



Quo Vadis 2023 Wind Energy Conference

Pre-Event Dinner on
Wednesday, 1st November 2023
Conference on
Thursday, 2nd November 2023

Hotel Leonardo City South
Hofmannstraße 1
Munich, Germany

14th Quo Vadis®
Conference

The FREE wind conference
only for owners and operators

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windpower renewable solutions

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The Speakers



Sally Lockwood, Owner; Generating Better

Sally Lockwood has worked in the electricity generation industry for 32 years and in the offshore wind sector for over 16 years. As a former Operations Manager for E.ON, she has gained practical experience by running offshore wind projects. 10 years ago, she founded her own offshore wind consultancy, Generating Better. She specialises in O&M Strategy implementation for developments and operational windfarms and has advised on over 20 GW of projects in UK, Germany, France, Ireland, USA, Taiwan and Japan. Sally advises owners of development and operational projects, chairs the UK Offshore O&M Forum, and aids the ORE Catapult Centre of Excellence for Floating Offshore Wind. Sally also supports industry events, mentors PhD students and is a guest lecturer at Strathclyde University.



Friedrich von Storch, Operations Manager Offshore Wind; EnBW

Friedrich currently holds the position of operations manager offshore for EnBW's North Sea fleet. He has been working in the offshore sector for more than 10 years, in both construction and operation phases. Besides EnBW's offshore fleet, he was involved in the realization of the wind farm Global Tech 1. He holds a degree in Energy and Environmental Engineering.



Paul Sheldon, Engineering Consultant; Wind Turbine Engineering Services Limited

Paul started his professional career working in the steel industry where he was involved in design, installation, commissioning, and refurbishment of a large variety of plant, particularly gearboxes. He joined the electricity industry, initially in conventional generation before moving into renewable generation almost 20 years ago. The freshness and growth of the renewable generation business has kept Paul's interest and he has been involved in construction, inspections, operations, and major repairs both on site and in the workshop. Paul has also developed innovative solutions to solve technical problems and add value for many organisations. In 2021 Paul started his own consultancy business, Wind Turbine Engineering Services Ltd, and has even designed his own measuring equipment to solve a mechanical problem.



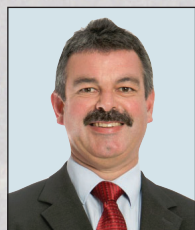
Joanna Law (acting) Head of Asset Management, Vattenfall

Joanna has worked in offshore wind from the very early days, first as a service provider of Round 1 projects in the UK, then projects in Europe with an OEM on service contracting. She was involved in setting up a local supply chain in the UK, and then worked on OFTO management and service agreement negotiations with OEMs for Ørsted. For the last 7 years Joanna has been working with Vattenfall in commercial roles directly for sites, then centrally. At the start of 2021 she moved into asset management as a Lead Asset Manager; most recently she was asked to take on the role of acting Head of Asset Management Offshore Wind.



Robert Willems, Procurement, Contract Mngmt and Supply Chain specialist O&M Wind, Vattenfall

In the past 25 years, Robert has gained broad experience in the commercial aspects of large capital project life cycle with a particular focus on procurement, contract management and supply chain across all industries. In the past 6 years Robert has brought various industry best practices into the wind industry to achieve further professionalization. Robert holds both a Bachelor's degree in Technical Business Administration and a Master's degree in Strategy and Organization and is strongly connected to Vattenfall as a consultant.



Joe Dalton, Asset Management Director ; NTR

Joe Dalton is currently Asset Management Director at NTR, where he is responsible for the construction and operations of the NTR renewable energy portfolio in Ireland, UK, France, Sweden, Finland, Italy and Spain. For over 35 years Joe has worked in both conventional and renewable energy generation, utilising wind, solar, battery, coal, oil and gas turbine technologies. He has travelled extensively, conducting technical due diligence on renewable energy equipment manufacturers throughout Europe, USA and China. Prior to NTR, Joe worked for Mainstream Renewable Power, where he had a variety of roles for onshore and offshore wind projects worldwide. Previously, Joe held a number of technical and managerial roles in ESB, the Irish State electricity company. He is a Chartered Engineer and is married with six children.



Brian McDaid, Head of Turbine O&M; RES

Brian is an experienced service engineer with over 30 years in service and maintenance, initially in the manufacturing sector, where he was involved in high speed automation, pneumatics, high pressure steam and conveyor systems. He joined the wind sector over 20 years ago with an established ISP as a service engineer. He soon became O&M Manager with responsibility for full O&M on 350MW for different owners and various turbine types. His previous experiences helped him to implement efficiencies and improvement to service. Brian joined RES Ltd as Head of O&M in January 2018 to lead the development of this service within the organisation, delivering major component exchanges, inspection regimes and other maintenance activities including full O&M.



Keir Harman, Director of Renewables; DNV

Keir Harman is a Director at DNV with 25 years of experience of strategic development in the renewables industry. He is directing teams delivering asset optimisation services, digitalisation, inspections, performance monitoring, and energy forecasting. He has led and managed global teams that to date have assessed over 100GW of operating wind and solar farms, both on and offshore, worldwide. His career highlights include establishing wind farm optimisation services at Garrad Hassan, pioneering and publishing techniques now adopted by the wider wind industry, and delivering strategic optimisation programmes for DNV customers. Previously, Keir has worked for RWE on operating windfarms. A Chartered Engineer, Keir holds an MSc in Renewable Energy Systems from the University of Loughborough, UK and Risoe, DK.

Agenda

09.00h Welcome and preliminaries

Sigrid Donovan
(Host and Organiser)

09.10h Does the way offshore windfarms are "born" into operation affect their performance?

Sally Lockwood, Generating Better

Preparing to take an offshore windfarm into the operational phase involves a complex programme of commercial, technical and people-related tasks stretching back many years. This presentation will outline the journey from site selection to O&M handover and demonstrate the importance of effective implementation of O&M Readiness Plans. Drawing on 20 years of offshore wind operations in the UK, Sally will use real life examples to show how the way these plans are designed and delivered affects future performance.

09.35h Offshore O&M excellence: Chances and challenges in a vast growing market

Friedrich von Storch, EnBW

European governments have set ambitious goals for the offshore wind sector. The realization of several hundred GW of capacity in the coming decades brings great opportunities for project developers and operators. However, this comes with various challenges. Friedrich will point out what keeps operators and service providers busy with future O&M strategies for offshore wind farms. What are the main challenges in order to keep availability high, operational costs low and operations safe? What synergies with other windfarms can be realized to optimize operation? The presentation will answer these and other questions.

10.00h Break for coffee, exhibition, networking

11.00h Yaw drives and yaw ring gears – Concentricity, eccentricity and ovality (Part 1)

Paul Sheldon, WTES Limited

In his capacity as engineering consultant, Paul was recently commissioned to investigate yaw drive failures, in particular of Siemens 2.3 turbines. It soon became evident that there was not one clear root cause but a combination of contributory factors, highlighted by the condition of the yaw ring gear tooth profiles.

11.25h Yaw drives and yaw ring gears – Concentricity, eccentricity and ovality (Part 2)

Paul will share more in-depth and up-to-date information gathered from detailed turbine inspections. (Delegates who visited the conference in Barcelona might remember that Paul used a hula hoop to demonstrate his findings. Today this gadget could make a reappearance.)

11.50h Quo Vadis Hall of Fame

Sigrid Donovan

12.00h Lunch break

13.30h Availability of parts

Joanna Law & Robert Willems, Vattenfall

Having the right spare part available at the right moment is key for the continuation of a wind farm operation. Finding the balance between enhancement of parts' availability without a significant stock cost increase is challenging. Joanna and Robert will share insights in how to achieve a balanced situation by presenting multiple angles for approaching this challenge.

13.55h Wind speed or wind velocity?

Joe Dalton, NTR

For many years, owners have been vexed by the issue of long-term underperformance of wind farms relative to energy yield assessment predictions. There is categorical evidence that wind farms underperform. However, newly discovered losses are applied at best in incremental downward percentages, and in many cases they are not applied by consultants at all. Joe will share his evidence and calculations regarding a fundamental factor that is not considered when EYAs are developed, explaining how the direction of wind is not adequately considered or applied in the EYA process. He will show how this can be evaluated for a site - if the wind campaigns provide sufficient information, and what to look for. Buyer beware... especially at lower wind speeds!

14.20h Break for coffee, exhibition, networking

15.00h Detecting failures in slow moving bearings

Brian McDaid, RES

As assets age, there are more critical failure modes with some being in areas with limited or no condition monitoring due to the components being slow moving. This makes detection of failures more difficult. The use of lesser deployed NDT techniques can assist in this regard and help identify early stage failures, and limit downtime by preplanning the exchange in advance of turbine stop.

15.25h On the pathway to Net Zero: How ESG and AI enable longer wind farm lifetimes

Keir Harman, DNV

Longer wind farm lifetimes are practically achieved by adapting operating strategy with new approaches to risk management, as well as by enhancing operations with innovative technologies such as advanced control and AI. Driven by Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategy as well as direct financial return, owners are doubling the original wind farm design lifetime assumption, resulting in near twice the low emission production for the same installed raw materials. Longer lifetime philosophies are now holistic, encompassing full life cycle assessment of emissions, biodiversity net gain, cyber resilience and circularity.

15.50h Summary

Kevin Donovan

16.00h Official closing of Quo Vadis 2023

A hearty welcome to Munich from your host



Sigrd Donovan

Sigi has been involved in marketing almost all her work life. For nearly 20 years she worked as Marketing Manager EMEA for a big US manufacturer of motors, gearboxes and power transmission products. After her move to England, she and her husband Kevin got involved in the wind industry. They have been serving customers in Europe and beyond ever since, first with their company windpower renewable solutions Limited and, since their return to Germany, with WRS GmbH windpower renewable solutions.

Sigi had the idea to hold a wind conference exclusively for owners and operators. Thus Kevin and Sigi hosted the first Quo Vadis Conference in 2007. It was named after Kevin's presentation "Quo Vadis, wind energy?" (Latin for "Where are you going, wind energy?") The conference is now in its fourteenth year and is recognised by wind farm owners and operators as one of the most important and valuable events in the wind industry.

The history of Quo Vadis Conference



A big Thank You to our sponsors and exhibitors

It would not be possible for us to offer our Quo Vadis Conference free of charge without the support of our Platinum Sponsors DNV and RES who contribute towards the costs.



The following companies have booked exhibition space and are showing their portfolio: Hove, Liebherr, Morgan, Renewable FS, Sky Specs, System Seals, UFI Filters, and Winergy.



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