

EMEC Advising on Development of Nagasaki Marine Energy Test Centre



The European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC, UK) has furthered its ties with Japan having signed a contract to provide advice on the development of a marine energy test facility in Nagasaki Prefecture, Japan. EMEC will advise on the infrastructure needed to develop a test site, from subsea cables and grid connection to resource data instrumentation, as well as the wider infrastructure required in the region to support marine energy deployments.

A review of the marine renewables industry will also be undertaken, alongside support in business planning, operational procedures, and health and safety.

The announcement follows EMEC becoming a member of NaMICPA (the Nagasaki Marine Industry Cluster Promotion Association) earlier in the year, to help support the development of marine renewables in Japan and stimulate further collaboration between the two countries.

In October, a 28-strong delegation from NaMICPA visited Orkney, including representatives from Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Nagasaki Economic Research Institute, and Nagasaki Prefectural Government, to discuss how the two regions can work together to progress marine renewables.

Develop Renewable Energy in Asia

Makoto Takahira, director of Nagasaki Marine Industry Cluster Promotion Association, aims to learn from EMEC how to effectively manage the marine energy test centre and exchange information with supply chain companies in Orkney. They are keen to contribute to the development of ocean renewable energy in Japan and in Asia on the basis of the long-lasting relationship between Scotland and Nagasaki.

Over the past five years the number of marine energy test centres around the world has grown, and EMEC has established relationships with many of them via a series of memorandums of understanding, commercial contracts, and by facilitating networking events for test centres to share learning and challenges, and ensure they are working on common standards.

EMEC has been building on its ties with Japan since 2012, when the company signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ocean Energy Association of Japan (OEAJ) to provide advice and support in the development of a Japan Marine Energy Centre (JMEC).

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