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## Post from WAB

Are you satisfied with the work we are doing? Have we got our priorities right? Do we need to make some readjustments or focus on completely different issues? As the new managing director of WAB, I would like to begin my work by asking you a number of questions.

Despite the threat of global warming and the consequences this will have, the exploitation of wind energy on land and at sea is unfortunately not something we can take for granted. That's why, when engaging with people at large and politicians in particular, we must all argue in favour of this technology in both a logical and factual way. The wind industry must also see itself as part of a new form of energy supply that is important for industrial policy, and not take on the position of being only a supplier of electricity. We can achieve this only by working together. That's why I am making the questionnaire for members of the WAB network a starting point and will personally visit a representative cross-section of member businesses. I am keen to find out what the prevailing mood is and what members' views are, so that these are reflected in our work and strategy. This applies on one hand to the wider political arena and on the other to the added value and support that you personally associate with the network. Our strength lies in the fact that you as members – from individuals to medium-sized businesses to major enterprises – stand behind the technology



*Andreas Wellbrock, Managing Director of WAB*

and help continue its development. It is very much our network's heterogeneous structure that requires us to examine the direction we are taking so that our work here in the office can reflect your wishes.

I would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite you to WINDFORCE 2016 in Bremen from 7 to 9 June. This conference, our most important showpiece, has since 2005 become one of the most significant events in the international offshore wind industry. This year too it awaits you once more with a top-notch and exciting programme that impressively underlines the professionalism of the industry in matters of cost reduction and provides many opportunities for networking.

I look forward to welcoming you to Bremen.

Best wishes,

Andreas Wellbrock

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### DATES

23 May 2016	<b>WAB Working Group on Needs and Logistics</b>
2 June 2016	<b>WAB Working Group on Service &amp; Operations</b>
7 to 9 June 2016	<b>WINDFORCE Conference</b>
14 and 15 June 2016	<b>8th NRW Wind Energy Industry Day / Global Wind Day</b>
10 August 2016	<b>WAB social get-together</b>
16 August 2016	<b>WAB Working Group on Onshore</b>
18 August 2016	<b>WAB Working Group on Foundation Structures &amp; Steel Construction</b>
25 August 2016	<b>WAB Working Group on Law</b>
27 to 30 September 2016	<b>WAB joint trade fair stand at WindEnergy Hamburg</b>
2 November 2016	<b>WAB Legal Offshore Day</b>



# Transparency helps grid expansion get started

## Interview with Kerstin Maria Rippel, 50Hertz Transmission

The expansion of renewable energy production is supposed to be aligned with the development of grid networks. Government policy is relying on route corridors. But the instalment of new electricity masts is not particularly popular with the general public and the pace of grid expansion is rather sluggish due to opposition. Nevertheless, in the area regulated by 50Hertz Transmission, a transmission system operator (TSO), things are moving forward. A major bottleneck towards Bavaria was recently eliminated. Kerstin Maria Rippel, head of communications, would like to see steady expansion in the Baltic Sea too.



*Kerstin Maria Rippel: "Giving priority to underground cables increases the acceptance of transmission line projects." Photo: 50Hertz Transmission*

**WAB:** Grid development should be more closely oriented toward the expansion of renewable energy generation. This step was already laid out in the 2014 Renewable Energies Act with fixed route corridors. How does this look from a TSO's point of view?

**Rippel:** Of course we welcome stronger synchronisation. A completely uncontrolled expansion of renewable energies attaining an 80 percent share of power production will not function without the grid networks needed. So grid development is urgent – but incentives in the 2016 Renewable Energies Act, which use a new reference yield model to boost the expansion of wind power generation in central and southern Germany, are good too.

**WAB:** What is the share of renewable energies in the grid area of 50Hertz?

**Rippel:** The current share – 49 percent of electricity consumption – means that we are moving toward a new record high. To give you a figure, that share was equal to 48 terawatt-hours in 2015.

**WAB:** What does this record high mean for the grid?

**Rippel:** Our grid development planners have had to deal since 2002 with the fact that more electricity has been generated than consumed in our grid area. Although we transmit power to metropolitan centres such as Hamburg and Berlin, we have to divert large amounts to the western part of Germany and Bavaria. Our grid was designed with this in mind, because from very early on we were already taking grid development based on consumption needs very seriously. The Federal Network Agency approved 10 of the 14 grid projects that 50Hertz proposed in its grid development plans up until 2024. This shows that our grid planners take a realistic approach to consumption needs.

**WAB:** That sounds like 50Hertz has no grid congestion problems.

**Rippel:** (laughs) Of course we do. The biggest bottleneck in Germany is between Thuringia and Bavaria. We had to deal with that until late 2015. Meanwhile, one system for the 380 kV South-West Interconnector has gone into trial operation and provides significant load relief in the entire control area because we installed an additional line to Bavaria. We hope to be able to put into operation a second system for the 165-kilometre line before the end of the year. Another bottleneck worth mentioning is north of Berlin. The Uckermark line has only 220 kilovolts and was supposed to have been expanded in 2017 to 380 kilovolts. But NABU (Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union) filed a lawsuit and the court decided we would have to look much more closely at the specific mortality risk that grid expansion poses to certain bird species. We take these requirements very seriously. They lead to delays however so we probably won't be able to eliminate the bottlenecks until 2020.

**WAB:** The south-east direct current passage (SuedOstLink) between Saxony-Anhalt and Bavaria is considerably longer, spanning a distance of 600 kilometres. What is the current state of this huge high-voltage direct current project?

**Rippel:** Again, there have been changes because in late 2015 a new Federal Requirement Plan Act was passed after two years of ongoing political controversy regarding the need for the transmission line – which has now been agreed upon. The new Federal Requirement Plan Act gives underground cables precedence – this by the way applies to all three planned direct current projects. But before we officially get the process going in 2017, we will engage with the public through open dialogue and a participation process. This includes establishing a planning advisory committee to accompany the process and provide transparency, hosting informative events, employing a "dialogue" van and conducting workshops where we plan to work with visualisations of the transmission line corridors. This will give residents and local authorities the opportunity to make suggestions for corridor routing.

**WAB:** And to increase acceptance as well?

**Rippel:** That's right. Acceptance will most likely increase due to the precedence given to underground transmission cables because this method of transmission will receive priority in all planning.

**WAB:** You obviously attach great importance to informal measures in addition to formal citizen participation as required by law.

**Rippel:** Exactly. We want to make it clear from the beginning that 50Hertz stands for transparent grid expansion and that we welcome the suggestions made by residents. If they are viable, they will be incorporated into the formal application submitted to the Federal Network Agency.

**WAB:** Opposition can often be softened with a bit of money. Municipalities are already entitled to a maximum compensation of EUR 40,000 per kilometre of overhead transmission lines.

**Rippel:** We think that's good and support this kind of compensation. Our impression is that the municipalities concerned see this compensation

as an acknowledgement of the burden they bear for the public good.

**WAB:** Does it really make planning easier?

**Rippel:** In addition to the payments, there are still the prescribed compensation and contingency measures; we have to look at the whole package. In addressing these measures, which are meant to compensate communities to some extent for the changes caused by grid development, we work closely with local and regional authorities and ask about the ideas and expectations of those concerned. Wherever possible, measures are carried out where work on grid expansion has caused disruption or change. These measures could include, as prescribed by law, reforestation, renaturation and the demolition of old buildings. Our experience with these measures has been good and compensation payments are additional. But we have to keep an eye on the economic costs.

**WAB:** But land and forest owners don't think that's fair because they receive compensation only for land where masts will remain standing for several decades. The demands made by agricultural associations, for example, are higher.

**Rippel:** Of course when it comes to easements, we comply with the legal requirements that call for financial compensation in exchange for the right to erect electricity masts on and span electricity lines over other people's property. And yet, we still understand the farmers' point of view. But that's not an easy question, because HVDC transmission lines and the laying of underground cables will give rise to new discussions. We assume that farming can continue even in the presence of underground cables. That is what the results of all studies to date indicate.

**WAB:** The Grid Expansion Acceleration Act (NABEG), in existence since 2011, allows the Federal

Network Agency to take over the planning approval process. Has this had any real effect?

**Rippel:** This can't be assessed conclusively yet because our three current NABEG projects haven't gone beyond the first step in the process, which is the federal transmission system planning phase. But overall the learning curve is increasing because all TSOs cooperate with the Federal Network Agency in developing planning criteria. We expect to be able to get through the planning approval process more rapidly because very detailed preliminary clarification is already going on during the federal transmission planning stage.

**WAB:** Let's talk about the Baltic Sea. The Baltic 1 and Baltic 2 wind farms are online and work has started on the cables for the next two projects, Wikinger and Arkona-Becken Südost. What's next?

**Rippel:** That depends on the Offshore Wind Power Act, which has just been in consultation. It will determine how tenders in the transition model and in the central model as of 2025 will be handled. For us it's important that individual projects remain viable in the transition period between 2021 and 2024, and of course that the Baltic Sea is taken into account in the central model for tendering. This should also include coastal waters within the 12-nautical mile zone. But precisely this hasn't yet been included in the draft law.

**WAB:** So you're sticking up for the Baltic Sea.

**Rippel:** Yes. Of course, it has less potential for expansion than the North Sea, but the Baltic has very specific advantages such as the short distance of offshore wind farms from the coast. We as transmission system operators have decided to build consumption-oriented grid access with three-phase cables, less expensive because of the shorter distances. This should play a role in

tendering regarding competition and cost efficiency. This is why the coastal sea must also be taken into account.

**WAB:** That sounds like you have offshore aspirations.

**Rippel:** We have successfully connected two wind farms and we are in a position to transport electricity to wherever it's needed, despite grid bottlenecks. We are especially keen on steady grid expansion, but we don't want any interruptions, and we don't want to have to build too many grid connections at once.

**WAB:** Kriegers Flak is also an exciting project. 50Hertz ordered the main component in March.

**Rippel:** That's right. We link the different synchronous areas of Germany and Denmark – also with the help of subsidies from the European Union, which views Kriegers Flak as a project of common interest. This is done by linking the Kriegers Flak, Baltic 1 and Baltic 2 wind farms with two cables having a capacity of roughly 400 megawatts. It is the first project of its kind, and one that our engineers spent a lot of time working on.

**WAB:** Similar plans exist for a connection between Sweden and Germany. What role do these cross-national connections play?

**Rippel:** They are hugely important. In situations when high amounts of wind power are generated in north-eastern Germany, we can deliver inexpensive wind power to Sweden, and save on electricity generated from hydropower there. In turn, when Germany doesn't generate enough wind power, hydropower stored in Scandinavian reservoirs can flow back to Germany. This provides both sides with a business model and advantages.

*The interview was conducted by Torsten Thomas.*

## Report from Berlin

### Timetable for Germany's new Renewable Energies Act (EEG)

The discussion surrounding the so-called Renewable Energies Act 3.0 is entering the final straight. Let us remind ourselves – written into the Renewable Energies Act reform of 2013 was the introduction of tendering to establish the level of subsidies for renewable energies. The industry responded to the challenge, not the least important aspect of which was the production of a comprehensive study analysing the possible variants for tenders involving wind at sea. Germany's Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, given the responsibility for renewable energies by the new coalition government of 2013, also got down to work. The formal exchange began at the start of 2015 and since then a great deal of work has been done on both sides. A good thing indeed!

Several general guideline papers, statements, consultation dates, workshops, letters from and to ministers and MPs – with accompanying rumours and announcements – and one "Wismar Appeal" later it can be said: the cards are on the table. It will soon become clear which one will win.

In the second half of May, the German Cabinet will decide on the legislative proposal to be fast-tracked for the first time in the Bundestag on 17 June. The law will be adopted before the summer recess, in the week leading up to 8 July. It remains uncertain to what extent it will reflect our position. Together with Germany's coastal states we are fighting for an honest and systematic energy turnaround that also takes into account the Paris climate resolutions. In concrete terms: the 45-percent target (i.e. share of renewables in gross electricity consumption) stated in the draft Renewable Energies Act must be a minimum target and not a cap. Renewables are capable of more than people give them credit for.

According to the draft, from 2021 only a further 730 MW of offshore capacity per year are to be installed. This means a further major reduction; innovation and the use of cost reduction opportunities would be substantially decreased. This is likely to cause a fresh split in the manufacturing industry, which will hit the northwest region in particular. At least 900 MW per year is the lowest manageable limit.

The German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy plans expansion for the four years from 2021 to 2024 to be tendered solely in 2017. This will prevent the industry from taking advantage of cost reduction opportunities



that are certain to arise. This and other regulations strongly contradict the aim of efficiency and price reduction.

The requirement also means that bidders in the auction process must provide bank guarantees of around EUR 100 million, and from 2020 this amount could even double. Such regulations hit the medium-sized businesses in particular that have been heavily involved in the past.

Jobs in the region and throughout Germany, technology leadership and innovation, indeed the fact that this technology is a role model, evoking a great deal of emotion and positive associations, provide strong arguments against wind being taken out of the sails of wind energy on land and at sea. Particularly now when, in the electricity sector at least, renewables are finally providing the backbone of supply in Germany. Particularly now when interest rates are at an historic low, and as a result, capital is crying out to be invested. Why should short-sighted views on grid expansion and claims of alleged cost increases now apply a brake and interrupt the momentum? There's just no sense in it!

Let's look at it like this. Sometimes we know more about the distant future than we do about what's around the corner. Thirty years after Chernobyl and five years after Fukushima, what comes to mind is that we know exactly which radioactive isotope will be harmless in how many hundreds of thousands of years, but the problem of dismantling nuclear power stations and finding a final storage solution for spent radioactive fuel remains as unsolved now as in the past. We also know that it's more economical in the long term, indeed that it's the only sensible option, to generate energy without using fossil fuels and emitting greenhouse gases. And we know that the jobs that go with the renewable energy sector have a future. So the question we have to answer in the short term is how we handle the transition period from fossil fuels to renewables in order to stay on the right path. The industry has arrived at a common position on offshore wind energy, which WAB underlined in its press release of 21 April 2016. In the short term, we know what we must do to reach the long-term – and right – goal. Nothing less is at stake.

 [Statement](#) (in German)

 [Press Release](#) (in German)

## Financing and insurance are at the focus of Session G

### New combi-ticket for one day plus a side event

In just one month's time, on 7 June, WINDFORCE 2016 will be opening its doors. For the offshore wind industry, three information-packed days lie ahead. Do you know whether you will be taking part in WINDFORCE? We believe our programme overview will convince you when it comes to making your decision.

Investors from France and Germany will be reporting on their experience and the next steps for financing. What impact does the Renewable Energies Act have on remuneration and the financing of offshore wind projects? What new challenges do investors have to face? These are just two of the questions that experts will be discussing during Session G.

#### Programme

Various types of conference tickets are available:

- the 3-day ticket includes the opening event and the WINDFORCE Dinner
- a conference ticket for either two days or one day
- the new combi-ticket, which covers one conference day plus one side event (either the opening event or the WINDFORCE Dinner)

#### Registration

You are unable to attend the conference but would like to present your business at WINDFORCE? There are still a number of sponsorship packages available for smaller or larger budgets.

#### Download the sponsorship plan



# WINDFORCE 2016

Bremen

12<sup>th</sup> WAB Offshore Conference

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# Future wind-to-gas technology becomes pillar of the energy turnaround

## Opening event for new WAB project meets with considerable interest

On the occasion of the opening event of the WAB project “Bremen Wind-to-Gas-Strategy”, held in mid-March, around 60 representatives from industry, research and administration gathered at the Innovation and Technology Centre of the University of Bremen to find out about the innovative wind-to-gas concept. The programme included six specialist talks demonstrating the enormous future potential of wind-to-gas technology, providing insight into the state of this technology and introducing pilot projects.

Ronny Meyer, state councillor at the Senate for Environment, Construction and Transport for the State of Bremen, opened the event with a welcome speech and emphasised the strategic relevance for the energy turnaround of hydrogen production from excess wind power and the interest that the State of Bremen has in this new technology. Project leader Susanne Findeisen introduced the one-year project, its aims and initial findings. Professor Stefan Gößling-Reisemann of the University of Bremen subsequently explained the important role of power-to-gas for a future robust energy supply and its cost-reducing effects. Christine Brandstätter of the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Technology and Applied Material Research IFAM – Energy System Analysis (formerly the Bremen Energy Institute) presented the results of a current study that illustrated the potential of power-to-gas for power storage in comparison to the concept of power-to-heat. The second part of the event began with a report from Klaus Stolzenburg (PLANET GbR) about the results of the “Hydrogen in the Maritime Industry” project



*Irina Lucke, deputy chairperson of the WAB Executive Board, moderated the event*

that gave insight into the technological options available. Renate Klingenberg of ChemCoast then reported on the current status of the implementation of the “Timetable for Wind Hydrogen in the Lower Elbe Region”. The event concluded with a report by Jochen Ludwig of ITM Power about the commissioning of PEM electrolysis plants. Moderating the event was Irina Lucke, the deputy chairperson of WAB’s executive board and managing director of EWE Offshore Service & Solutions.

### Key findings of the event

It became clear from the talks and discussion that followed that wind-to-gas (also known as power-to-gas) will play an important future role in the energy system. By converting excess (wind) power into hydrogen – and, if required, into methane by going one step further – power can be chemically stored and fed into the existing gas infrastructure. The synthetic gas can then be converted back to power at a later date or used in the heating, transport and chemical sectors. Specialists in the field expect the

technology to be widely used if the share of renewable energies lies around 80 percent and significant amounts of wind power cannot be used because of grid bottlenecks or a limited demand for power. Wind-to-gas is not yet viable today, but potential in niche applications such as in the chemical industry is expected in the short term. The use of wind gas in the mobility sector will also be viable in the medium term – as long as framework conditions are right. As well as complying with regulatory law, the technology must become more cost-effective. An important finding to come out of the event therefore was that power-to-gas needs to be tested today in demonstration plants so that the technology, if it is to be used, is efficient and cost-effective.

Please address any questions you may have to Susanne Findeisen ([susanne.findeisen@wab.net](mailto:susanne.findeisen@wab.net)).

The talks from the event can be downloaded from the WAB website under the following link.

 **Download talks** (in German)

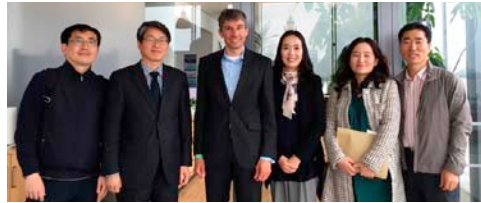


*The “Bremen Wind-to-Gas-Strategy” is funded by the State of Bremen.*

## WAB welcomes delegation from South Korea

### Much interest in planning issues and regulations

On 15 April 2016, WAB welcomed a six-strong delegation from South Korea. The group, comprising representatives from the Environmental Nature Conservation Bureau, the National Institute of Environmental Research, the Korea Environment Institute, the Korea National University of Transportation and the embassy of the Republic of Korea in Bonn, found out more about the WAB network, the state of wind energy in Germany, and laws and regulations for the wind energy sector.



From left to right: Dr Hyosung Sun (Korea Environment Institute), Prof Byung-chan Lee (Korea National University of Transportation), Andreas Wellbrock (WAB managing director), Duri Yim (deputy director of the Environmental Assessment Policy Division Nature Conservation Bureau), Hyo Jung Kim (attaché at the embassy of the Republic of Korea in Bonn) and Dr Hye-sung Jeong (National Institute of Environmental Research)

Representatives of the delegation were particularly interested in learning about noise regulations and the distance of wind turbines to residential and conservation areas. They also asked about the major difference between onshore and offshore wind energy regarding technology and approval procedures. Their questions also focused on the expansion status of German offshore projects.



Andreas Wellbrock explains the current status of German offshore projects



## Positive assessment of the introductory seminar

### Wind industry invests in employees' continuing professional development

Feedback given by participants at the recent introductory seminar was once again very positive. Some 66 percent would unreservedly recommend the seminar, while 34 percent said they would probably recommend it. We also received a small number of very helpful comments on how the seminar could be further optimised and we will incorporate them into the next seminar in October.

Are you interested in the introductory seminar, or do you have colleagues new to the industry? The next introductory seminar will be held in Bremen after the summer break. Be sure to take advantage of the early booking discount by registering now.



#### Event dates

Dates: 19 and 20 October 2016

Venue: Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Bremen

**Registration and programme**

## Funding for companies in the wind energy industry

### WAB publishes overview of current funding programmes

Among the major tasks facing the wind energy industry are its continuous activities in research and development. Innovations are urgently needed to cut down costs, especially in the offshore wind sector. Research needs are diverse and encompass nearly all areas of wind power production – from rotor blades and foundations to plans for operation and maintenance as well as decommissioning.

On its website, WAB publishes an overview of current funding programmes that are of interest to companies in the wind industry. The list, which includes not only funding programmes designed especially for the wind energy industry but also programmes in associated areas such as the maritime sector, new materials, and information and communications technology, is updated regularly.

If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact Susanne Findeisen (susanne.findeisen@wab.net) for more information. To access the funding programme overview, go to the WAB website:

**Overview of funding programmes**  
(in German)

## Press service for WAB members

Disseminate your company's communications more widely

WAB is a lively industry network – there is always something interesting to report. In addition to the news ticker on experts.wab, more direct information can be found on the WAB website by clicking on the button “NEWS from the WAB members' network”.

Easy to navigate, this WAB page brings together its members' current press releases, distributing news more widely and, what's more, improving their listing in search engines. A link leads to the website of the member concerned and to the full text, so that those interested can find out directly about the complete range of what the business or institute has to offer.

**NEWS** from the  
WAB members' network



WAB members can send their press releases to Lisa Flissikowski (lisa.flissikowski@wab.net). These will then be published on the WAB website.

### Event announcements

## Andreas Wellbrock to open 8<sup>th</sup> NRW Wind Energy Industry Day with representatives from industry and politics

Reduced registration fees for WAB members

The 8<sup>th</sup> NRW Wind Energy Industry Day, to be held in Düsseldorf on 14 and 15 June 2016, will be opened by Andreas Wellbrock, managing director of WAB, in conjunction with Johannes Rimmel, Environment Minister for North Rhine-Westphalia and Hermann Albers, president of the German Wind Energy Association.

Wind energy had one of its most successful years in 2015. Not only does North Rhine-Westphalia lie in second place regarding onshore installation, it is also an important supplier state for the wind industry as a whole. The Renewable

Energies Act is soon to be passed and is being awaited with great anticipation by the industry. Through countless actions we have taken a stance on the government's plans. In his talk entitled “Renewable Energies Act 3.0 – Challenges and Opportunities”, Andreas Wellbrock will point out the demands and recommendations we are making and how things stand at the present time.




WAB members receive preferential conditions for stand space in the exhibition areas and pay reduced conference fees.



### Event dates

Dates: 14 and 15 June 2016

Venue: Hotel Nikko, Düsseldorf

-  [Registration as a participant](#)
-  [Registration as an exhibitor](#)
-  [Further information](#)

All links are to German-language pages.

## Wind meets solar and storage

Wind energy workshop at the Intersolar Europe in Munich

On 23 June 2016, a forum discussing “Wind Meets Solar and Storage: Integration Strategies” will be held at the Intersolar Europe, the world's leading trade fair for the solar industry, and the ees Europe, Europe's largest trade fair for batteries and energy storage systems.

### Exhibition tour for the wind industry

Additionally, a tour of the exhibition on the same day, following the theme of wind energy, will take participants to a special exhibition and the “Wind Meets Solar and Storage” joint stand (Hall B2, Booths B2.290 und 280).

WAB members can register for the trade fair and the tour free of charge.

-  [Registration](#)

## Full-service package for WAB members at WindEnergy Hamburg



Still time to exhibit your company at the joint trade fair stand

The plan for the joint stand that WAB is organising at Germany's biggest onshore and offshore wind energy trade fair is reaching its final phase. We still have a few places available for those who have not yet made up their minds whether to join. Over an area of 330 square metres in Hall B7, we will be presenting the WAB network at WindEnergy in Hamburg from 27 to 30 September.

Fellow exhibitors at the joint stand benefit in a number of ways. WAB takes on the overall organisation, and fellow exhibitors basically need only to provide personnel for the stand. With its large stand as well as other marketing activities, side events, tours of the trade fair and its stand party, WAB is able to reach a wide audience.

Anyone interested should get in touch with Daniela Hillebrecht ([daniela.hillebrecht@wab.net](mailto:daniela.hillebrecht@wab.net)) or Lisa Fließikowski ([lisa.flissikowski@wab.net](mailto:lisa.flissikowski@wab.net)).

 **Further information** (in German)



## HUSUM Wind and Offshore Wind Energy 2017 in London

Preparations for joint presentations are ongoing

With the stand concept for the upcoming trade fair in Hamburg barely having taken shape, planning is already under way for the next joint stands for Offshore Wind Energy (EWEA Offshore) 2017 (6 to 8 June 2017) and for Husum Wind 2017 (12 to 15 September). For WAB members, WAB has reserved attractive stand areas of 224 and 120 square metres respectively at both fairs.

Anyone interested should contact Daniela Hillebrecht ([daniela.hillebrecht@wab.net](mailto:daniela.hillebrecht@wab.net)) or Lisa Fließikowski ([lisa.flissikowski@wab.net](mailto:lisa.flissikowski@wab.net)). The more members that can register now, the sooner planning for the stand can take shape.



**Offshore  
Wind Energy 2017**  
6 - 8 June 2017, London, UK

## Book by 31 May 2016 to be sure of getting your early booking discount

### Full speed ahead for application phase for wind study course

The wind study course will begin again for the eleventh time in the forthcoming academic year. It has become the leading vocational and continuing education course for specialist workers and managers in the wind energy sector.

As expected, the focus of this year's wind study course turns to the Renewable Energies Act and the tendering model. Integrated project work, joint lectures based on practical experience, and

interesting excursions will serve to provide deep insights as well as excellent access to a lively network of experts.

The closing date for applications is 30 June 2016. Applications submitted before 31 May will receive a discount to the sum of EUR 200.

➤ **Further information and registration**  
(in German)



## WAB social get-together – meeting place of the wind energy industry

### New impetus in the WAB network



*Networking and information sharing  
are key aspects of the social get-together*

The welcoming of new WAB managing director Andreas Wellbrock and a subsequent interview took centre stage at the last WAB social get-together on 6 April 2016. Around 300 members and industry experts attended the evening event to meet the new head of WAB, talk about issues of the day and find new business partners.

After the evening's sponsors bremenports and convent energy were introduced, Dr Klaus Meier, the chair of WAB's executive board, welcomed Andreas Wellbrock, the new managing director, who outlined his plans and said how much he was looking forward to working at WAB.

Asked about his initial impression of the WAB social get-together, Wellbrock said, "I am overwhelmed by the response and the many useful conversations taking place and am looking forward to the next get-together".

#### Join the WAB social get-together on 10 August 2016

The next WAB social get-together is being held after the summer break in the Hotel Radisson Blu in Bremen on 10 August 2016.

We are pleased to announce that Günter Ratzbor of the Schmal + Ratzbor engineering office for environmental planning, together with members of Lower Saxony's branch of NABU (Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union), will give us some interesting insights on current developments in conservation law.

#### Event date

Date: 10 August 2016  
Time: from 6 p.m.  
Venue: Böttcherstr. 2, 28195 Bremen

➤ **Registration** (until 8 August 2016)



*Andreas Wellbrock, new managing director of WAB,  
in conversation with members*

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➤ **Further information on the  
social get-together** (in German)

Those interested should simply send an email to:  
lisa.flissikowski@wab.net



#### **ContentTain**

As a communication agency, ContentTain specialises in using film media to promote your brand, services and messages to target groups. Our specialists work together with clients to realise their plans – from idea generation to conception and design implementation to media placement. The company is certified in accordance with “OPITO” standards and produces impressive pictures at sea. In-depth experience of project management and a clear understanding of what is essential are two of the company’s strengths. Its experts have many years’ experience in public service broadcasting and produce work of the highest quality.

**[www.contenttain.de](http://www.contenttain.de)**

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## Legal notice

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#### **Editors**

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#### **Layout**

bigbenreklamebureau gmbh,  
Fischerhude

**May 2016**

Funded by :

Der Senator für Umwelt,  
Bau und Verkehr

 **Freie  
Hansestadt  
Bremen**