

Research and Development Activities in Offshore Renewable Energy in the UK

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A summary Offshore Renewable Energy Research in the UK



Key Components are:

Investment in University Research:

e.g. Supergen Marine and Supergen Wind Programmes, funded by UK Government *Engineering & Physical Science Research Council (EPSRC)*

Investment in Industry, and Industry / University Research: via UK Government funded *Technology Strategy Board (TSB)* via Energy Technologies Institute (ETI)

Investment in novel facilities: e.g. EMEC (European Marine Energy Centre) via wide variety of public bodies including Scottish Government, Carbon Trust

European Union funded Research





SUPERGEN UK MARINE ENERGY RESEARCH



The EPSRC funded SUPERGEN UK Marine Energy Research Consortium has been tackling a wide range of challenges associated with wave and tidal power.

Prototype devices exist for generating marine energy, but there is still a lot to learn about marine energy resources and ways to efficiently harness them and feed energy into networks.

SUPERGEN UK Marine Research Energy Partners are aiming to provide solutions to ensure marine energy can make a significant contribution to the sustainable energy mix to meet the challenges in accelerating deployment towards 2020 targets as well as to expand and operate an inclusive marine network of academic researchers, industry partners and international collaborators, and to continue to provide the highest quality of doctoral training and knowledge transfer in partnership with industry to build intellectual and human capacity for the sector





SUPERGEN UK MARINE ENERGY RESEARCH



Partner Universities:

University of Edinburgh
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
Queen's University Belfast
University of Exeter

Associate Universities :

University of Cambridge
Cardiff University
University of Dundee
Heriot-Watt University
Imperial College, London
Lancaster University
University of Manchester
Plymouth University
Swansea University
University of Oxford
University Southampton





SUPERGEN UK MARINE ENERGY RESEARCH PHASE: 1 (2003-2007)

- WP1: Resource and Interactions**
- WP2: Evaluation and Optimisation**
- WP3: Engineering Guidance**
- WP4: Offshore Energy Conversion**
- WP5: Chemical Conversion**
- WP6: Network Interaction**
- WP7: Lifetime Economics**
- WP8: Moorings and Foundations**
- WP9: Novel Control Systems**
- WP10: Full-scale Field Validation**
- WP11: Testing of Tidal Devices**
- WP12: Economic, Environmental and Social Impact**
- WP13: Dissemination and Outreach**





SUPERGEN UK MARINE ENERGY RESEARCH PHASE: 2 (2007-2011)



- WS1: Numerical and Physical Convergence**
- WS2: Optimisation**
- WS3: Combined Wave and Tidal Effects**
- WS4: Arrays, Wakes and Near Field Effects**
- WS5: Power Take-Off and Conditioning**
- WS6: Moorings and Positioning**
- WS7: Advanced Control**
- WS8: Reliability**
- WS9: Economic Analysis**
- WS10: Ecological Consequences**
- WS11: Doctoral Training Programme**
- WS12: Dissemination of Results**





SUPERGEN UK MARINE ENERGY RESEARCH PHASE: 3 (2011-2016)



- 1. SMARTY- Bridging the gap between the hydrodynamic loads that actually occur on real devices and what can be predicted using current engineering best practice.**
- 2. Effects of Realistic Tidal Flows on Tidal Stream Turbines**
- 3. Designing for Survivability**
- 4. Increasing the life of Marine Turbines**
- 5. Interactions Under Combined Waves and Tidal Conditions**
- 6. Extreme Loading of Marine Energy Devices Due to Waves, Currents, Flotsam and Mammal Impact (X-MED)**
- 7. TeraWatt**
- 8. Environmental Impacts of Marine Energy Farms**
- 9. Optimal Design of Large Tidal Farms**
- 10. Reducing the Costs of Marine Renewables via Advanced Structural Materials**





SUPERGEN UK Wind Energy Research



The EPSRC supports consortium of seven academic partners to undertake research to improve the cost-effective reliability and availability of existing and future large-scale wind turbine systems in the UK.

Partner Universities:

- 1. University of Strathclyde, Glasgow**
- 2. University of Durham**
- 3. Rutherford Appleton Laboratory**
- 4. Loughborough University**
- 5. University of Manchester**
- 6. Manchester Metropolitan University**
- 7. Surrey University**





SUPERGEN UK Wind Energy Research Phase-1 (2006-2010)



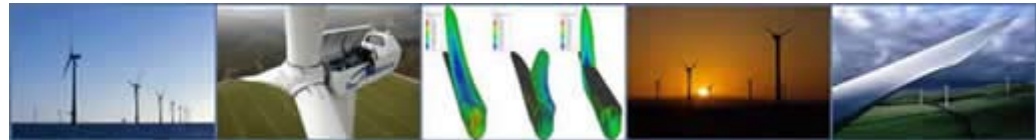
Research Themes:

1. Baselining Wind Turbine Performance

- Reliability and Availability
- Wind Turbine Configuration
- Wind Characteristics

2. Drive-train Loads & Monitoring

- Turbine Characterisation
- Condition Monitoring



3. Structural Loads & Materials

- Wind Turbine Component Design
- Aerodynamic Estimation for Operational Control
- Active Load Reduction
- Engineering Large Wind Turbines

4. Environmental Issues

- Foundation Scour
- Radar Cross Section (RCS)
- Lightning Protection





SUPERGEN UK Wind Energy Research Phase-2 (2010-2014)



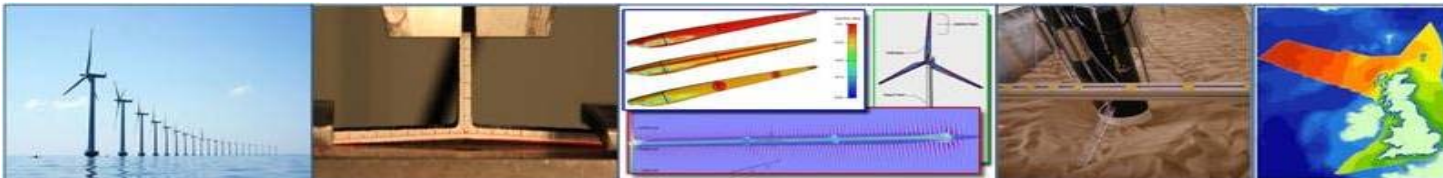
Research Themes:

1. The Farm

- Offshore wind resource
- Wakes and aerodynamics
- Radar and the environment
- Optimisation of farm performance
- Multiple wake impacts on machines

2. The Turbine

- Drive train dynamics
- Rotor-wind field interaction
- Turbine blade and tower materials
- Fault detection for a greater range of future wind turbine drive train configurations





SUPERGEN UK Wind Energy Research Phase-2 (2010-2014)



Research Themes (continued)

3. The Connection

- New offshore nacelle and sub-station equipment arrangements
- Offshore control schemes
- Connection to shore
- Integration of energy storage

4. The wind farm as a power station

- Offshore Connection
- Economics and Performance
- Asset Management
- Dynamic Loading and Structures



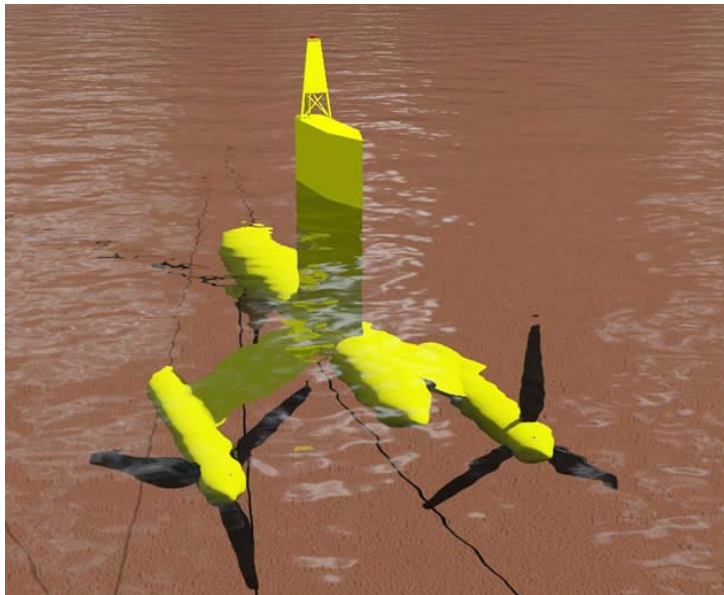
UK Government Technology Strategy Board (TSB)



TSB supports industry-led collaborative research

Recent programmes support deployment and operation of wave and tidal device arrays (2012):

1. Developing electrical connection architectures for large-scale tidal arrays



2. Developing novel vessels for installation and maintenance of tidal devices

3. Developing novel systems for preventing biofouling

UK Government Technology Strategy Board (TSB)



TSB recently announced an investment of about £7.5m in collaborative R&D projects to accelerate the development of innovative infrastructure technologies for the offshore wind, wave and tidal stream industries, to help reduce the cost of electricity generation.

These projects include:

- 1. Development and Demonstration of an intelligent active mooring load-management system (IAMS)**
- 2. Reducing the Cost of HVDC Offshore Platforms**
- 3. TLPWIND UK: "Driving the cost down of offshore wind in UK Waters"**
- 4. Development of a new integrated approach for Structural health monitoring and lifecycle management of offshore wind turbine foundations and transition pieces. (Acronym: Pile-Monitor)**
- 5. Rationalising offshore wind-turbine pile design and assurance in difficult ground**
- 6. Steered LIDAR Resource Performance and Condition Monitoring For Optimising Offshore Wind Infrastructure**
- 7. PLAT-0 2 - Proving a Low Cost, Composite, Buoyant, Mid-Stream Tidal Turbine Platform at Full-Scale**
- 8. Offshore Foundation Condition Monitoring Systems (OFCMS)**
- 9. Design, build and testing of a 50 kVA SiC BJT inverter as a building block for high-power HVDC inverters**



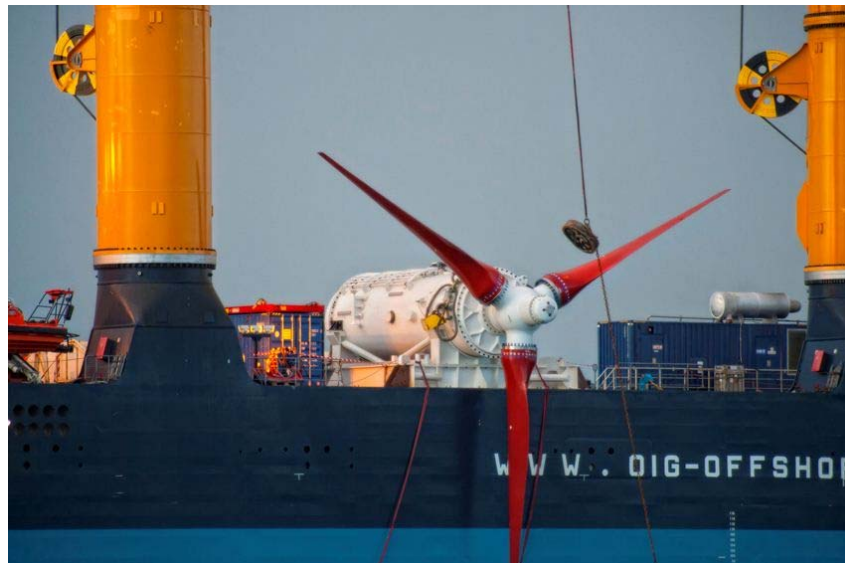
UK Government Technology Strategy Board (TSB)



TSB recently launched *Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult* (based in Glasgow)

The ORE Catapult focusses on technologies for offshore wind, wave and tidal energy. It aims at the identification, development and rapid commercialisation of innovative technology to deliver affordable, offshore renewable energy.

The ORE works in collaboration with policy makers, industry large and small, utilities, owners and the UK's research organisations and will provide RE&D support to SMEs.



Transferring knowledge from established industries (e.g. oil & gas)

Started in Spring 2013

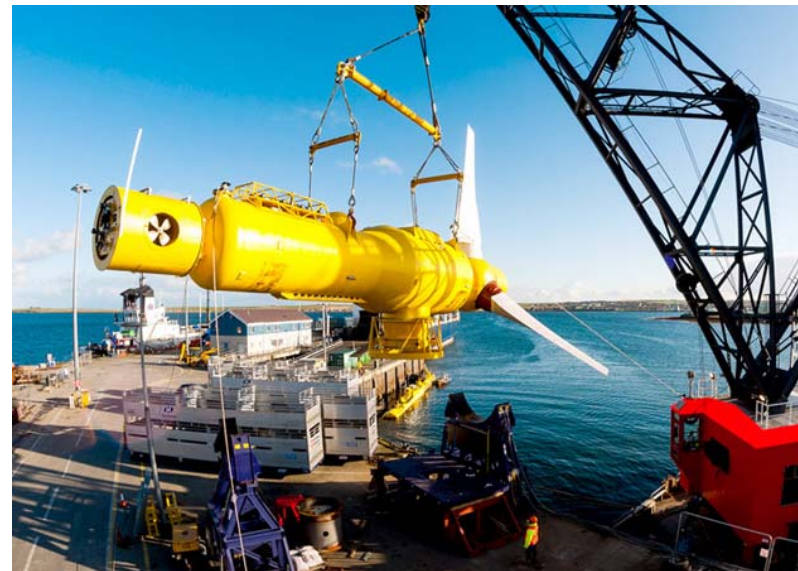


Public-private partnership between the UK Government and global energy and engineering companies (BP, EDF, Shell, Caterpillar, E-ON and Rolls-Royce)

ETI aims:

to bring together engineering projects to accelerate development of affordable, secure and sustainable technologies (including offshore wind & Marine Energy)

to help the UK address its long term emissions reductions targets as well as delivering nearer term benefit



European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC)

Funded by Scottish /UK public bodies

EMEC provides device developers with:

purpose-built, open-sea testing facilities

performance assessments

14 full-scale test berths plus two scale sites



IDCORE Industrial Doctoral Centre in Offshore Renewable Energy





IDCORE Consortium



Universities of Edinburgh, Exeter and Strathclyde
will jointly award the degree of Doctor of Engineering (EngD)

Summer school courses are also delivered by HR-Wallingford and Scottish
Association for Marine Science (SAMS).

IDCORE is funded by
Energy Technology Institute (ETI)
UK Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)



IDCORE Vision

- *To attract the very best graduate students into a vibrant learning environment*
- *To train them in partnership with industry to deliver Eng.D graduates*
- *To deliver world-class industrially-focussed research outcomes that will accelerate the deployment of offshore wind, wave and tidal-current technologies,*
- *To help to position the UK to meet its 2020 & 2050 targets for renewable energy generating capacity,*
- *To expand and sustain a community of high-quality post-doctoral staff for the UK offshore renewable energy industry.*

Engineering Doctorate (Eng.D)

- EngD programmes provide an industrially-oriented, professional, doctorate requiring the same level of academic rigour as a PhD
- **Research Engineers** complete a comprehensive taught programme and pursue a three year project in industry
- EngD is designed to
 - Meet the needs of industry and enhance its knowledge base.
 - Provide graduates with challenging research in an industrial context.
 - Prepare graduates for leadership positions in industry.
 - Produce exploitable outcomes from research.
 - Generate partnerships between academia and industry.

Engineering Doctorate

- EngD programmes provide an industrially-oriented, professional, doctorate requiring the same level of academic rigour as a PhD
- **Research Engineers** complete a comprehensive taught programme and pursue a three year project in industry
- Output can be in the form of a thesis (like a PhD) or can be a portfolio of work on a chosen topic



Research Engineers

IDCORE will recruit 50 Research Engineers over five years.

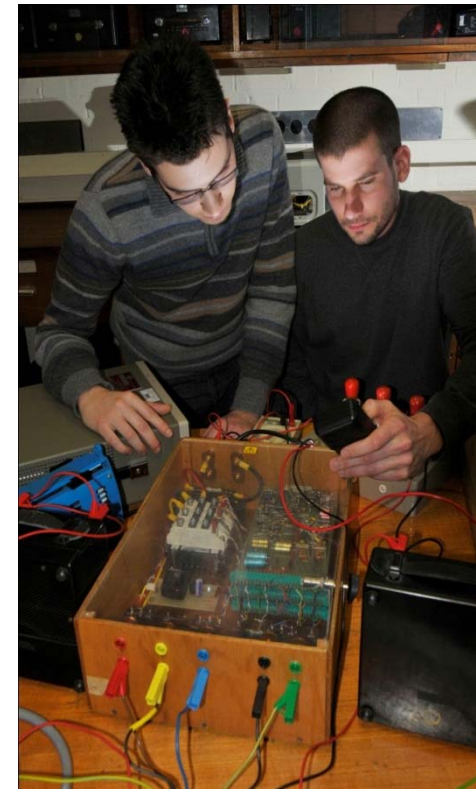
- First intake: five Research Engineers in January 2012
- Second intake: seven Research engineers in September 2012
- Third intake : 15 engineers in 2013
- Further intakes September 2014 and 2015.
- Total programme will run to 2019



Research Engineers Resources

Research Engineers

- Receive a scholarship of £15,000-17,000 per year
- have access to state of the art experimental facilities across the consortium (both for taught modules and research)
- Are issued with a laptop computer with industry standard modelling software installed.



Sponsoring Companies

- contribute £10,000 per year for four years for their student (Except ETI companies)
- provide workplace accommodation and supervision,
- assist in the student recruitment process, and
- Can contribute guest lectures and real world exercises to the taught programme.



Foundation Programme

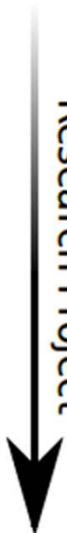
- Research Engineers study a customised six-month foundation programme
- Programme includes customised element designed to fill gaps in each student's knowledge
- Programme covers Mechanical, Electrical and Ocean Engineering, Hydrodynamics, Structural Analysis
- Programme also covers Economics, Environmental Impact, and Project Management
- Education continues through research programme via summer schools



Taught Programme

Term 1	<p>Introduction to Offshore Renewable Technologies</p> <p>Cross-disciplinary Engineering Science Foundations</p> <p>Hydrodynamics of Offshore Renewable Energy Devices</p> <p>Electromechanical & Electronic Energy Conversion Systems</p> <p>Marine Renewable Resource Assessment</p> <p>Economics Tools for Offshore Renewables</p>
Term 2	<p>Marine Operations, Condition Monitoring and Reliability</p> <p>Physical Model Testing for Offshore Renewables</p> <p>Structural Behavior of Offshore Renewable Energy Devices</p> <p>Electricity Network Interaction, Integration and Control</p> <p>Marine Energy Systems Design Interdisciplinary Group Project</p> <p>Marine Renewables and the Environment</p>
Summer Schools	<p>Marine Renewables and Society</p> <p>Offshore and Near-shore Renewables - the Maritime Realities</p> <p>Moorings and Reliability</p>
Distance Learning	<p>Innovation Design and Manufacturing Management</p> <p>Management of the Project Life-cycle</p> <p>Regulation in the Offshore Renewable Sector</p>

Research Project



Research Programme

Students are based in Industry for three years

Each student has an Industry Supervisor

Each Student has a lead academic supervisor

Students also have support from second supervisors from the other two Universities

Students attend summer schools and continue with distance learning



Industrial Projects

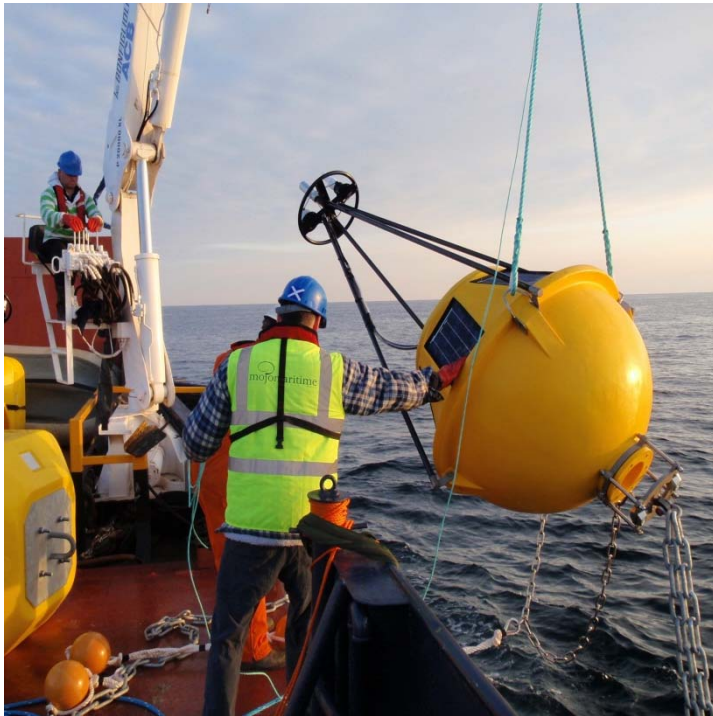
Students are based in Industry for 75% of their project

Intellectual Property arising from their work will normally be shared between the student and the sponsor

Except in cases where significant background IP has been licensed from the University.



Research Project Selection



After four months, industry partners present project ideas to students on “Industry Day”

Students choose which projects they wish to apply for; Industry interview and choose students.

Academic supervisors ensure that the students work meets EngD standards

Non Disclosure Agreement set up between the Centre and the sponsoring company.

Sample projects

Projects from first cohort include:

EDF: Numerical study of a real floating wind turbine

E-ON: Assessment of next generation offshore wind turbine foundations installation methodologies

Tidal Generation Limited: Tidal Resource Modelling

NAREC: Development and Validation of full Scale Lab Based Tidal Turbine Drive Train Test Facility



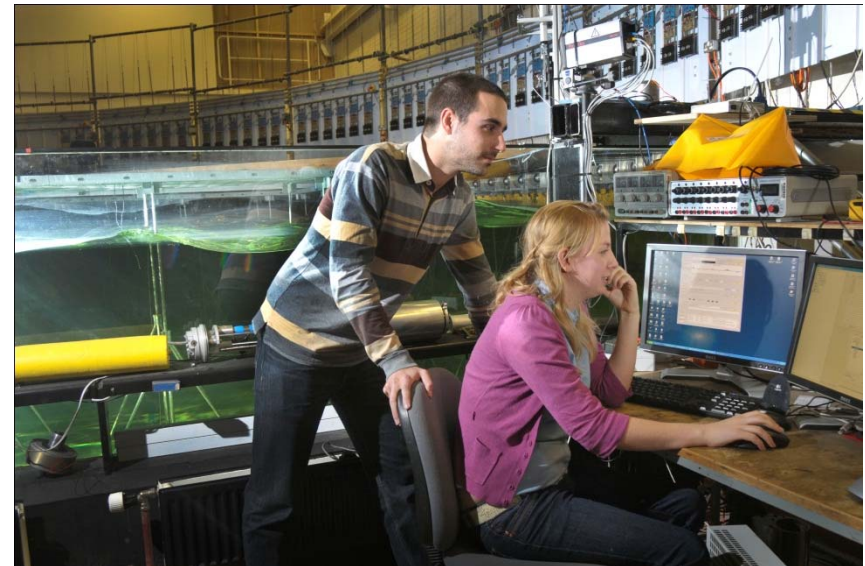
Sample projects

- Scotrenewables: Tidal turbine rotor study
- Aquamarine: study of compliant wave energy devices
- EDF: Offshore Wind Farm Layout Optimisation
- Sgurr Energy : Tidal Resource Assessment
- Pelamis Wave Power: Design and manufacture of post-tensioned concrete tubes



Continuing Professional Development

Additional places on the taught programme are made available for company employees wishing to undertake Professional Development (CPD) in offshore renewable energy.





Industrial Doctoral Centre for Offshore Renewable Energy

www.idcore.ac.uk

Kelvin Hydrodynamics Laboratory



Kelvin Hydrodynamics Laboratory houses a moderate scale towing tank with high-performance wave-maker well suited for moderate scale renewable energy testing

Tank Dimensions:

76m L x 4.6m W x 2.5m D

Maximal Wave Height:

0.7m (single frequency)

Maximal Carriage Speed:

4.5m/s



Kelvin Hydrodynamics Laboratory: Research Areas

Research is diverse, including

Ship Hydrodynamics

Ship Safety and Survivability

Wave Loads Offshore Structures

Vortex Induced Vibration (VIV)

Sports Hydrodynamics

and

Offshore Renewable Energy

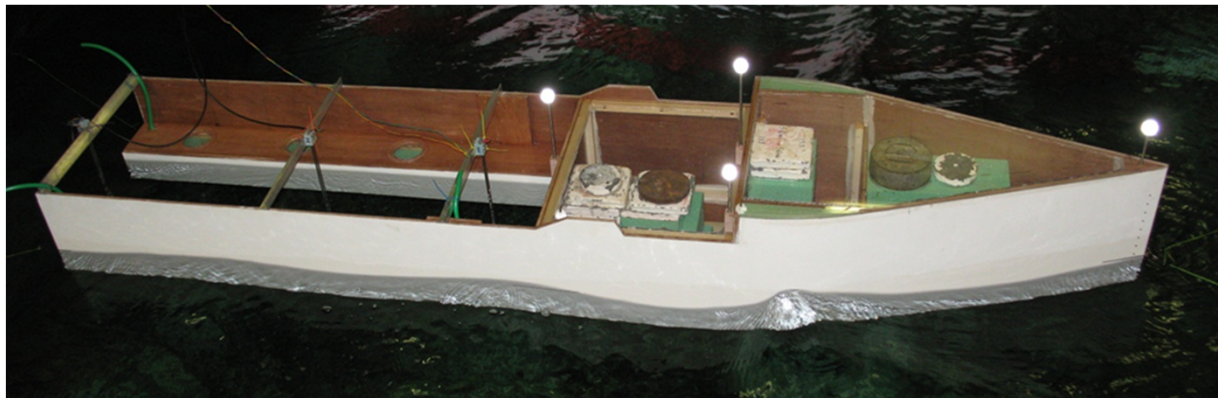


Kelvin Hydrodynamics Laboratory: Renewable Energy



Offshore Renewable Energy activities include research and commercial testing for:

1. Wave Energy Converter performance / survivability / installation
2. Tidal Energy Device Unsteady Performance & Survivability
3. Offshore Wind Maintenance Access Vessels & Systems



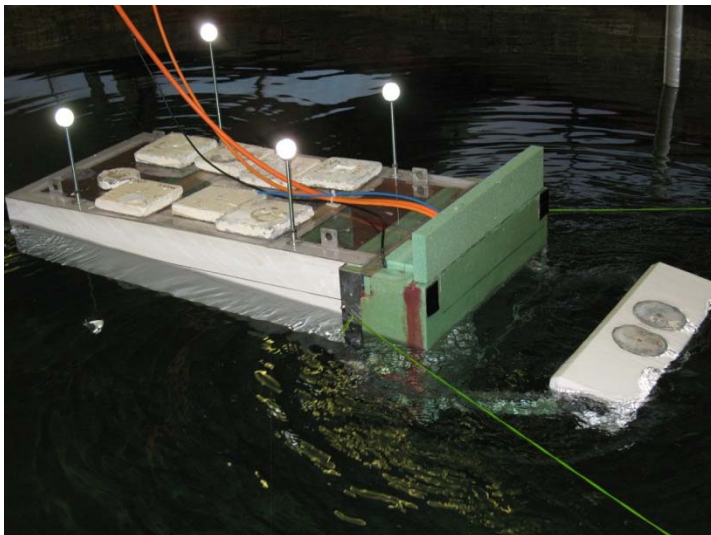
Kelvin Hydrodynamics Laboratory: Renewable Energy

Commercial projects include:

Wave Energy : Checkmate SeaEnergy (Anaconda), Pure Marine, AWS Ocean Energy, Aker Solutions, Sea Energy, Sea Power, Aquamarine (Oyster) Neptune Energy, Green Ocean Energy...

Tidal Energy: Scotrenewables, Oceanflow, Nautricity, Nova Innovation, Tidal Stream...

Offshore Wind: Z-technologies, Divex, Solid Sea Transfer...



Other UK initiatives in Offshore Renewable Energy



The Saltire Prize: a prize of £10 million was funded by Scottish Government, to accelerate the commercial development of wave and tidal energy technology

The Prize is open to any team from across the world who believes they have wave or tidal technology capable of fulfilling the Challenge.

The winner will be the team that achieves the greatest volume of electrical output over the set minimum hurdle of 100GWh over a continuous two year period, using only the power of the sea.



The ***Junior Saltire Prize*** was launched in 2011 and is specifically aimed to inspire the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs in Scotland's schools.



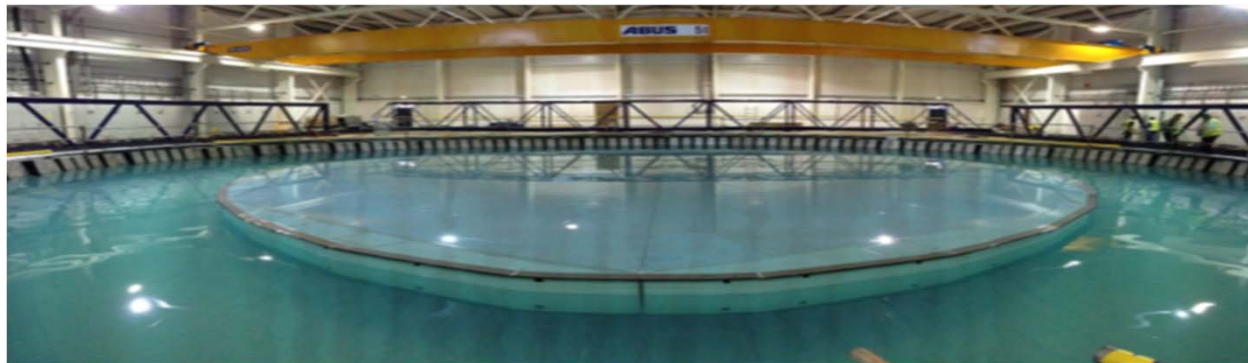
MARINET Marine Renewables Infrastructure Network for Emerging Energy Technologies



Ocean Basin: Ecole Centrale de Nantes

MARINET (*Marine Renewables Infrastructure Network*) is an €11m EC-funded infrastructure initiative running from 2012-2015

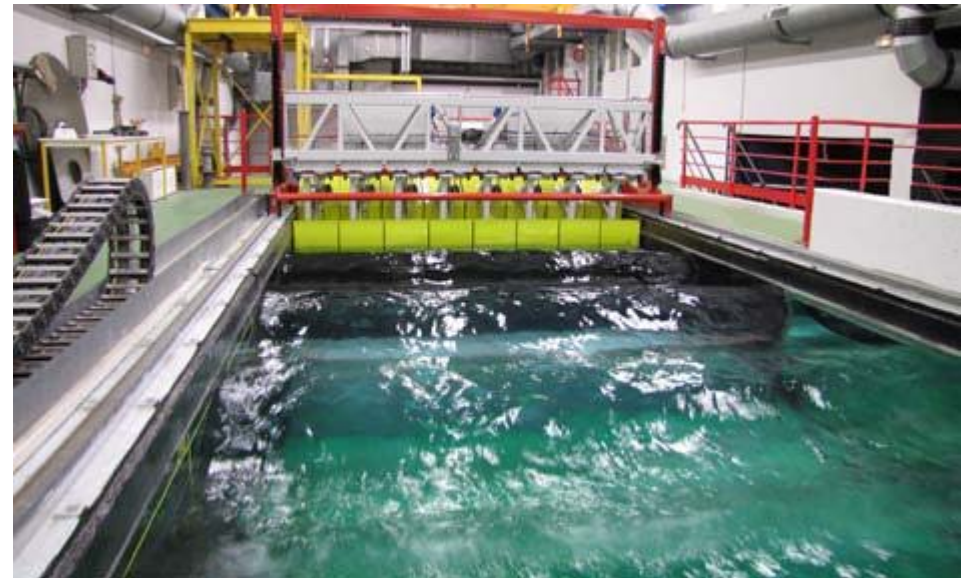
MARINET is a network of research centres and organisations working together to accelerate the development and commercial deployment of marine renewable energy technologies.



New Test Facility at University of Edinburgh: FloWave TT

MARINET Aims

- **MARINET** aims to facilitate testing for the renewable energy industry by offering periods of free-of-charge access to world-class test facilities including laboratory and field trial sites
- **MARINET** is also developing joint approaches to testing standards, research and industry networking & training.



Wave-Current Circulation Tank: IFREMER
France



MARINET Partners



The MARINET network consists of 29 partners

With 42 specialist marine research facilities

Spread across 11 EU countries

And 1 FP7 partner-country, Brazil.

Transnational Access

Companies and research groups can apply for periods of free-of-charge access to facilities -

to test devices at any scale in applications areas such as wave energy, tidal energy, offshore-wind energy and environmental analysis

Facilities must be located in EU countries other than that of the company: “**Transnational Access**”



*EMEC Test Support Buoy,
Scapa Flow Wave Test Site*

Transnational Access

Companies can also conduct tests in cross-cutting common areas such as power take-off systems, grid integration, materials or moorings.

In total, over 700 weeks of access is available to an estimated 300 projects and 800 external users, with at least four calls for access applications over the 4-year initiative.



WavEC - Full-scale OWC for Real-Sea Testing of Air Turbines



NAREC - Nautilus Rotary Test Rig

- MARINET issues call for access – typically for a six-month period
- Device developers and Researchers apply to use MARINET facilities
- Applications are refereed by Infrastructure managers and MARINET Board
- Successful Applicants are granted time at facilities
- Facilities are funded (at cost) by MARINET at agreed rate
- Applicants are funded for travel and subsistence



University of Strathclyde Kelvin Hydrodynamics Lab

Parallel activities

- Testing Protocols developed in the EC FP7-funded project EquiMar and by the IEA-OES are being implemented and further refined at all MARINET infrastructures.
- Outcomes are feeding directly into on-going international standardisation exercises such as IEC TC114, and ITTC guidelines



CNR – INSEAN Circulating Water Channel

Parallel activities

- MARINET is conducting Comparative testing – a 'Round Robin' testing of a calibration model in MARINET facilities to characterise and verify the performance behaviour of the various test facilities.
- This is particularly relevant to tidal turbine testing due to availability of many types of facilities – towing tanks, circulating water channels, wave-current basins



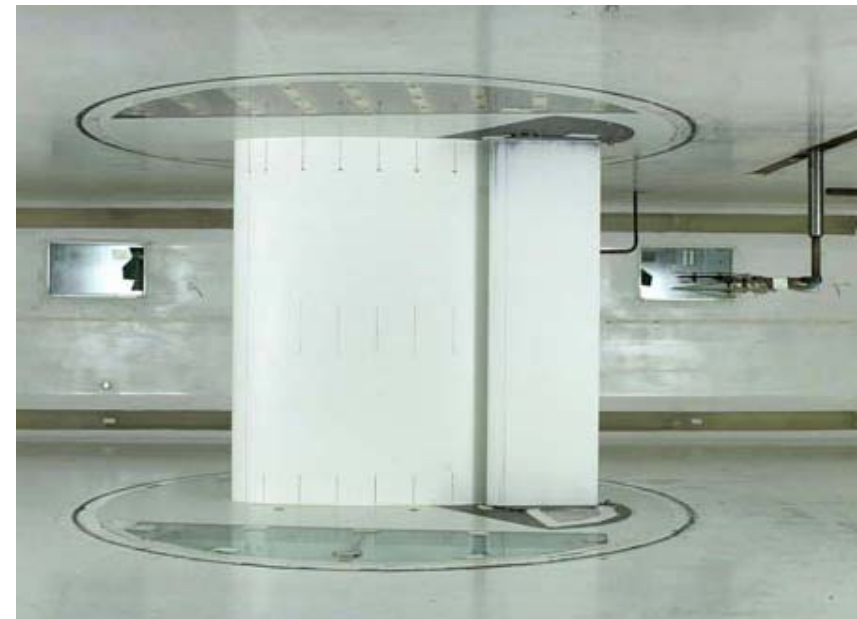
TTC Tidal Testing Centre Den Oever

Parallel activities

MARINET also offers a series of short free training courses aimed at researchers and postgraduate students, but open to companies, research groups & universities

Course include:

- Experimental Testing in Wave Tanks and Flumes
- Monitoring of Pilot Plant and Pilot Zones
- Instrumentation of Ocean Devices
- Experimental Modelling of Electrical Equipment
- Experimental Modelling of Air Turbines
- Offshore Wind Measurement Techniques
- Remote Sensing in the Offshore Environment
- Experimental Modelling of Wind Actions on Offshore Structures



University of Stuttgart - Laminar Wind Tunnel

References:

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Thank you very much for your attention

