

Flash Note

By MAKE Consulting

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Hydraulic Drives Boost Drivetrain Diversity

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Traditionally, poor efficiencies at lower input speeds limited the acceptance of hydraulic transmissions for wind turbine drivetrains. The recent uptake of hydraulic drivetrains through new product offerings by United Power, Mitsubishi and BARD highlights the commercial potential for this technology and its likely emergence as an alternative to mainstream geared and direct drive solutions.

Hydraulic drivetrains must overcome a variety of challenges prior to gaining wider industry acceptance. Nevertheless, MAKE expects positive traction, particularly in the offshore segment where the CAPEX and OPEX requirements significantly differ from those in the onshore segment. This FlashNote provides a comparative analysis of hydraulic drivetrains with the present and next generation technologies and with a special focus on the systems targeted at the Offshore market.

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Annual publishing plan is tentative and subject to change

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