

Business study

By MAKE Consulting

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The Offshore Report

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Price (EUR 1,600)

“Offshore wind will boom next year!” This statement has been made every year since the beginning of the decade. However, the actual boom has never materialised, in spite of numerous efforts to bring the significant number of offshore developments to fruition. At present, the capacity installed offshore is a mere 1,200 MW, compared to the onshore capacity of 20,119 MW. So why have we not seen a boom?

A number of issues ranging from beginners' ignorance, to technical challenges, to impressive market developments have had a significant influence on the sector, and all of these factors have had a slowing effect on the implementation of offshore projects. The sum of these factors has resulted in us still waiting for the market to boom.

Over the past few years, a number of offshore projects have been finalised, based on contracts where the developer is responsible for project execution, serviced by multiple suppliers of equipment and services. These projects have been planned with a far better understanding of wind and weather, and they have, in general, been executed within a reasonable timeframe and for a reasonable cost.

All the indicators now point to the fact that most problems facing the offshore wind power sector have been solved or are in the process of being solved, and the market, remaining buoyant due to considerable political will and increasing energy prices, should make the most of this opportunity. So is a boom imminent? Well no! The numerous factors influencing an offshore project and the various capital-intensive services required to establish an offshore wind project take years to plan, finance, build and implement, and our view is that a boom will never occur, but that we will experience sound, steady growth in offshore wind power.

Area	Key figures
Key markets	UK, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Netherlands, USA and China
Number of MW installed mid-2008	1,239 MW
Forecast 2012e – acc.	7,250 MW
Forecast 2015e – acc.	17,200 MW
Historical CAGR – (to 2007)	58 %
Future CAGR (2008-2015)	35 %

Source: MAKE Consulting

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Research notes	Research note	Research note	Research note	Research note
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Business studies

Reviews of a particular segment of the wind industry, such as the annual offshore report.

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