

PRESS RELEASE

Cherbourg MRE Hub in Action

In 2022, Ports of Normandy – French pioneer in port facilities for marine renewable energies - created a 15 ha quayside offshore wind turbine storage and pre-assembly hub. Built for the Fécamp offshore wind farm, the now operational hub once again demonstrates Ports of Normandy's ability to adapt to its customers' needs. It also showcases the quality of the Cherbourg Port teams working on the hub. Hervé Morin, President of Normandy Regional Council and Ports of Normandy - accompanied by David Margueritte, President of Cotentin Agglomeration Community and Cherbourg Port, Jean Morin, President of the Department of Manche, Benoit Arrivé, Mayor of Cherbourg-en-Cotentin and the elected representatives from Ports of Normandy - visited the site the day before the first load-out of wind turbine components for Fécamp.

Development of the hub

The 15 ha hardstanding laid out by Ports of Normandy on the Port of Cherbourg was partially occupied by road structures and a rainwater drainage system. Ports of Normandy has built the connecting roads and all the various networks (high voltage AC supply, drinking water supply, waste water drainage, communications, etc.). It has also upgraded (reinforced and reconfigured) the existing structures so that they meet the precise technical requirements of Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy, which will be operating the hub. Heavy duty storage areas have been laid out and two platforms with load bearing capacities of 27 and 50 t/m² have been built adjacent to the quay.

Functions of the hub

This quayside hub will enable Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy to:

- store and bring together in one place the 213 tower sections (3 per tower), 71 nacelles and 213 blades (3 per turbine) of the future Fécamp offshore wind farm
- raise and assemble the 3 tower sections on 12 quayside assembly stations and carry out electrical tests on the turbines
- transfer each assembled tower and its nacelle and blades onto the vessels for transport to the installation site. On each rotation, the vessel will transport the components for 4 wind turbines.

The hub in figures

- 71 wind turbines to be installed
- 500 items loaded in at the port (213 tower sections, 71 nacelles and 213 blades) and 350 items loaded out (71 assembled towers, 71 nacelles and 213 blades)

- 70 ship's calls
- Operations over 10 months, from February to the end of 2023
- 15 ha of quayside port space mobilised
- Up to 100 people working on the hub

These hub activities are on top of those already in progress

MRE activities are in full swing at the commercial port of Cherbourg:

- storage of the foundation elements installed by Van Oord, for the Saint-Brieuc wind farm
- transit of the substation for the Fécamp wind farm built by Chantiers de l'Atlantique
- storage of quarry materials for Boskalis and SAIPEM (scour protection, seabed preparation, etc.) for the Calvados and Fécamp offshore wind farms
- storage of casings for SAIPEM for the Calvados offshore wind farm
- Asso.subsea logistics base for protection components and materials (pipes, concrete mattresses) for the inter-array cables on the different wind farms mentioned

The LM Wind Power factory is also located on the port, its 800 employees manufacturing blades over 100 m long for projects abroad, with exports due to begin in 2023. A 20 ha storage area is currently being prepared by the port to stock its production.

Finally, the call for expressions of interest put out at the beginning of 2023 has already resulted in a plot being reserved by DEME for the logistics for the foundations of the Le Tréport wind farm (2024-2025) and another by HydroQuest for the tidal turbines for the FLOWATT pilot farm (2025-2027). Other applications are currently being analysed.

Cotentin: a complete MRE ecosystem

The imminent departure of these first wind turbines confirms Cotentin's place as one of the leading French industrial port areas and as one of the places where the energy mix of the future is being built.

Cherbourg Port is therefore mobilising for the long term, with the blade construction plant, and for the medium term, with its storage and assembly capacities for the Fécamp wind farm, the distribution activity for the foundation anchors for Saint-Brieuc and its transit hub for the preparation of the seabed for the Courseulles-sur-Mer and Fécamp wind farms. The logistics activities for these three wind farms will continue at a sustained pace into 2024.

In addition, the proximity of 2 wind farms, the plans for 2 tidal farms in the Raz Blanchard strait, the presence of LM Wind Power and a port that is accessible and adapted to these activities all confirm Cherbourg Port's position as the leading port serving the MRE sector.



Hervé Morin, President of Normandy Regional Council and Ports of Normandy, with David Margueritte, President of Cotentin Agglomeration Community, Benoit Arrivé, Mayor of Cherbourg-en-Cotentin and elected representatives from Ports of Normandy - @Ports de Normandie

*"Not so long ago, the development of the commercial port of Cherbourg was virtually at a standstill and had been for far too many years. We can now say that our gamble on MRE (almost €100m invested by the local authorities and Europe since 2010) has paid off! More than 1,000 direct and indirect jobs have been created, and virtually all of the 100 ha site is occupied. This success is the fruit of the joint mobilisation of the local authorities involved. That's why I thought it was important to invite the elected representatives from Ports of Normandy to visit the site where the first wind turbines whose components were stored and then assembled at Cherbourg Port are due to be loaded out and transported to Fécamp. Normandy is really asserting itself as THE region of the energy mix of the future." **declared Hervé Morin, President of the Normandy Regional Council and of Ports of Normandy.***

*"The local authorities have long understood the stakes of marine renewable energies. That's why they have invested to bring about the energy transition that all the public actors are endeavouring to put into practice. Even if we can't predict the future, we still have a duty to prepare for it. That was the thinking behind this decision to develop and adapt Cherbourg Port. Our presence here today puts a spotlight on the concrete achievements resulting from the investments made: today Cherbourg is one of the busiest and most dynamic ports, and we are proud of that." **Jean Morin, President of the Department of Manche.***

"The departure of this first shipment of wind turbines for the Fécamp wind farm is symbolic in several respects. Firstly, although our port was already identified thanks to the presence of the LM Wind Power factory, the presence of the assembly hub for the other offshore wind farms demonstrates the leading role we can play in the development of renewable energies. If it is the "land of the energy mix", we can also say that Cotentin offers the most comprehensive ecosystem that exists for the MRE sector with an accessible port offering the right facilities, and future 2 wind farms nearby, the Raz Blanchard and two tidal projects. Cotentin is the "Blue Land", an area entirely irrigated by the sea, as the port's activities don't stop at its gates. The favourable winds now blowing over Cotentin are boosting our dynamic economy and our

appeal." David Margueritte, President of Cotentin Agglomeration Community and Cherbourg Port.

"With its firm commitment to the energy transition and the backing of all the local territorial actors, Cherbourg-en-Cotentin has been working for several years to create a strong and comprehensive marine renewable energies industry at the port. This mobilisation is now bearing fruit.

*The future-oriented sector that MRE represents has brought the port and the town several hundred non-relocatable jobs. Thanks to the strategic advantages it can offer, Cherbourg has regained its place on the podium of French industrial ports becoming a major provider of services for MRE projects. **Benoît Arrivé, Mayor of Cherbourg-en-Cotentin***

ABOUT PORTS OF NORMANDY

Owner and administrator of the ports of Caen-Ouistreham, Cherbourg, and Dieppe, Ports of Normandy represents: 6,000 direct and indirect jobs (INSEE Study 2016) / €435m invested in Normandy since its creation in 2007 / 100 ha dedicated to Marine Renewable Energies, and 2 maintenance bases in planning / 2 million cross-Channel passengers per year / 7 million tonnes of cargo per year / Close to 60 cruise ship visits per year and more than 150,000 cruise passengers / 3,200 marina berths, a dry stack marina, 33,600 overnight stays / 1/3 of all fisheries landings in Normandy / a comprehensive ship repair range

Ports of Normandy, an alliance between Normandy Council, the Departments of Calvados, Manche and Seine-Maritime, and the agglomeration communities of Caen-la-Mer, Le Cotentin and Dieppe-Maritime, serving economic development in the region. Learn more about Ports of Normandy at portsdenormandie.fr

Press contacts: Marie-Agnès Gérin +33 6 71 90 70 87 – marie-agnes.gerin@portsdenormandie.fr or Anne Pétri-Maillard +33 2 31 53 64 53 / +33 6 23 50 48 99 – anne.petri-maillard@portsdenormandie.fr