



Floatgen produces its first KWs

20 December 2017 – The Floatgen wind turbine, currently docked in the port of Saint-Nazaire before being towed offshore, produced its first electrons on Thursday 14 December.

In the days that followed its inauguration and its christening on the Quai des Darses, in the port of Saint-Nazaire, the Floatgen wind turbine underwent a battery of tests. This intensive programme included the "over-speed" test - the purpose of which was to check turbine shut down in an emergency situation. This test served to confirm that the wind turbine and its foundation are functioning correctly together.

Other tests were also conducted, the most recent being the electrical production test. **On Thursday 14 December, the Floatgen wind turbine produced several hundred KWs.** With this first production, the performance of the control configuration could be checked and the safety of the turbine confirmed.



An illustration of the many benefits of the Ideol technology, which allows pre-commissioning of the wind turbine in a protected dock environment, reducing the work to be carried out offshore as well as the associated risks and costs.

In the next stage of the project, the wind turbine will be towed out to the Centrale Nantes SEM-REV offshore installation site and then connected to the electricity grid.

Floatgen

The project began in 2013 bringing together seven partners each with a specific role to play: **Ideol**, design of the entire floating system (foundation, anchoring system and electricity export cable) as well as the wind turbine; **Centrale Nantes**: ocean engineering expertise, provision of the anchoring system and access to its offshore test site; **Bouygues Travaux Publics**: floating foundation construction. It is supported by the European Union as part of the FP7 programme, by the French National Research Agency and the French Environment and Energy Management Agency as part of the national Investments for the Future Programme, and by the Pays de la Loire region. As the **first offshore wind turbine in France**, this project is a precursor to the installation in coming years of first pilot, then commercial, offshore wind farms. It highlights the **potential for local employment creation** linked to the construction of the Ideol floating foundation and the opportunity for France to become a leader in this emerging market of offshore wind power.

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