

Marine-i Welcomes Important New Tender Opportunities



Marine-i has applauded the announcement of three new tender opportunities in the floating offshore wind energy sector. Partly funded by the European Regional Development Fund, Marine-i was set up to promote marine innovation in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, UK. The three tenders have been announced by the Carbon Trust and are all designed to help improve technology in the floating wind energy sector. The Carbon Trust is inviting proposals from innovative marine companies to tackle three key development areas.

The first tender is to identify and evaluate innovative mooring systems and anchoring solutions. The second requires companies to investigate the drivers behind port-to-port maintenance strategies for floating wind farms. The third tender is to assess the feasibility

and required technology for heavy lifting offshore operations at a floating wind farm.

Key challenges facing offshore floating wind energy sector

The Carbon Trust believes floating wind presents an opportunity to harness strong wind resources in deep water locations, unlocking new markets for offshore wind. However, a number of novel challenges will need to be addressed in order to deploy floating wind turbines at a commercial scale. These projects will aim to assess these challenges and identify future innovation priorities for the sector.

Matt Hodson, Marine Hub operations director at Cornwall Development Company, said “This is a superb opportunity for marine technology companies to get support in solving some of the key challenges facing the offshore floating wind energy sector. This is a vital industry for the future and one where Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly can play a leading role. Congratulations to the Carbon Trust for this excellent initiative and we would urge local marine businesses to take advantage of this opportunity.”

Interested companies must apply by 21 February for all three tenders, full details of which can be seen at www.carbontrust.com/about-us/tenders/

European Regional Development Fund

Partly funded by the European Regional Development Fund, Marine-i is a £9.3m collaboration between the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth, The Cornwall College Group, Cornwall Marine Network, Cornwall Development Company and the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult. It brings together key infrastructure and expertise to enable technology innovation in the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly's marine sector, which has been identified as an area of high growth potential by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership. Full details can be found at www.marine-i.co.uk