Hitachi Zosen and Ideol officialize the start of their floaters’ construction

Less than a month after the official launch of Ideol’s first demonstrator (Floatgen), Hitachi Zosen and Ideol have signed a contract launching the construction phase of their 2 floating offshore wind turbines. This second contract follows the achievement of the design & engineering phase which started a year ago.

These 2 floaters will be each manufactured with different materials (concrete and steel), will be equipped with different wind turbines and will be anchored using different mooring line materials.

The construction of these 2 floaters is the result of an extensive year-long collaboration between Hitachi Zosen’s and Ideol’s design and engineering teams, successfully meeting all the stringent ClassNK requirements in the process.

Tadashi Shibayama (Hitz) commented: “We very much appreciate our collaboration with Ideol on this floating offshore wind project. Our project team is particularly excited to pursue its work with Ideol’s engineers and experts.”

Paul de la Guérivière (Ideol’s CEO) announced: « We are particularly pleased to start the construction of our next two floaters in the world’s most advanced and leading market for floating offshore wind. We are fully confident in the global competitiveness of our technology and look forward to work on Japan’s first commercial scale floating wind farms with a leading partner such as Hitachi Zosen. Our teams have achieved tremendous work in record time together, confirming the undeniable benefits of Ideol’s strategy which is to integrate a maximum of the technical expertise in-house in order to provide our customers and partners with the immediate reactivity such capital intensive projects require. »
PRESS RELEASE

Ideol, based in La Ciotat (France), was created in 2010 with the aim of developing both technically AND economically viable floating foundation solutions for the offshore wind industry. Recipient of numerous innovation and entrepreneurship awards, the company benefits from the support of a large and prestigious panel of public and private investors.

Its industry-changing and patented “Damping Pool” design is compatible with all existing standard offshore wind turbines. Maximizing local content and optimizing the entire process from construction to installation, maintenance and decommissioning have been the company’s key priorities since day one.

Its particularly cost-competitive solution allows for the development of projects without any water depth or soil constraints on sites benefiting from the best available wind resources. On top of a minimal visual impact from the shore, Ideol’s solution generates an increase of power production per turbine leading to a significant drop in the overall cost of energy.

Benefiting from the experience and know-how of a fully integrated team of nearly 60 experts and engineers coming from the offshore oil & gas and renewables industries, the company is currently working on several demonstrator and pre-commercial projects across the globe. In 2016, demonstrators equipped with Ideol’s technology will be built on two continents - Europe and Asia (Japan), positioning Ideol as a leader in this booming market.

HITACHI ZOSEN (Hitz) is a leading Japanese corporation with high levels of expertise in design and construction of floating structures such as Osaka’s Yunemai Bridge (the world’s first floating swing bridge completed in 2000) and GPS buoys for the real time offshore measurement of tsunamis. It has been involved in the development of floating offshore wind power generation since 2010.

HITACHI ZOSEN continues to actively work on the R&D of offshore wind power generation and intends to accelerate such efforts by means of leveraging the expertise of IDEOL through this technical cooperation.

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