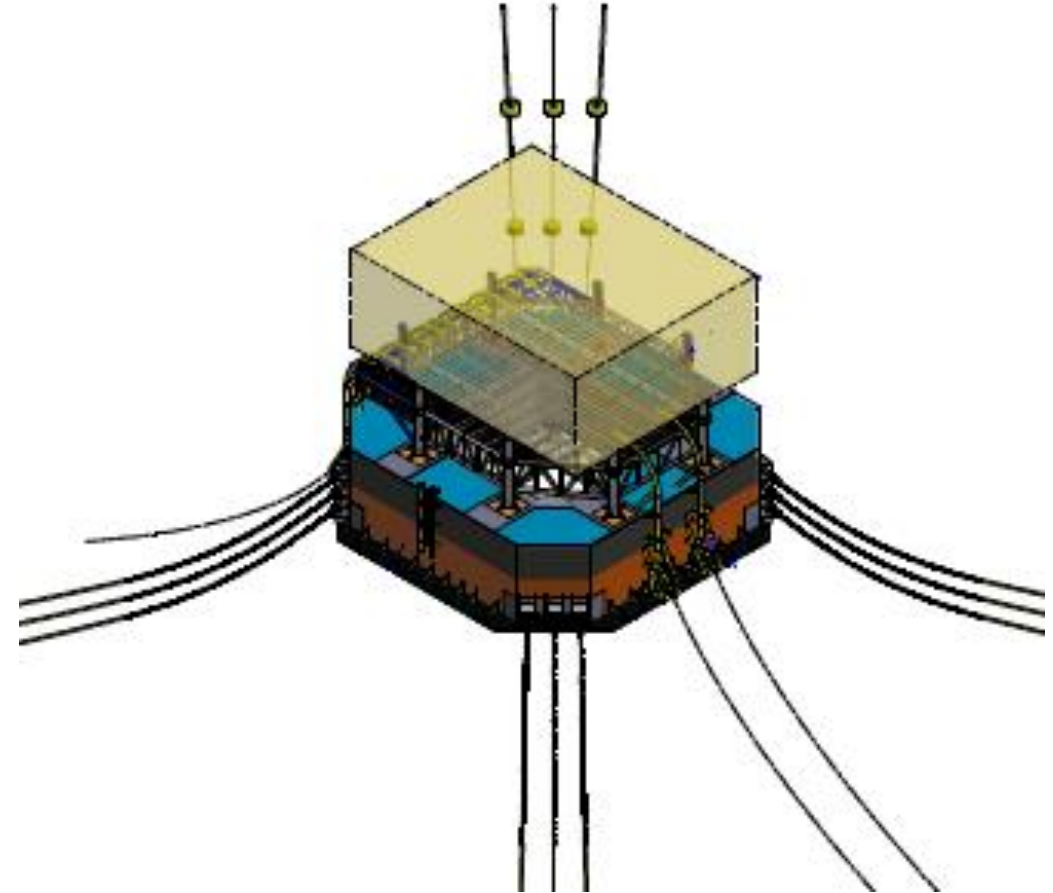
- Total capacity: ~750 MVA
- Metocean Parameter: medium sea conditions

## Topside:

- Total mass : 4000t
- Overall dimensions: 40m x 32m x 15m
- CoG and Inertia as input data

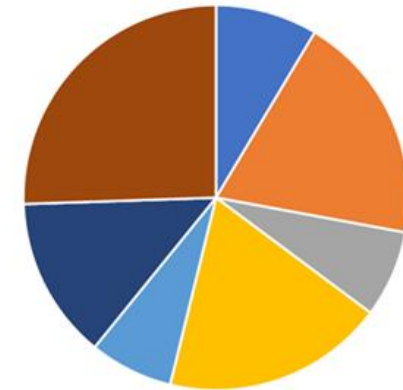
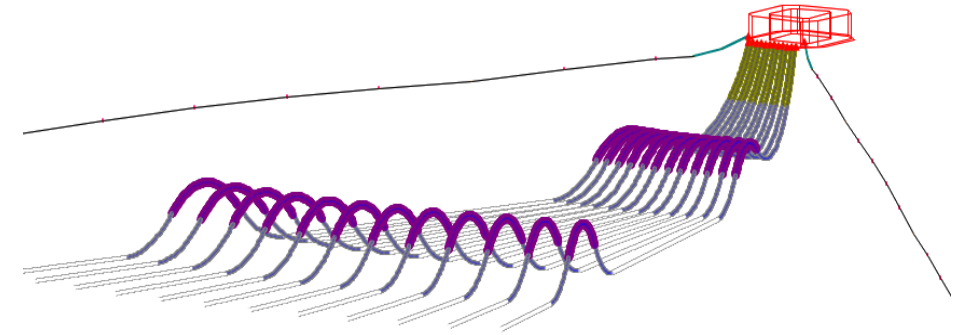
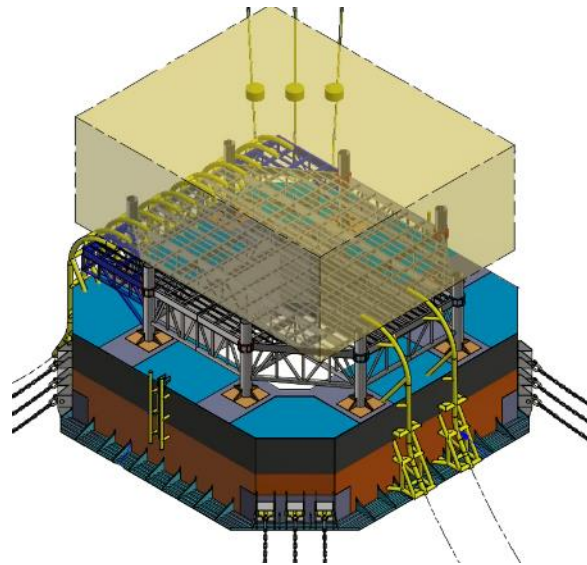
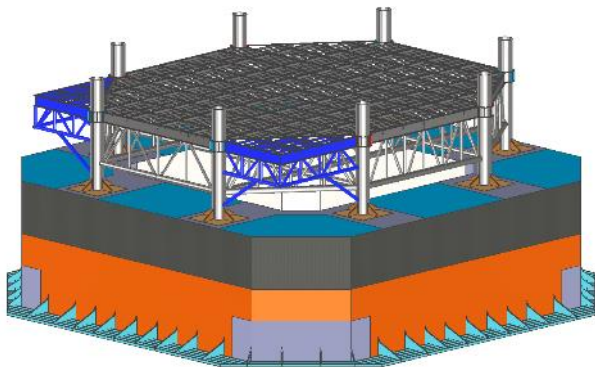
## Dynamic cables:

- 12 Intra Array Cables 66kV 3x800mm<sup>2</sup> Cu
- 2 Export Cables 220kV 3x1600mm<sup>2</sup> Cu



# Project A: Scope

- A) Naval architecture and overall design
- B) Mooring system design
- C) Dynamic Cable design
- D) Hull design
- E) Topside support structure design
- F) Preliminary Costing Study



# Project B

## Windfarm:

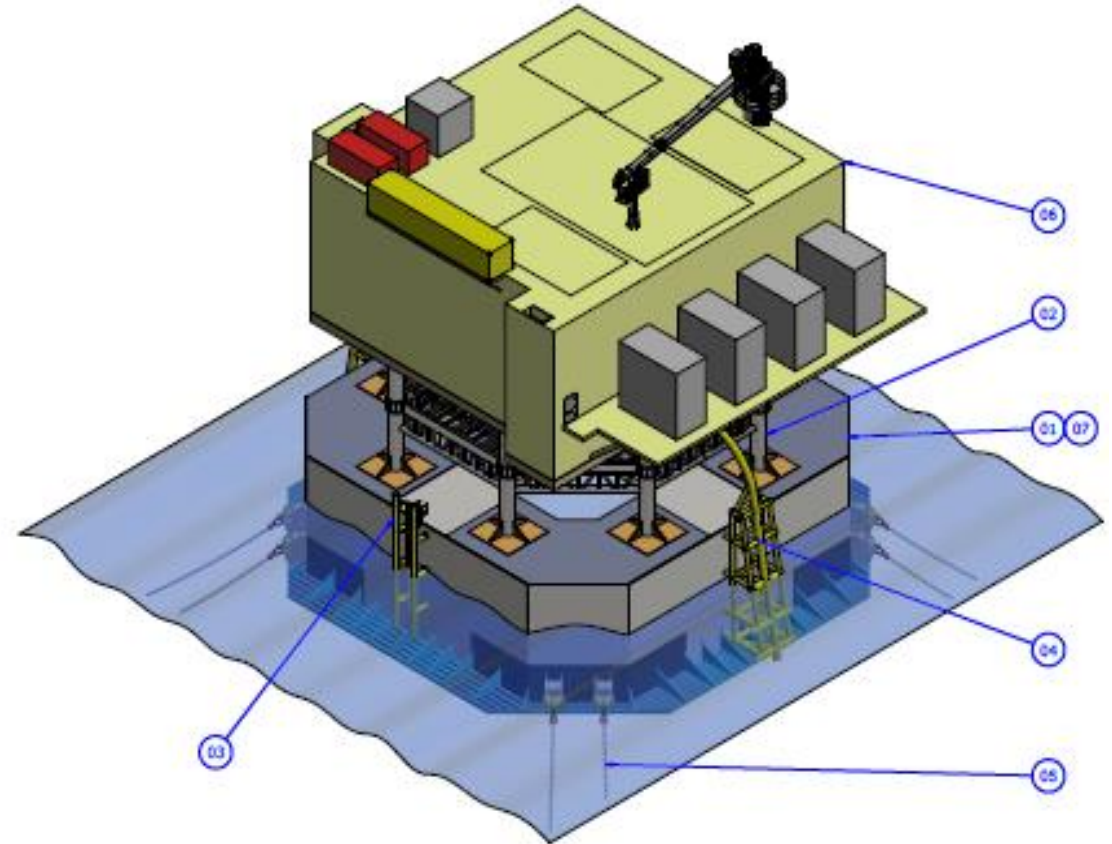
- Total capacity: 250 MVA

## Site:

- Metocean Parameter: “moderate” sea conditio
- 200m sea depth
- 50km distance to shore

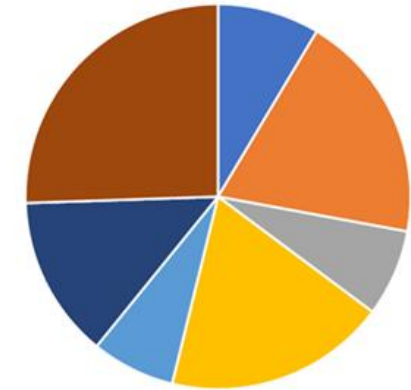
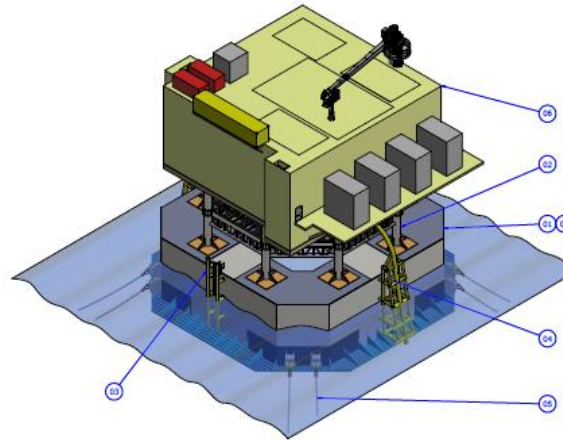
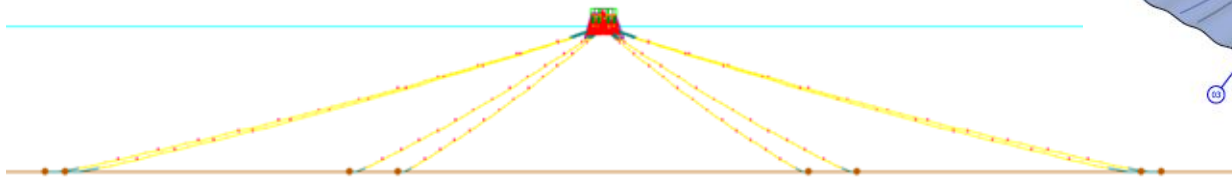
## High Voltage:

- SLD
- 4 incoming cables 66kV
- 2 export cable 220kV



# Project B: Scope

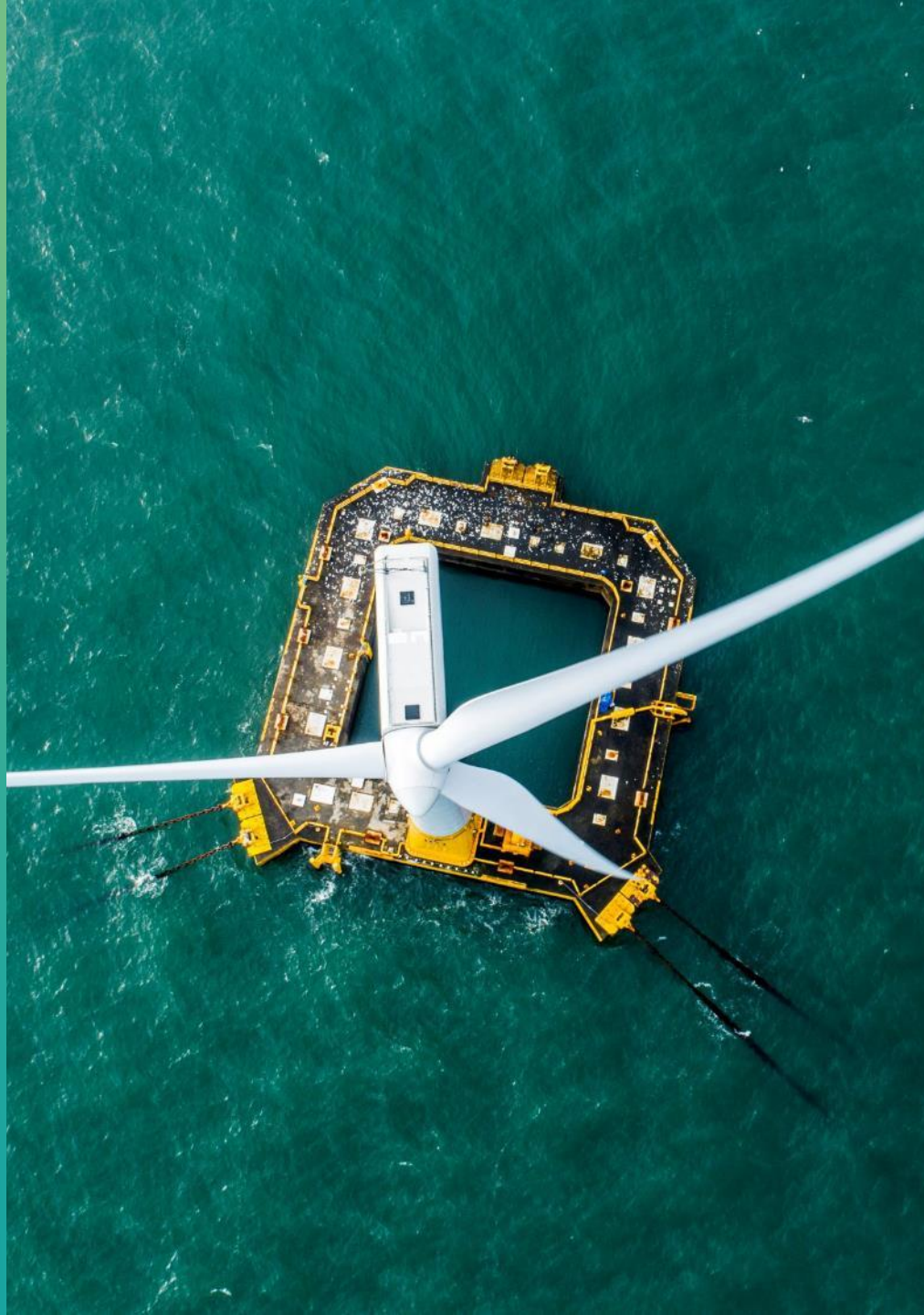
- A) Possible Technical design (incl hull, hv equipment and topside)
- B) Preliminary Layout Drawings
- C) Project Time Schedule
- D) Local Content Potential Assessment
- E) Preliminary Costing





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## Lessons learned



# FAQ TSO & Developer Interactions

- **Technology Readiness Level**
- **Compatibility with HV equipments: Inclination, acceleration & vibration**
- **Scaleability / Maximum size**
- **Operability**
- **Local Content Requirements**
- **Cost Competitiveness**

# Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

## Overall TRL

Whole floating substation	
TRL	Proof of TRL
EU scale	
6	Design completed and individual components designed
7	Completion of construction
8	Commissioning
9	After three years successful operation

## Hull and Topside TRL

Component	TRL	Proof of TRL
	EU scale	
Damping Pool	9	Two demonstrators at sea, seakeeping performance proven and approved by Third Party (ABS)
Hull construction	9	Regular steel hull, similar to that of NEDO project demonstrator
Hull / topside adaptation structure	9	Regular truss structure, analysed by FEM
Mooring system	9	Same mooring system as oil and gas platforms: chain-polyester. Conventional anchors.
Cable connections	9	Same as riser supports on oil and gas platforms

## HV equipments TRL

Component	TRL	Proof of TRL
	EU scale	
66kV inter-array cables	9	Already in use in farms / oil and gas.
220kV dynamic export cable	6	Cable design operated up to 125kV. Fatigue mechanical testing of 220kV conductors missing.
Main transformers	9	No new component qualification, only fatigue-driven reinforcement required.
Shunt reactors	9	No new component qualification, only fatigue-driven reinforcement required.
66kV gas insulated switch gear	9	Already in use on floating wind turbines.
220kV gas insulated switch gear	6	Proof of switching under low frequency accelerations required.
Utilities	9	All utilities similar to ship-type structures.

# Compatibility & Scalability

## Compatibility with HV equipments:

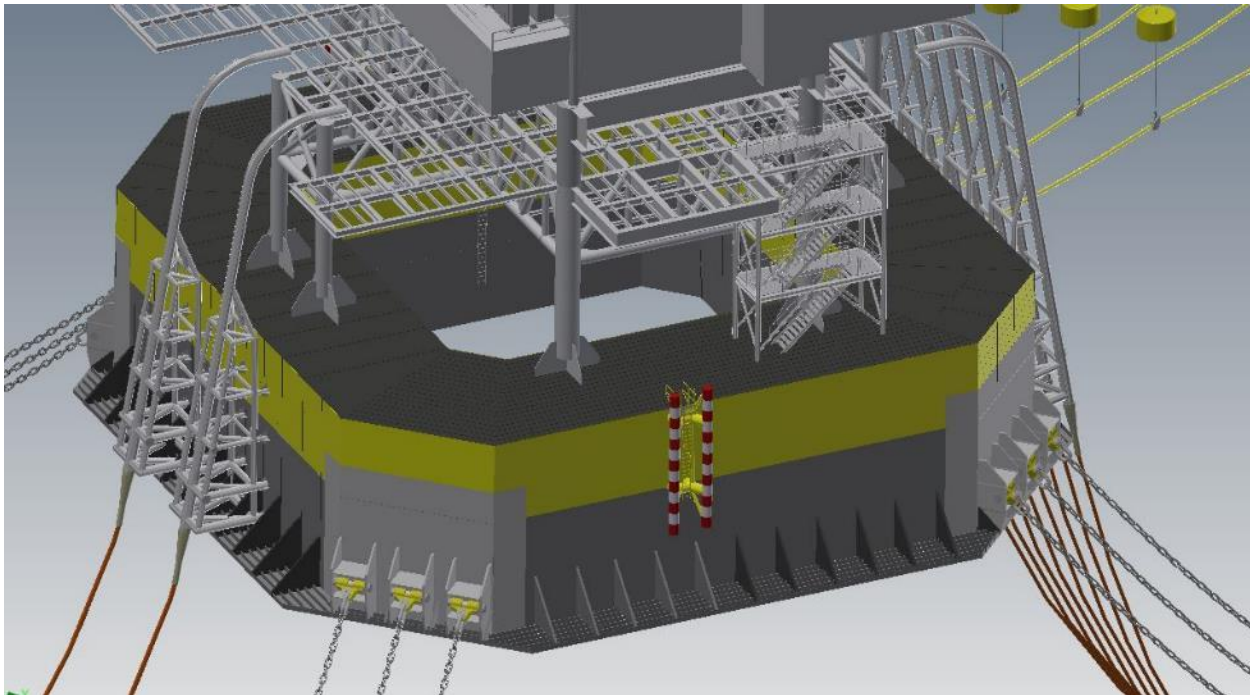
- fully verified and confirmed with  **Hitachi Energy**

## Scalability / Maximum size

- Initial design for 200-900 MVA range substation (4000t topside)
- No limit in terms of floater size and capacity
- Optimised cabling/Redundancy to be considered

# Operability

- Major Component Replacement
- Minimum downtime period (mooring line replacement)
- Extreme conditions: typhoon, tsunami



# Local Content & Competitiveness

## Local Content Requirements

- **Supply chain studies to maximize local content**

## Cost Competitiveness

- **Good feedback from the market on CAPEX, benefits in insurance and installation cost need to be verified**
- **Specific to site and project configuration: difficult soils, seismic loads etc. likely to improve business case of floating**
- **When possible: utilize FOW Hull construction infrastructure synergies for increased competitiveness**

Thank you.

**BW** *ideol*

Mathieu Roualdes  
Pre-Sales Project Manager  
[mathieu.roualdes@bw-ideol.com](mailto:mathieu.roualdes@bw-ideol.com)



**Justin Jones**

**Petrofac** 



# FLOATING SUBSTATIONS

24<sup>th</sup> August 2023



Petrofac 

# INTRODUCTION

# Introduction - Petrofac

**#27**

ENR Top 250 International contractors of the world



**+200**

Major projects delivered



**7,950**

worldwide employees



**>4.5 MILLION**

Annual engineering man-hours



**>US\$2 BILLION**

Procurement spend (on average per year)



**>200 MILLION**

Average annual direct construction man-hours



**40 year**

Track record



**31 offices**

Worldwide 29 countries



# Introduction – Petrofac wind EPC track record



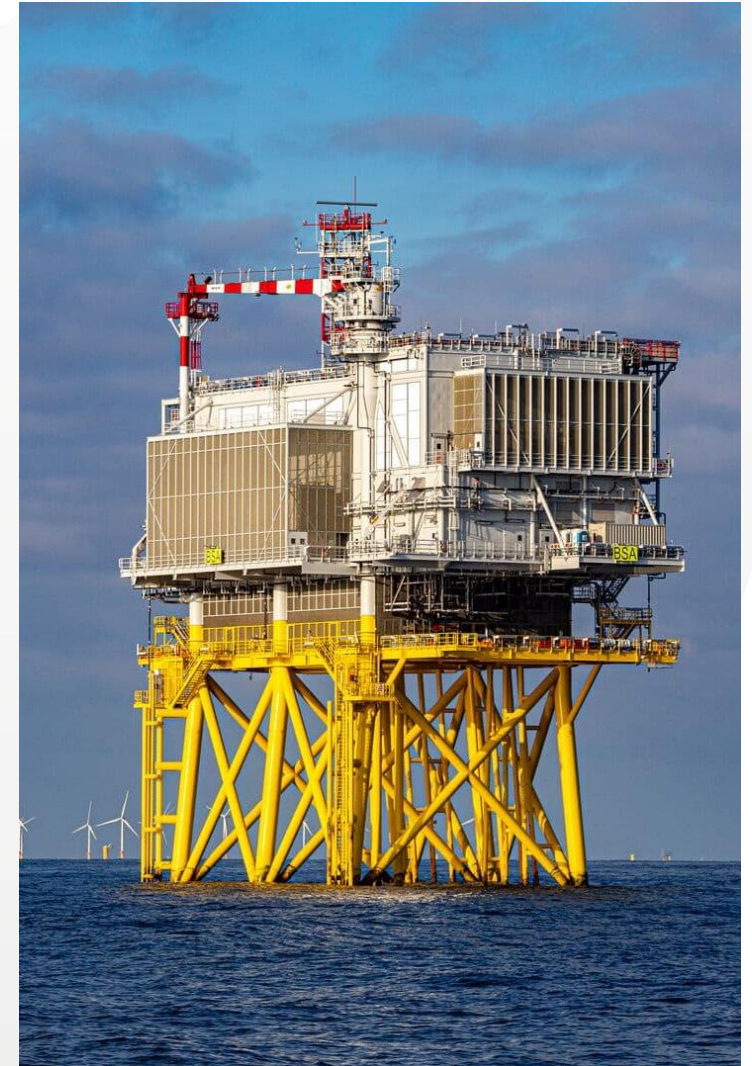
# Selected offshore substation designs

Project	Location	Completion Date	Description
Confidential	Irish Sea	2023	Concepts for AC substations of 400MW and 800MW
Confidential	Offshore Korea	2022	Concepts for AC floating and fixed substations of 400MW, 800MW and 1.2GW in 140m water depth
HKZ	North Sea, Holland	2023	EPCI of two AC substations, Alpha and Beta, of 700MW each, in around 20m water depth
Confidential	North Sea, Germany	2022	Pre-FEED for 225MW and 400MW AC substations
Seagreen	North Sea, Scotland	2022	EPCI of the topside, jacket and piles for the substation for the 1075MW wind farm
BorWin3	North Sea, Germany	2019	EPCI of an HVDC convertor station
Parkwind Arcadis	Baltic Sea, Germany	2019	Stressed skin topsides design for a monopile-based substation
Scotwind bid	Scotland	2019	Development of jackets and floating concepts for AC and DC substation options
Moray West	Scotland	2019	Concept design for an 800MW OSS in 46m water
Triton Knoll	The Wash	2016	Concept design for a monopile substructure and topsides
East Anglia One	Suffolk	2016	Concept, FEED detail design and EPCI for the jacket of a 700MW substation

# FLOATING SUBSTATIONS

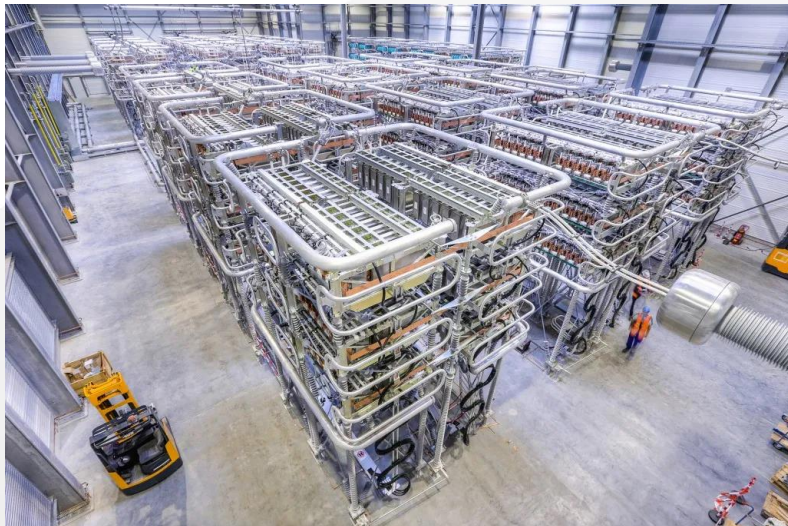
# Floating substation function

- Connect to the arrays at 66kV, up to 80MW per circuit
- Export to shore at 220kV, up to 400MW per circuit
- Key equipment
  - Array switchgear
  - Transformer
  - Shunt reactor
  - Export switchgear
- Unlikely to be used as a service hub for the windfarm

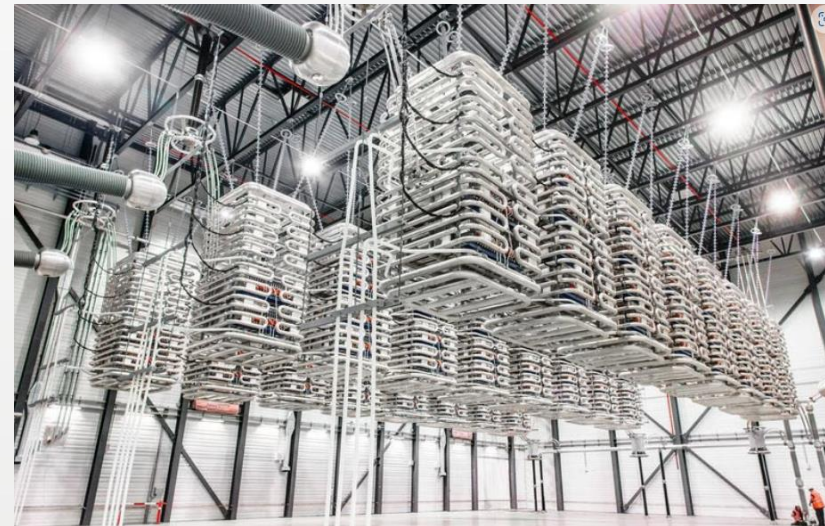


# AC vs DC

- Used offshore in O&G applications
- Limited modification for floating
- Structural stiffness/isolation
- AC export cables (e.g. 220, 275kV) yet to be developed
- Large enclosed space
- Sensitive converter equipment
- Floor or ceiling mounted
- Likely to be fatigue issues
- DC export cables further away



Courtesy Siemens

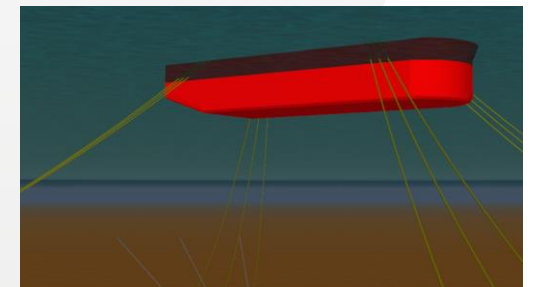
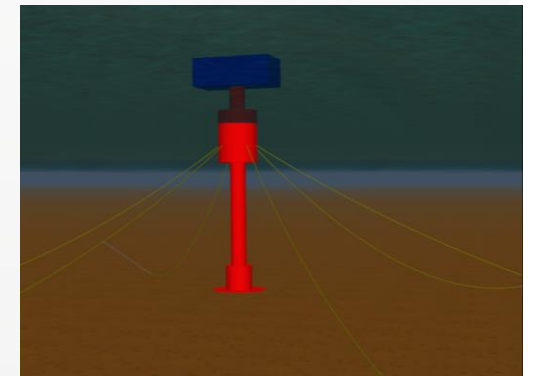
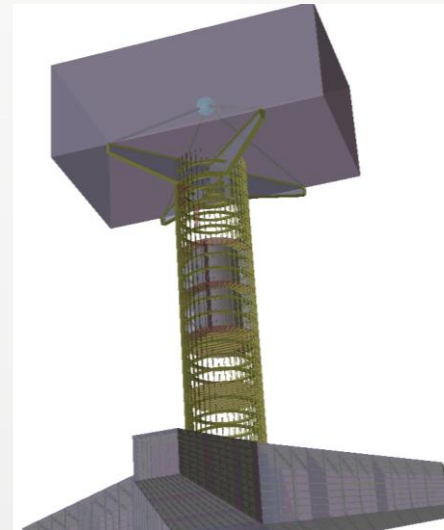
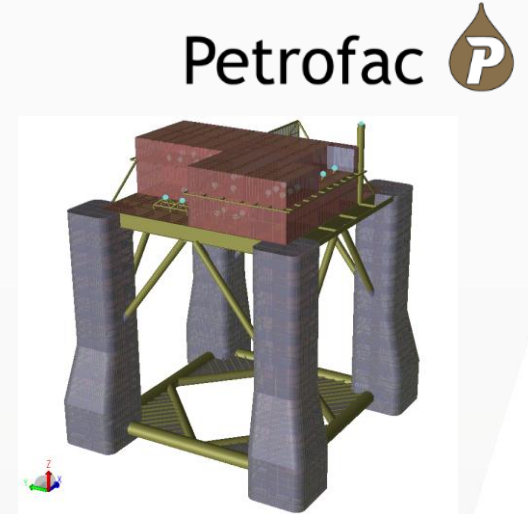
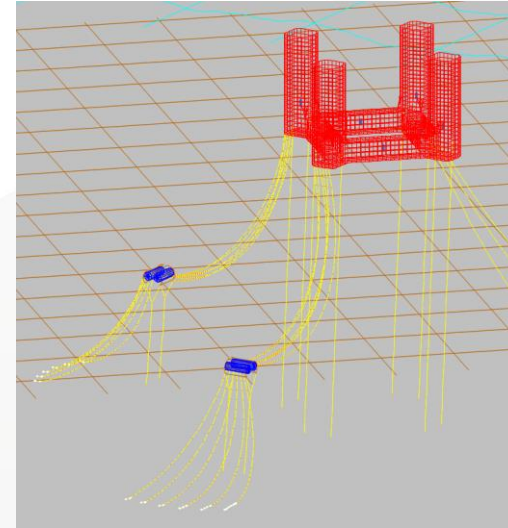


Courtesy ABB



# Hull design

- Hull form
  - Semi-submersible
  - Tension leg platform
  - Spar
  - Barge/ship shaped
- Current and wave conditions
- Separation of cables and moorings
- J-tube protection
- Electrical equipment accelerations

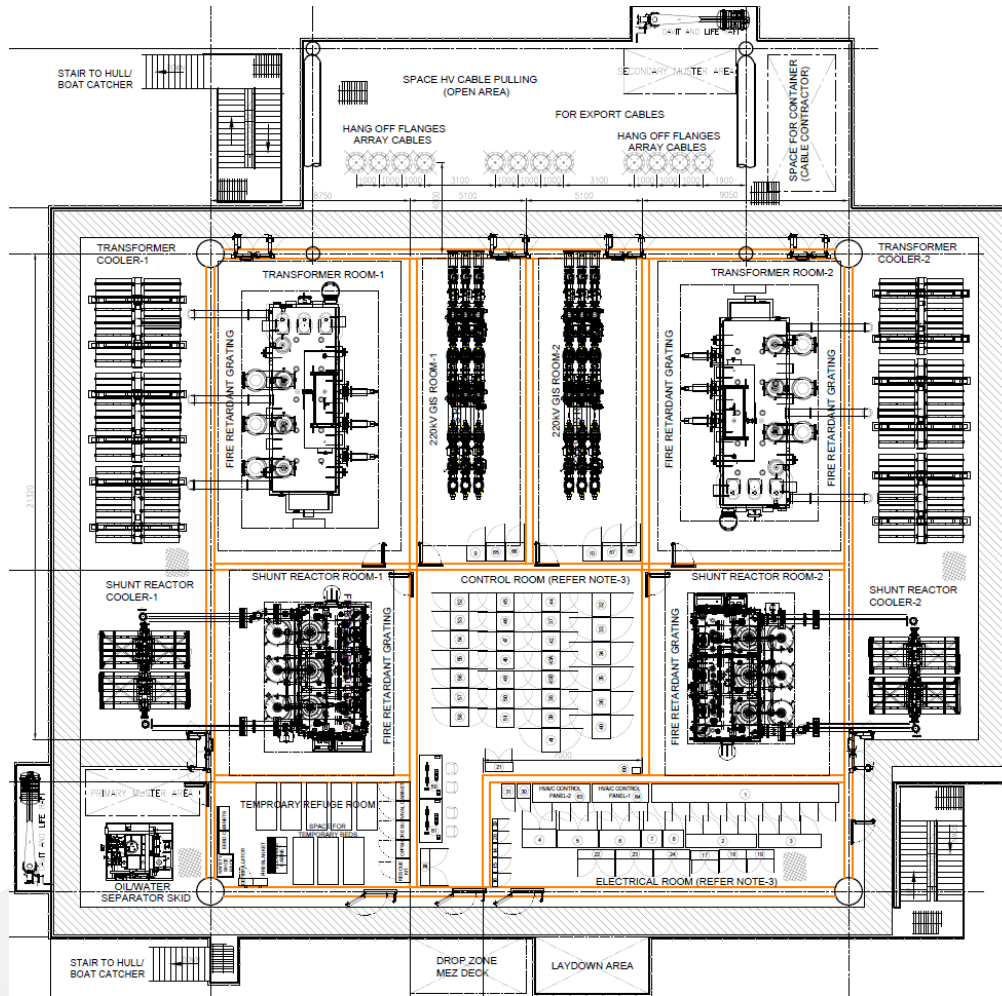


# Hull design – semi-submersible example

- Early design decisions
- Integrated topside or separate
  - Construction and yard capability
  - Enclosed or in open transformers
- Interfaces vs structural efficiency
- Re-use of O&G vessel?



# Topside design choices



- Balance
- 2/3 equipment mass in transformers
- Efficient mass distribution
- Flow of power through the design
- Transformer/shunt reactor coolant
- Separation and firefighting
- Designs need to be developed for offshore ester transformers
- Access and egress
- Cranes, boat landings and laydown

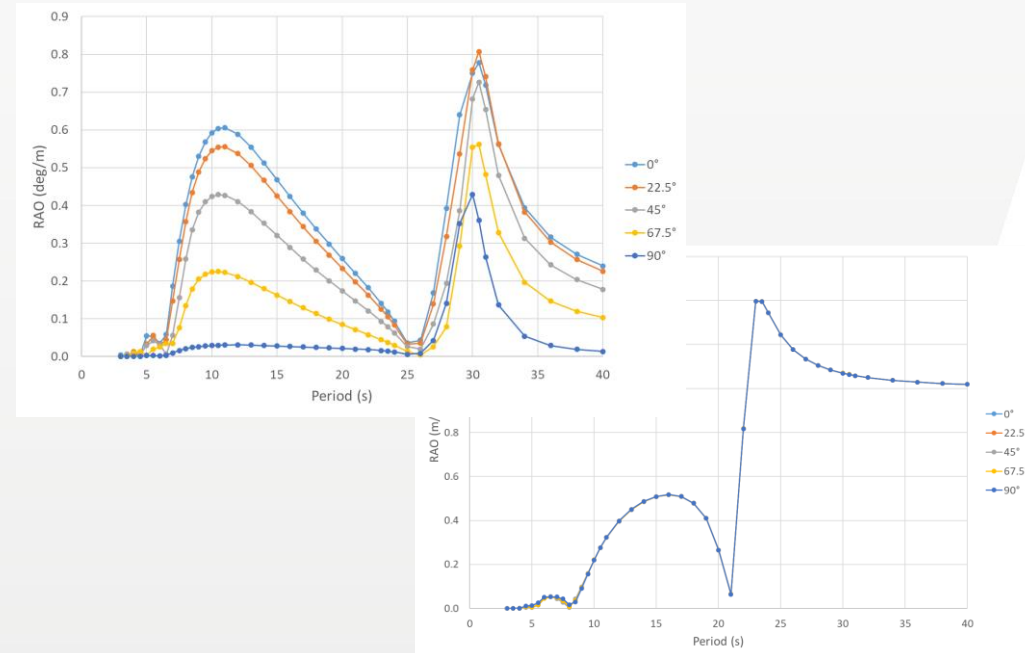
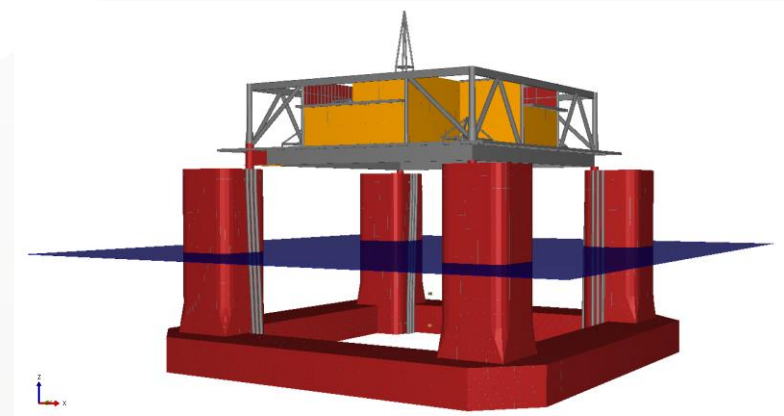
# EXAMPLE

# Floating substation - Parameters

- 140m water depth
- AC, 1.2GW capacity, three export circuits
- High current area with high storm seastate
- Semi-submersible and TLP options investigated
- Semi-submersible selected by client
- Transformers in the open ~500 tonnes each
- Shunt reactors ~150 tonnes each

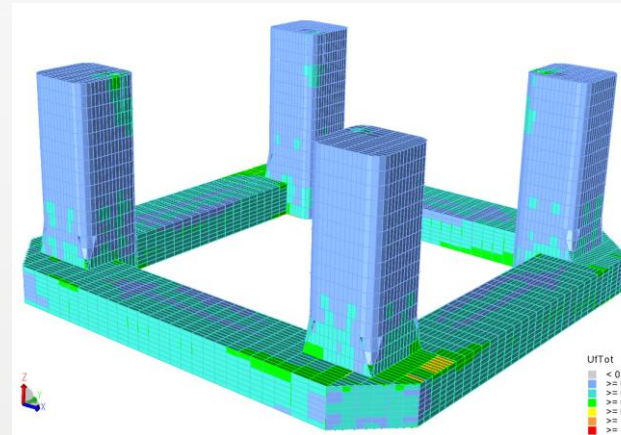
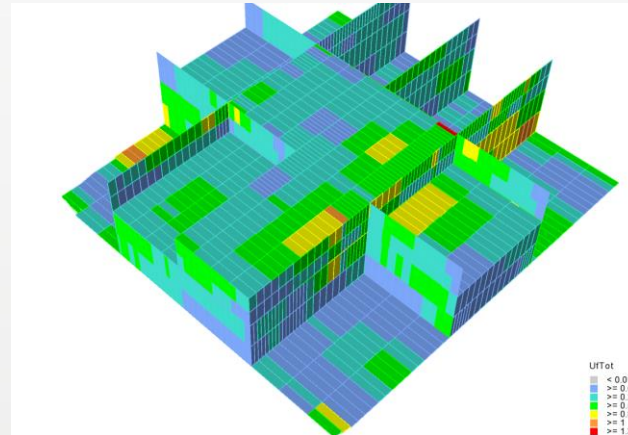
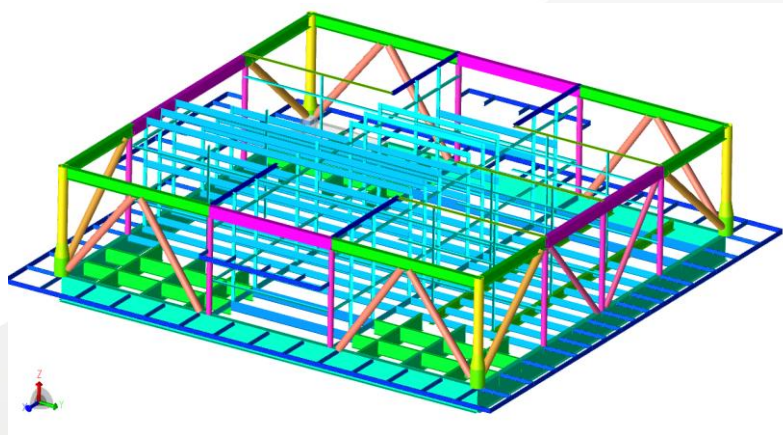
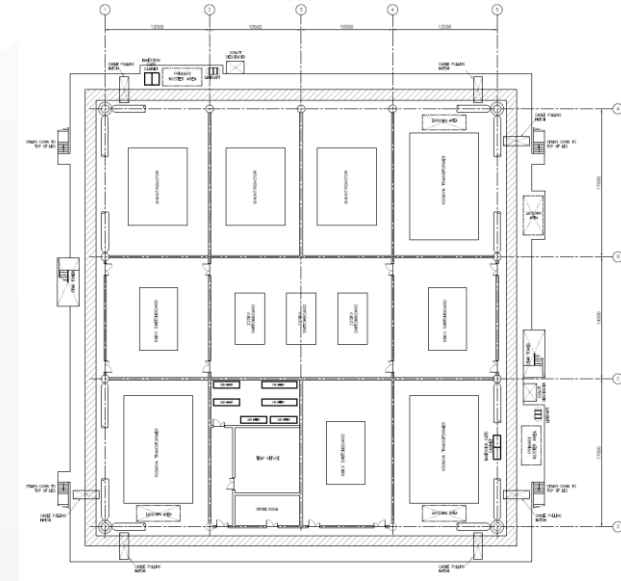
# Floating substation – Hull development

- Different hull options tested
- J-tubes supported/protected by hull
- Set up for cable pulling after installation
- Hydrodynamic analysis
- Aim for heave, pitch out of wave range
- Sets the column size and spacing



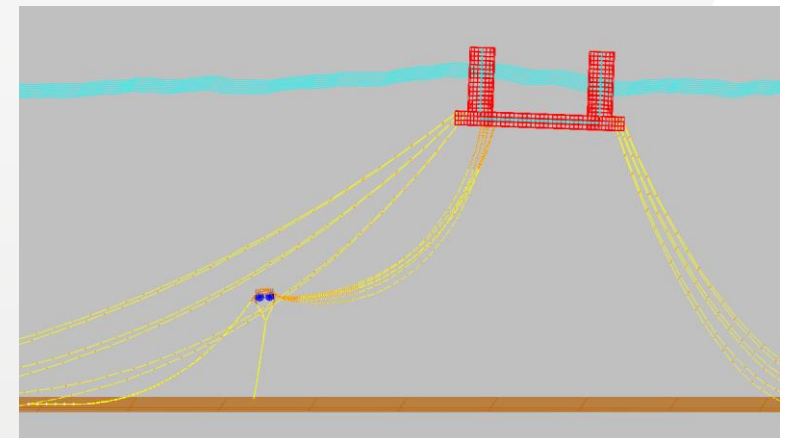
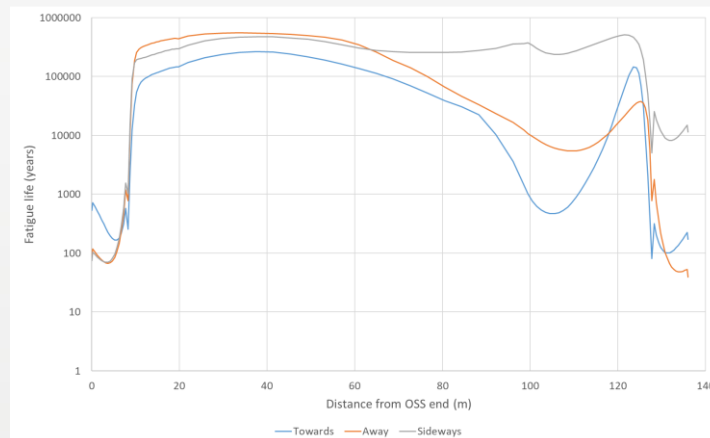
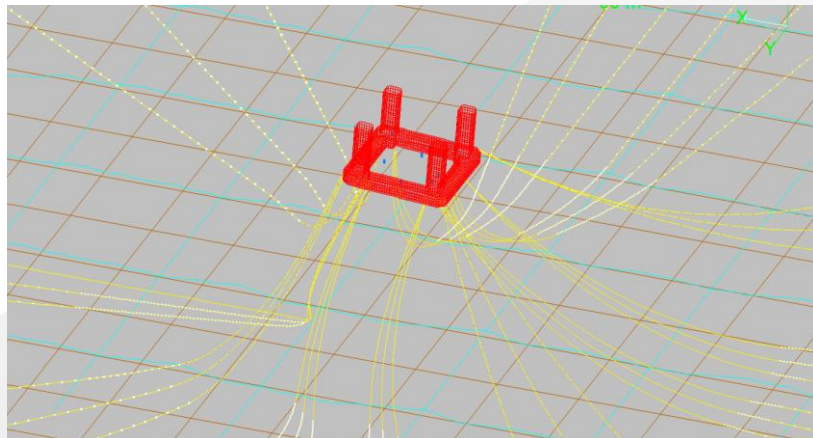
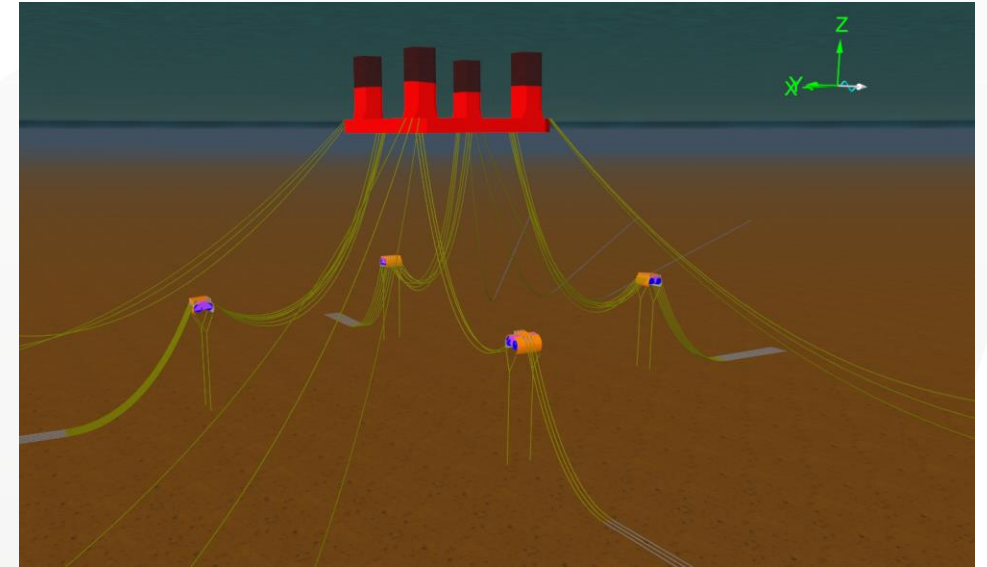
# Floating substation – Structural design

- Topside independently constructed
- Heavy lift for topside installation
- Structural assessments in Sesam
- Stressed-skin spine to the topside



# Floating substation – Cable and moorings

- Orcaflex analysis for motions, design of moorings and cables
- Cable design a balance between offsets, displacement in high current, fatigue
- Potential for clashing





# Conclusion

- 1.2GW AC substation concept developed
- Design choices specific to the location
- Largest barrier is the development of export cables
- Mass 9,500 tonnes vs 15,000 tonnes for bottom fixed
- Costing (vessel and mooring construction, installation, commissioning) showed a small difference between the fixed and floating options

## Contact

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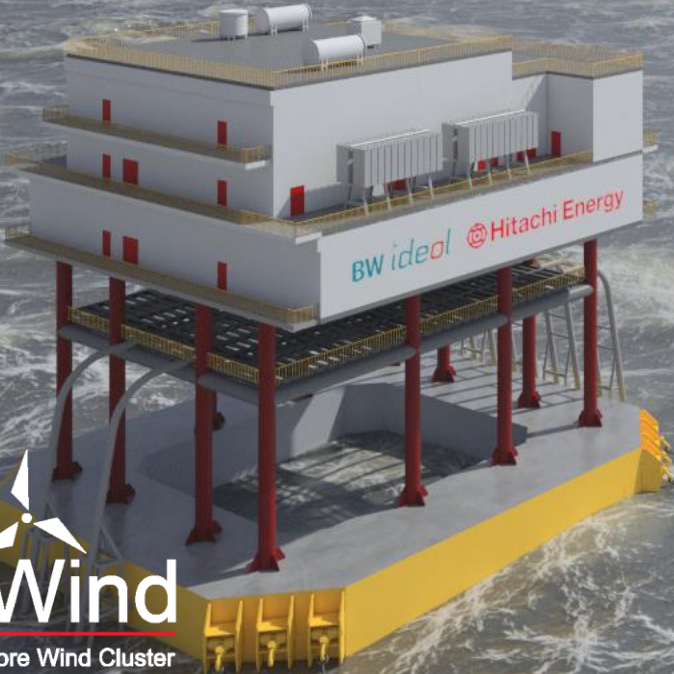
**Structures Group Manager  
Petrofac Engineering and Consultancy Services**

**Juan Antonio Gonzalez Diaz**



# Q&A Session

24th August 2023



**DeepWind**  
North of Scotland Offshore Wind Cluster



Image source – BW Ideal