Floating Wind Solutions

Influence of Floater Design Aspects on Serial Production, Logistics and Project Development

Dr. Denis Matha Global Service Line Lead Floating Wind





The Westin Houston, Memorial City 28-29 June 2021



Speaker Introduction



Dr. Denis Matha - RAMBOLL Global Service Line Lead Floating Wind

- 12 Year's working in Floating Wind
- Joined Ramboll in 2015
- Engineering Ph.D.
- Broad Expertise in various areas of Floating Wind, both technical and commercial





Ramboll In Brief



PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

- Layout & micro-sitingFeasibility studies
- Project engineering
- Cost optimisation
- Procurement & contracting
- Permit management

FULL-RANGE

WIND

CONSULTANCY

- Owner's & Lender's EngineerRepowering
- LIGENCE

DUE DILIGENCE

TechnicalEnvironmental

ASSET MANAGEMENT

- Technical operation management
- Performance
 optimisation
- Lifetime extension
- Nacelle based LIDAR
- Inspections
- Condition monitoring

CIVIL & STRUCTURAL DESIGN

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- WTG foundation design
- Geotechnical investigations
- Tower design
- Road & hardstands



WIND & SITE

• Wind measurements (LIDAR & masts)

- Energy yield assessments
- WTG site compliance

Power curve measurements

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

- Environmental and Social Impact
- Assessments

 Landscape impact
- Noise & shadow
 - flicker impact
- Visualisation
- Icefall modellingCultural heritage studies

ELECTRICAL DESIGN

- System studies
- Grid connection concept
- LV, MV and HV grid design
- Substation design
- Smart grid solutions

Ramboll Group: 16,500 Employees Leading intl. Consultancy in Offshore Wind

Ramboll combines **independent** detailed **offshore knowledge** of Floater, Moorings, Cables with an in-depth **understanding of wind turbine** dynamics and **project development, logistics, T&I, O&M, ports design, financing, strategy and risk experience** from large offshore wind projects

- Since 2007, Ramboll has provided engineering consultancy services in more than 40 commercial and R&D projects in floating wind
- Ramboll is approaching the market as an independent one-stop engineering consultancy, not focussed on a single concept or technology
- Ramboll is not developing an own proprietary floating substructure design but has full design capabilities to support clients
- We have a dedicated floating wind team covering FOWT specialist topics (coupled analysis, mooring, dyn. cable) integrated with our over 300 offshore wind experts



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Introduction

Efficient Serial Production is key for future commercial large scale floating wind farms:

- Time / Throughput:
 - Min. 1 Floater every 2 weeks, Target <1 week
 - Monopile Benchmark: Up to 4-5 per week
- Impact on Cost & Project Schedule:
 - Production Speed / Level of Automation
 - Complexity of Fabrication
 - Required infrastructure and Logistics
 - Quality Control

Key influencing Factors:

Floater Design	Focus of this Presentation
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- Available Infrastructure, Port & Fabrication Facilities
- Supply Chain



EXPECTED GROWTH IN FOW WORLDWIDE BY 2035



*Estimate; **Structural steel mass for floaters only, assuming all commissioned systems use a steel floater.





Introduction

Serial Fabrication

Logistics, T&I

Efficient, industrialised serial production is a key factor to enable commercial large scale floating wind farms

Key aspects:

- Fabrication Strategy (global vs. local)
- Fabrication/Yard Facilities (capability & availability)
- Floater type, material & general arrangement
- Standardisation and modularisation
- Storage/Area/Draft requirements
- Throughput
- Supply Chain

Logistics and T&I strategies adopted to floating-specific constraints are key for optimizing schedule and cost.

Key aspects:

- Logistics Strategy (global hubs vs. local / storage & buffer req.)
- Installation Strategy (WTG quayside vs. offshore)
- Floater type, modularity and assembly process
- Project location
- Ports and infrastructure constraints
- Vessel cost and availability
- Supply Chain





Floater Design Impact on Fabrication

Floater designs can follow a variety of different fabrication approaches:

- 1. Applying offshore <u>O&G / Shipbuilding</u> principles and adapting them regarding serial production (designs with larger volume blocks)
- 2. Designs aiming to exploit existing <u>fixed-bottom (Jacket)</u> offshore wind fabrication and logistics principles (smaller, slender components)

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Figures **k**

- 3. Application of civil engineering principles and adapting them regarding serial production (concrete designs)
- 4. Hybrid approaches drawing on all above, respectively applying individual principles





Large-volume Steel structures Assembled from blocks around 100-350 tons. Assembled structures will have outer dimensions of 75-100m for 15MW class. Mainly stiffened plates.

Slender Steel structures

Assembled from slender (tubular) elements; "Jacket-type" structures. Different types of joints possible (welded, pins/bolts, grouted, etc.). Mainly unstiffened tubulars.

Concrete structures (in-situ) In-situ slipformed or casted in place, using mobile batching plants. Single block or few large blocks. Steel armouring & post-tensioning. Integrated steel interfaces.

Concrete structures (modular) Prefabricated concrete modules.

Assembled at central assembly area. quayside; different types of joints. Integrated steel interfaces.

Fabrication facility requirements

- Requirements highly concept and material dependent
- Overall Dimensions and masses
- Depends if only blocks are fabricated, or the floater assembly shall also be performed at same location
- Handle steel plate thicknesses around 15-30mm
- Min. 20-30 15MW Class Floaters per year throughput (~70,000 - 110,000 tons/year)
- Steel: Cutting, blasting, flat and curved panel fabrication, plate rolling and profile bending, jigs, welding, block fabrication, coating, sufficient workshop dimensions
- Concrete: Batching plant, formworks, areas with sufficient ground bearing capacity, launching capabilitites
- Dry and wet storage areas, areas for block assembly
- Internal transport, cranes, offloading/float-out capabilities





Floater Design Impact on Logistics and T&I



Dimensions and Masses

Implications on fabrication facilities, port, storage/buffer strategy (area, draft, crane, ground bearing, etc.).

Draft & Stability during launching, WTG Integration and Towing

The draft and stability of the floater in different loading conditions and the installation process govern the quayside and on-site procedures and vessels / cranes / infrastructure required, as well as harbour basin and navigation channel depth requirements. For 15 MW+, draft is expected to be become a key requirement (typically <10 m)

WTG-Floater Integration quayside vs. offshore

Depending on vessel availability, capacity, floater stability and weather conditions, it will have a major impact on the logistics strategy (local staging/marshalling port required)







LIFES50+

EXAMPLE: Sequential Production (Steel Floater)

Pre-assembly Š 17 blocks/great-blocks Coating S∑ XI 17 blocks/great-blocks Final assembly \Box 1 pontoon Final assembly 22 4 columns Final assembly В 4 deck/corners Final assembly D4 1 center cross 2 Floating 1 structure Ballasting DG Installation

1 RNA

Example: Chantier Naval de Marseille, FRANCE

- > **Repair shipyard** with dry docks
- Limited capacity for storage Upgrade of facilities required
- Serial production 1 unit at a time
- Pre-fabrication and assembly/coating separated
- > **Output of floaters**: 1.5 units/month
- Steel throughput: 5700 t/month

20 d

-assembly

Final Assembly







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EXAMPLE: Parallel Production (Concrete Floater)

NORWAY: Lundevågen

- Batch parallel production (batch of 2 units at a time)
- Use of pre-fabricated rebar units
- **Phase 1 (onshore):** bottom slab, outer and circular walls, internal walls
- Launching using standard barge and skidding beams
- Phase 2 (inshore): top slab, roof corner tanks, mechanical outfitting







[modified based on Dr. Techn. Olav Olsen]







Summary



Selecting an optimized fabrication and logistics strategy in terms of cost and risk for a large scale floating wind project is highly project dependent.

Key influencing factors in early project phases:

- Size and Timeline of project
- Floater Concept and Material Selection
- Existing near-site ports, infrastructure and supply chain
- Local content, supply chain requirements and regulatory constraints
- Installation / WTG-floater integration process
- Fabrication and Logistics Strategy (local/global)

Selection of a floater concept and accompanying fabrication and logistics strategy considering project specific conditions and requirements is key.



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