

# WIND2GRID

## Wind2Grid Project Floating substations for offshore wind farms

EUSKAMPUS & JRL-ORE: VII Marine Energy Conference



# Agenda



**01**

**Wind2Grid project consortium**

**02**

**Context & origin of the project**

**03**

**Basic approach and main handicaps to solve**

**04**

**Project working lines & status of the project**

# Wind2Grid Project

Coordinator - Leader

**IDOM**

External advisor

**MURUETA**  
ASTILLEROS - SHIPYARDS

**NAVACEL**  
Process Industries

**nautilus**  
floating solutions

**Pine**

**IBERDROLA**

**BLUG**<sup>®</sup>  
Credeblug, s.l.

**ERREKA**  
Fastening Solutions

**OCERCO, S.A.**

**Galvasala**

**Viuda de Sainz**

**tecnalia** MEMBER OF  
BASQUE RESEARCH  
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

**B-MATERIALS**

**Cluster Energía**  
BASQUE ENERGY CLUSTER

**FORO**  
MARITIMO VASCO  
EUSKAL HERRIKO ITSAS FOROA  
THE BASQUE MARITIME FORUM

Duration: 33 months (2020-2022)

Proposal budget: 6,8 M €

EUSKO JAURLARITZA



GOBIERNO VASCO

EKONOMIAREN GARAPEN,  
JASANGARRITASUN  
ETA INGURUMEN SAILA

DEPARTAMENTO DE DESARROLLO  
ECONÓMICO, SOSTENIBILIDAD  
Y MEDIO AMBIENTE

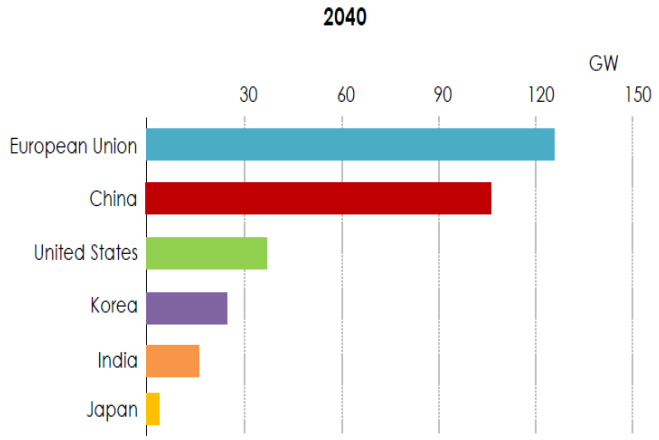


Fondo Europeo de  
Desarrollo Regional (FEDER)  
"Una manera de hacer Europa"

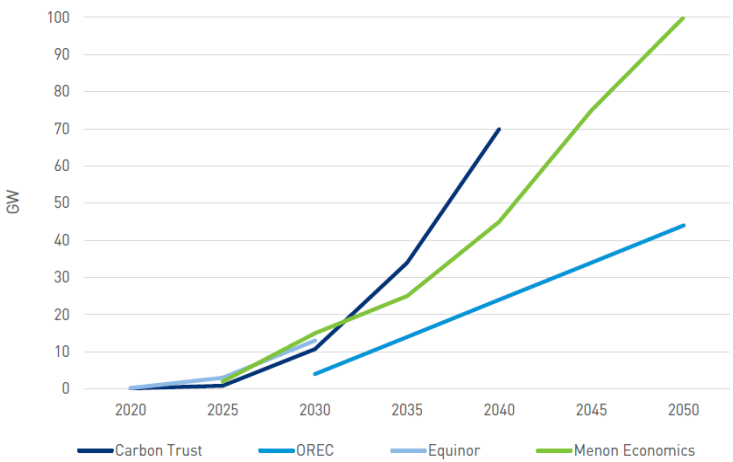
Europar Batasuna  
Unión Europea  
Eskualde Garapenerako  
Europar Funtsa (EGEF)  
"Europa egiteko modu bat"

Proyecto financiado por el Departamento de Desarrollo Económico, Sostenibilidad y Medio Ambiente del Gobierno Vasco (Programa HAZITEK) y el Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional (FEDER) Eusko Jaurlaritzaren Ekonomiaren Garapen, Jasangarritasun eta Ingurumen Saila (HAZITEK Programa) eta Eskualde Garapenerako Europar Funtsak finantziatutako proiektua (EGEF)

# Context



Offshore sector growth forecast to 2040 according to IEA Offshore Wind Outlook 2019



Growth forecast for the floating offshore sector according to several sources

➤ Today's floating wind farms are in transition from demonstration farms to large-scale commercial wind farms (≥ 200 MW)



	Europe	Asia	America
total power (MW) in the next projects (2024-2033)	8250	8700	3646
Country with biggest forecasted capacity in the region	UK (4350 MW)	South Korea (4700 MW)	USA (4350 MW)
Average power of wind farms (MW)	687	511,7	607,7
Average depth of forecasted wind farms (m)	118,5	126,1	760,3
average distance to coast (km)	24,6	33,9	36,5

Market study of floating wind farms. Own elaboration

# Origin of the project

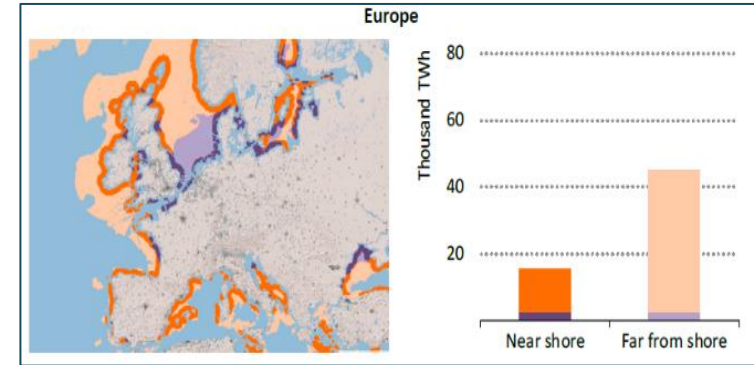
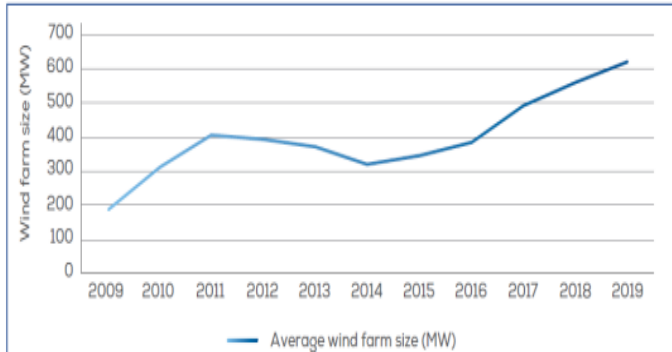
From this market analysis, together with the other key factors such as the followings:

- Evolution of the offshore wind sector towards **deeper areas** (floating technology) and areas **further away** from the coast.
- The need for safe energy evacuation. **OSS as a key element.**
- **Few known initiatives** of FOSS development
- Continuous need for orientation towards lines of innovation that enable **LCoE reduction**:
  - Development of floating solutions: they shall be flexible, reliable, modular and with the possibility of hybridization to adapt to different powers and requirements.
  - Searching for new materials and anti-degradation systems.
  - Digitalization to optimize operation and decision making.
  - Facilitation of offshore substation O&M activities.



# Basic approach

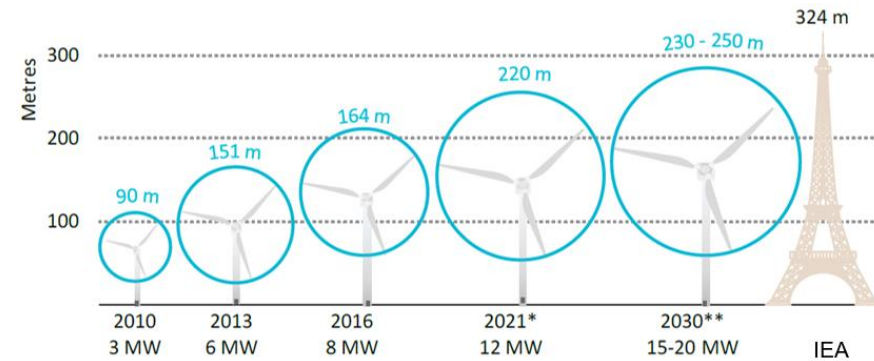
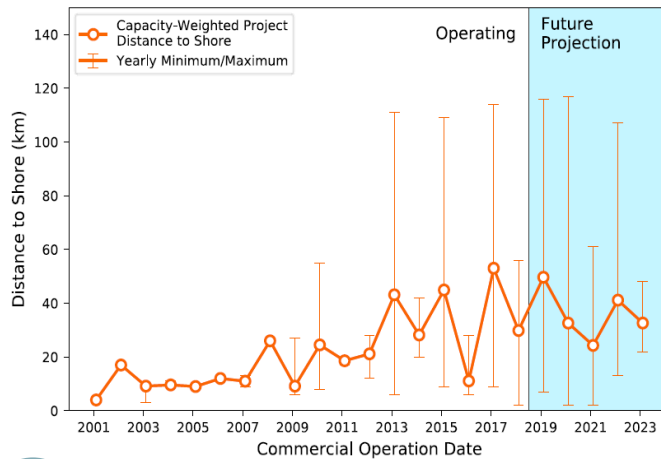
Based on the market analysis/projections and market drivers, a baseline approach has been defined, which is considered a good starting point for the requirements of future floating substations.



Power  $\approx$  500 MW



Depth – 2 locations. Shallow water and deep water



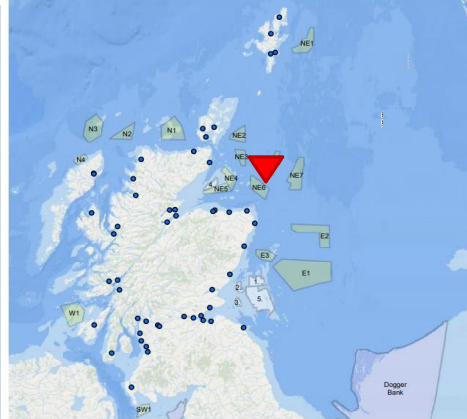
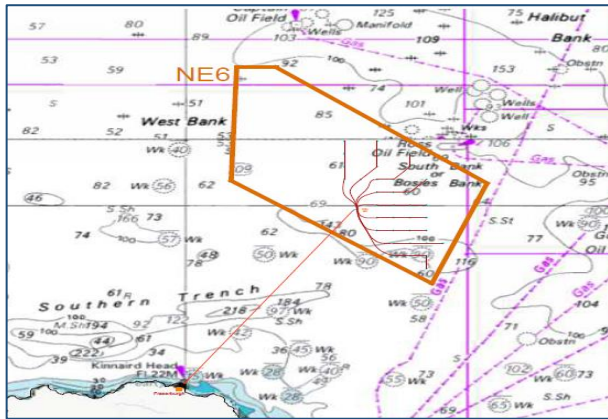
Distance to shore  $\approx$  60 km



WTG of 15 MW

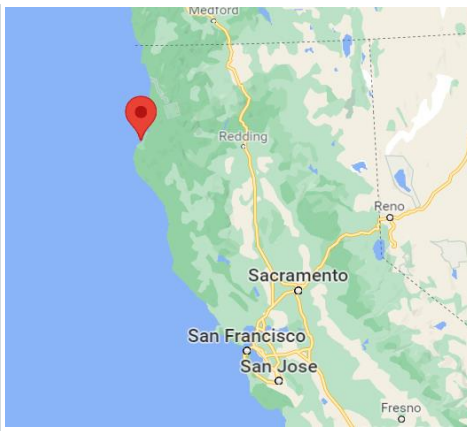
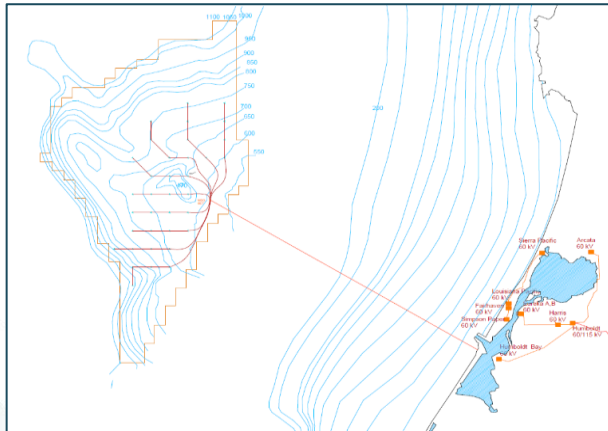
# Basic approach

Based on the market analysis/projections and market drivers, a baseline approach has been defined, which is considered a good starting point for the requirements of future floating substations.



Scotland (Zone NE6) – shallow water  $\approx$  100 m – short term

36 x 15 MW wind turbines  
totaling 540 MW  
9 x 66 kV IAC, connecting 4  
WTGs each  
2 x 220 kV EC.



Humbolt (USA) – deep water, + 600 m – long term

# Main handicaps to solve

## HANDICAPS

### 1. Equipment → vibrations, movements, etc.

- Acceleration / movements (heeling angles, vibrations) → malfunctioning of transformers, GIS, etc.

Sea states

NEED FOR CHARACTERIZATION

### 2. Lack of regulation and recommendations

- Safety factors and design criteria

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES

**HITACHI** **ABB**

TRANSFORMERS

### Transformers for floating applications

Floating offshore substations and wind turbines



Floating substations and wind turbines are a rapidly emerging solution, for deep waters. Introducing even greater challenges for the already demanding offshore segment.

With a full offshore wind transformer portfolio, now enabled for floating, we are the partner of choice, from the nacelle to the connection point.

Supporting our customers to reach their goal of a carbon neutral future.

<https://www.offshorewind.biz/2021/06/04/hitachi-abb-launches-floating-wind-transformers-portfolio/>

# Main handicaps to solve

## HANDICAPS

### 3. Dynamic cables

- There is no experience with dynamic cables above 66 kV for these power ratings.

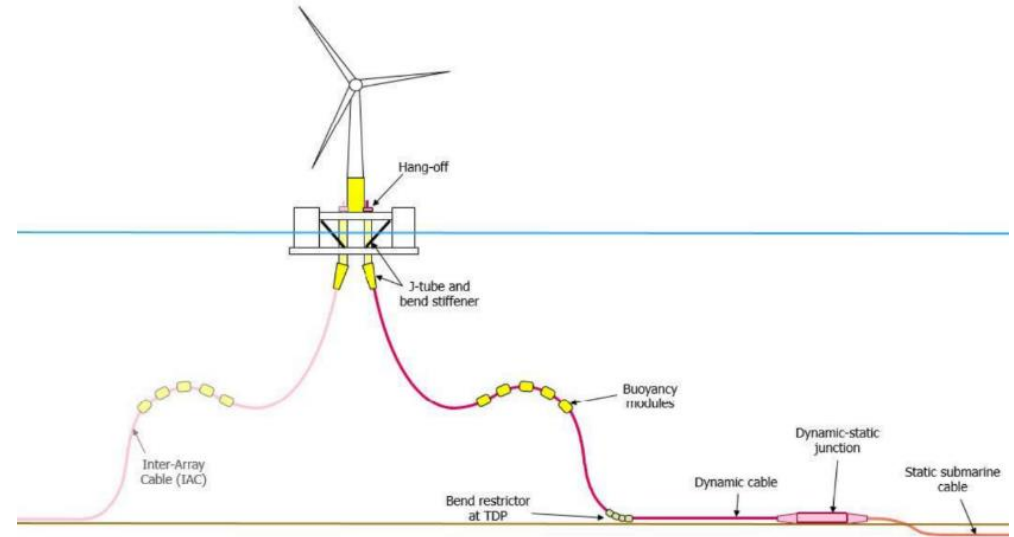


NEED FOR CHARACTERIZATION

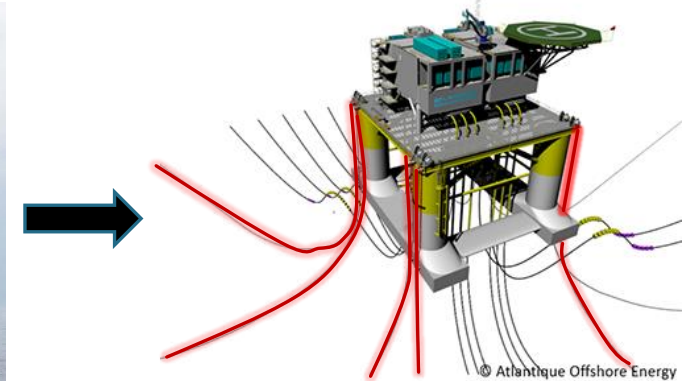
- Cable connections: J-tubes in fixed solutions – lazy wave + mooring in floating Solutions. Consideration of different depths.



LAYOUT IMPLICATIONS



Dungeness offshore wind farm



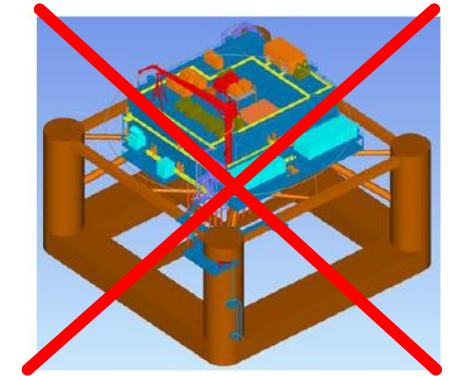
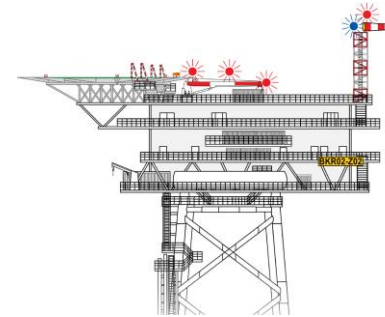
Conceptual design *Chantiers Atlantique*

# Project working lines

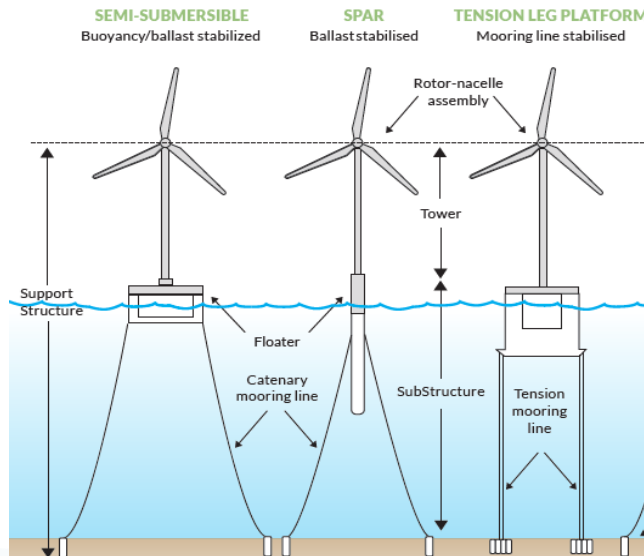
1. TOPSIDE & FLOATER (PT1 & 2)



Differences with design used on fixed substations:  
**NO DIRECT TRANSITION**



Selection of most suitable floater type → hydrodynamic behavior, fabrication & logistics, TRL state, etc.



	<b>Semi-sub</b>	<b>TLP</b>	<b>Spar</b>
Pitch Stability	Buoyancy	Mooring	Ballast
Natural Periods	-	+	0
Coupled Motions	-	+	0
Wave Sensitivity	-	0	+
Turbine Weight	+	0	-
Mooring	-	+	-
Anchors	+	-	+
Construction & Installation	+	-	-
Maintenance	-	+	0

+ = relative advantage

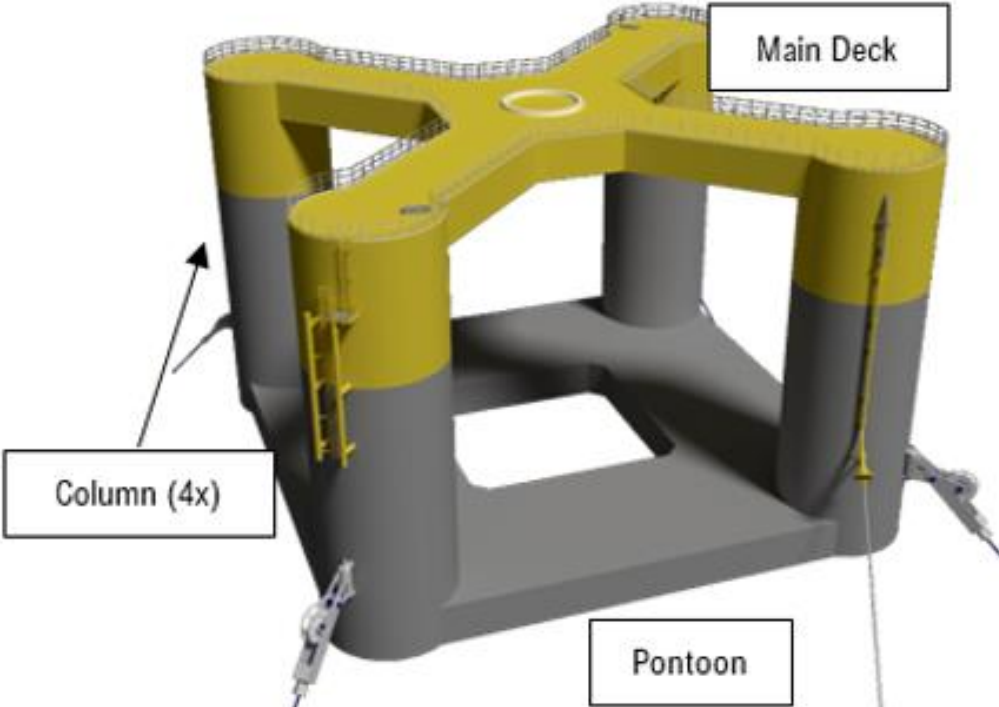
0 = neutral

- = relative disadvantage

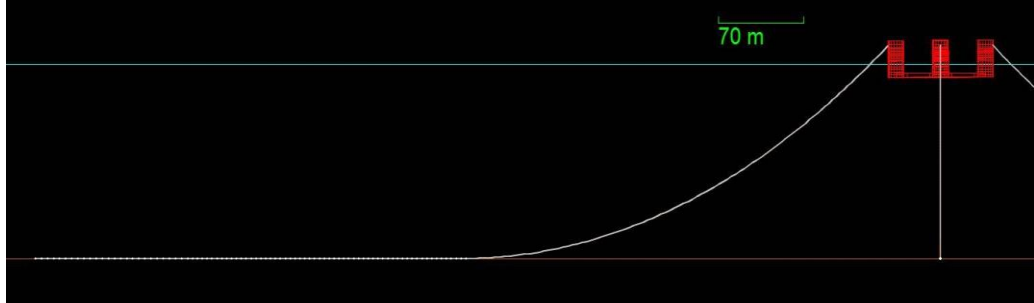
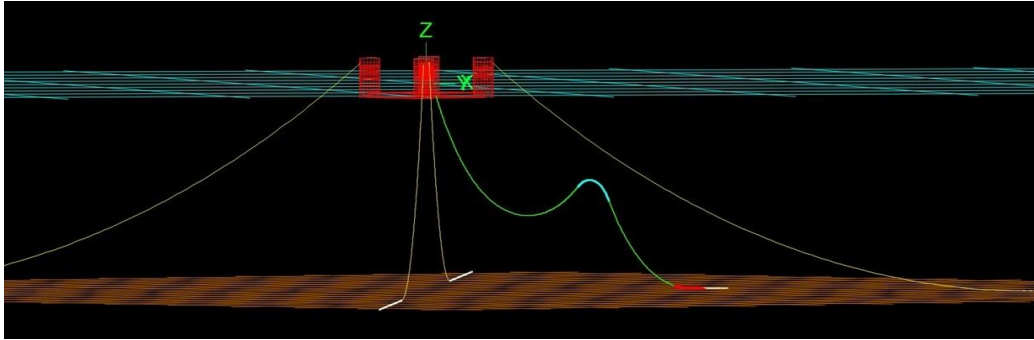
Classification of floating structures. *Conditions for growth in the Norwegian offshore wind industry. 2019*

# Project working lines

## 1. FLOATER (PT2)



NAUTILUS floating platform design

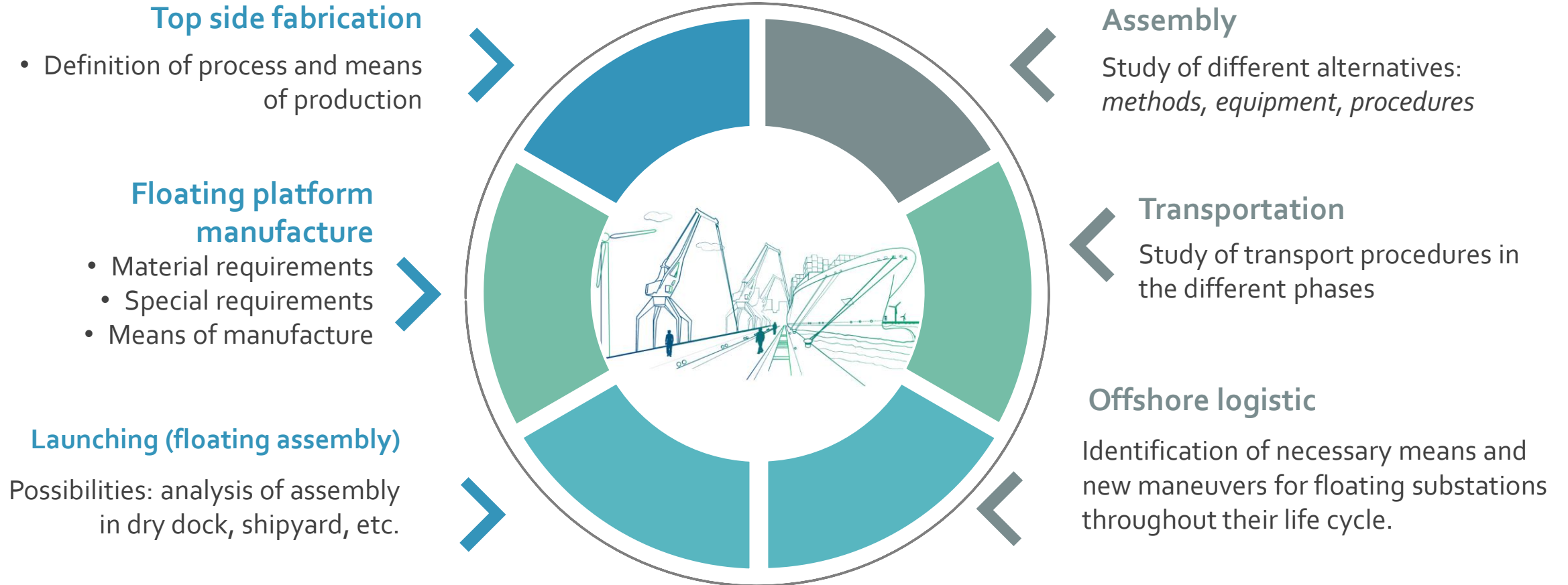


Design verification → HYDRODYNAMIC CHANNEL TESTS

# Project working lines

## 2. FABRICATION (PT4)

**MURUETA**  
ASTILLEROS - SHIPYARDS



Identifying constraints from the earliest stages of design



Demonstrate the **technical and economic feasibility** of floating substations.

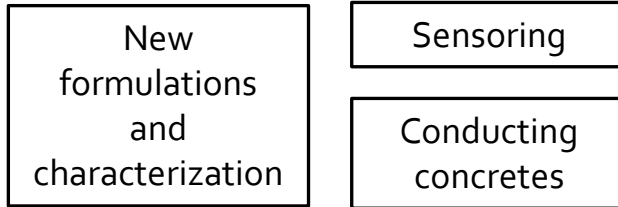
# Project working lines

## 3. NEW MATERIALS (PT3)

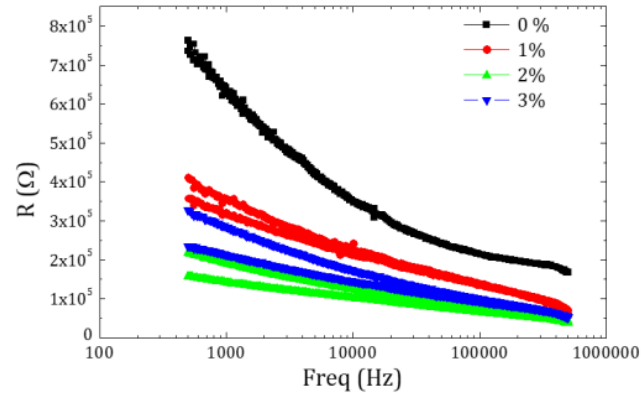


### Materials

Analysis of new materials for application to offshore structures.



Appearance of concrete samples with microfibres



Resistivity obtained from samples

Coatings

Materials

### Coating reformulations

Variation of solvent, thicknesses, heat treatment, etc.

Top-coat coatings



Irucoat coating test samples

# Project working lines



## 4. O&M (PT5)

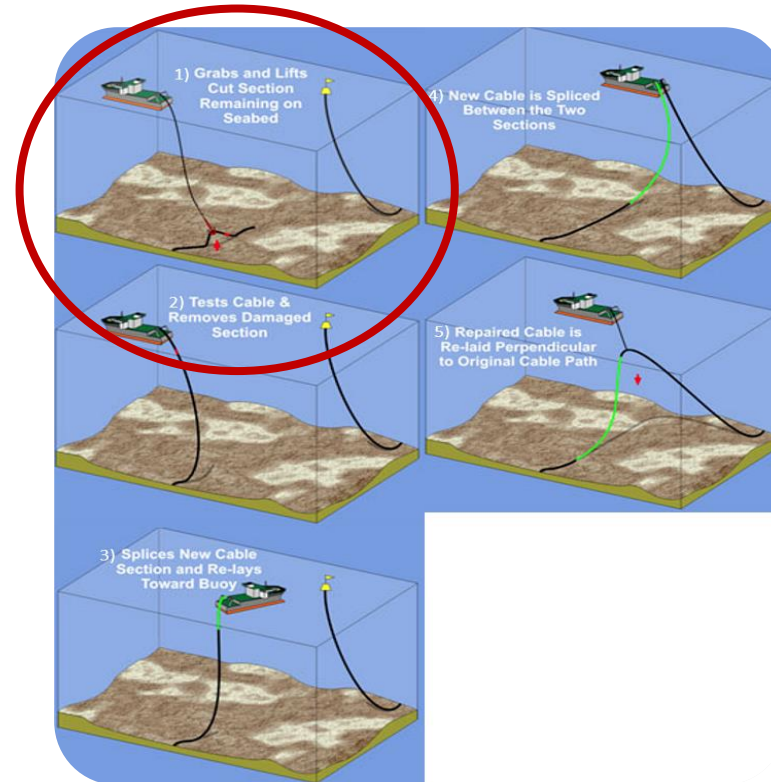
### Subsea cable handler design

Design and manufacture of a cable collection clamp for maintenance and operation.  
High technological value approach:

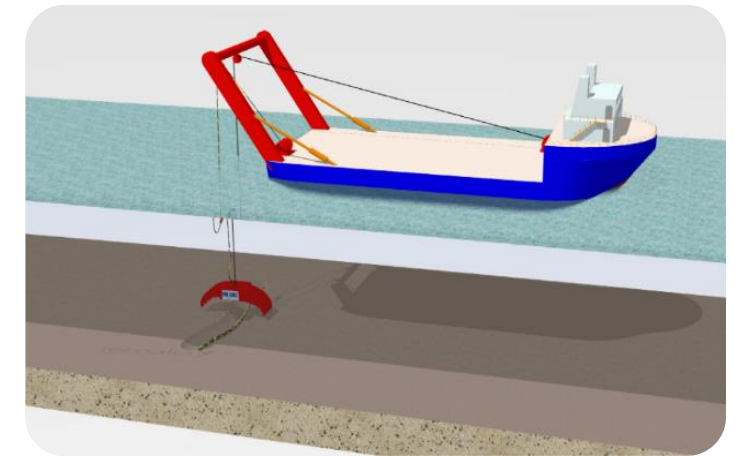
- Avoiding cable damage
- Increased reliability
- Reducing costs



Example of traditional cable recovery



Phases in the handling of a submarine cable repairing



Concept sketch of the new handler

# Project working lines

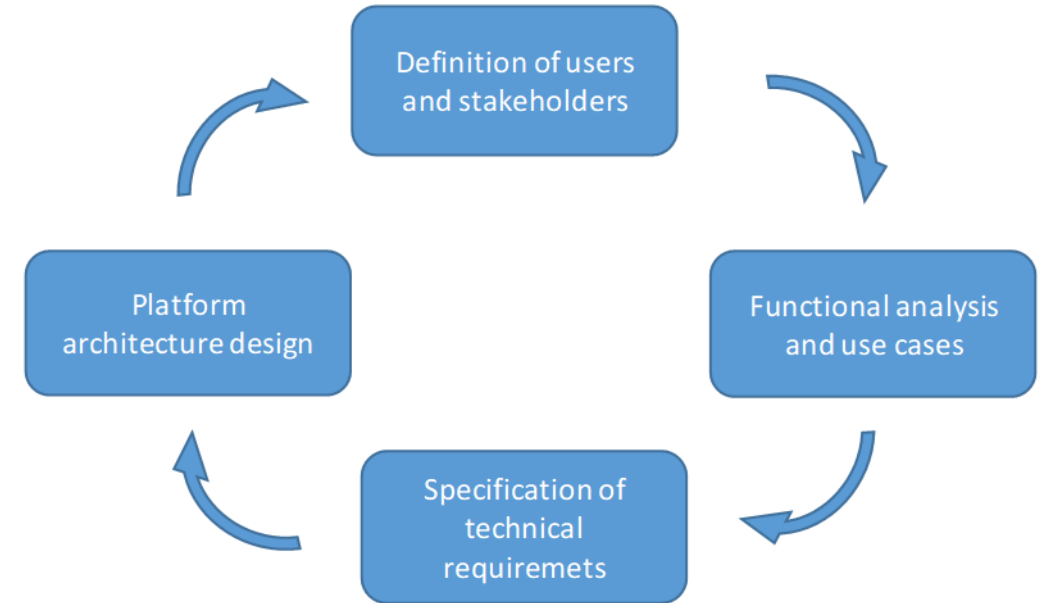
## 4. O&M (PT5)



### \* Development of an engineering logistics platform

Development of an asset management platform for the installation, operation and maintenance phases → **digitalization**

- Human resources management
- Material resource management
- Workflow and time control
- Platform access and security



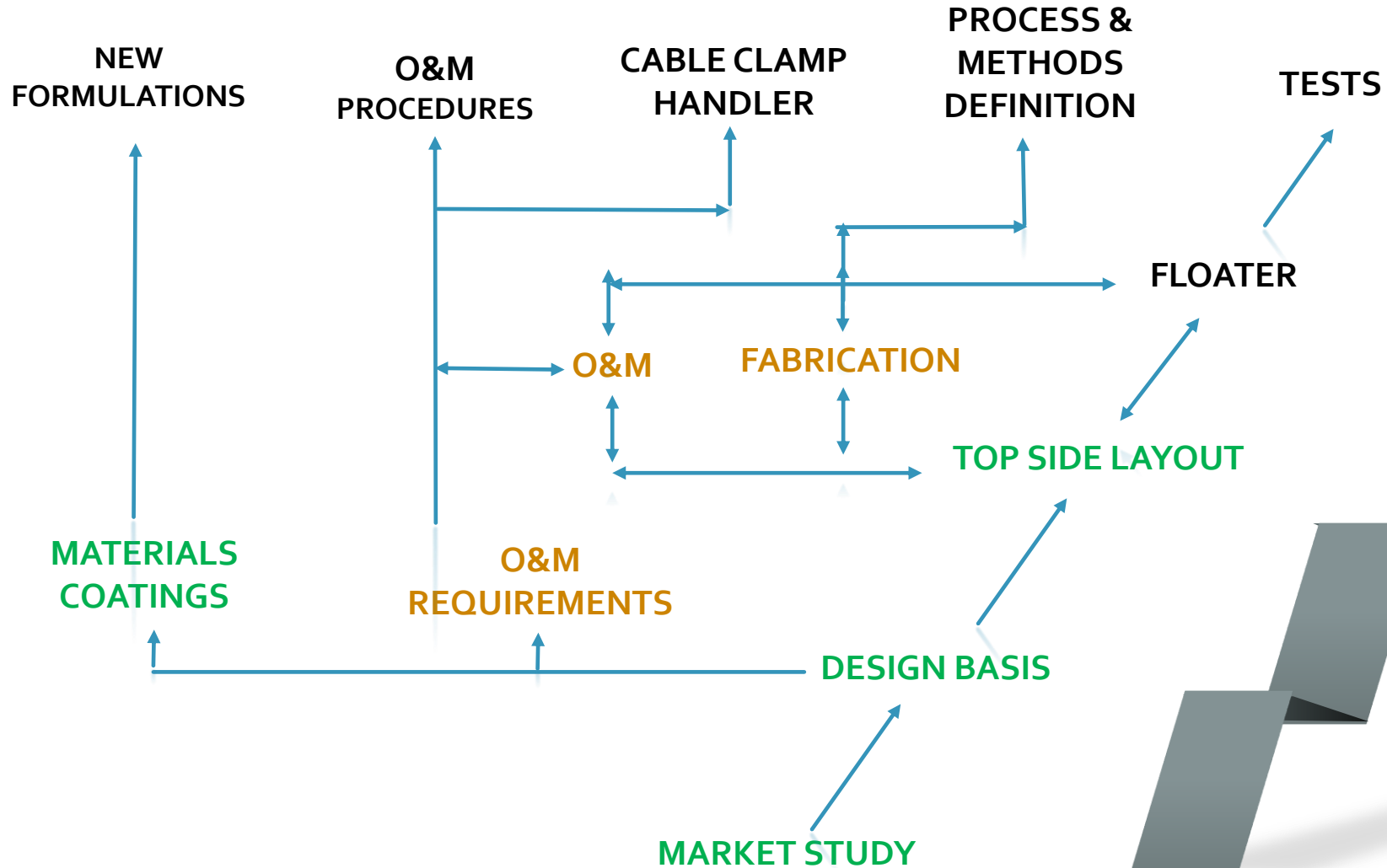
### \* Development of steel-concrete joints

Analysis of assembly alternatives to reduce the time and means required for the assembly of different parts of the floating substation.



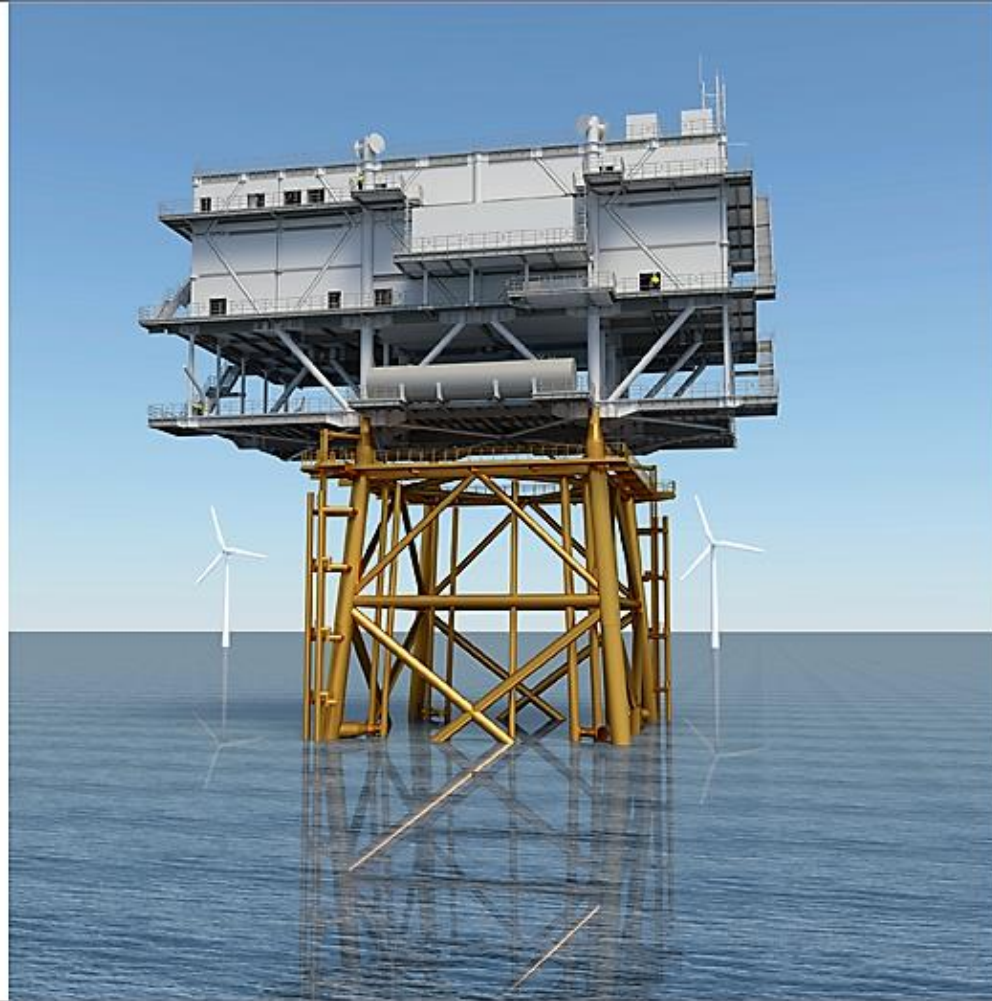
*Bolted joints monitoring* →  
Tightening load monitoring for easy maintenance.

# Status of the Project and next steps

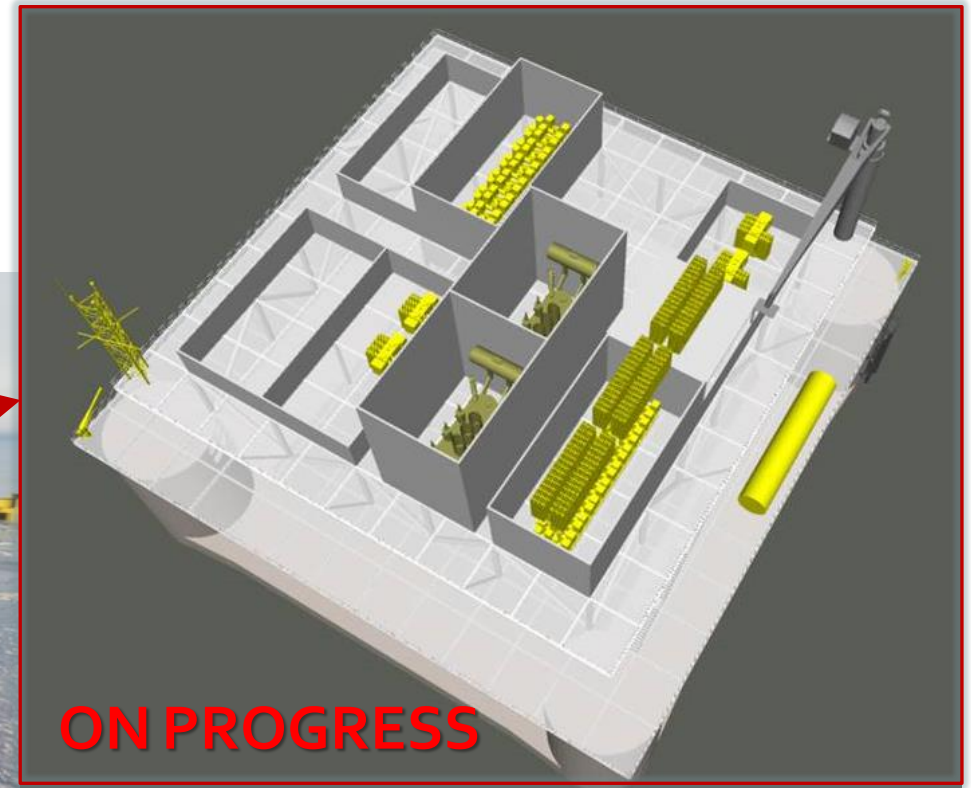


# Status of the Project and next steps

From this...



# Status of the Project and next steps



...to this!

## Thank you



<https://www.wind2gridproject.com/es/>

<https://www.idom.com/en/new/offshore-wind-energy/>



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