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Deutsche Windtechnik is installing an ADLS at the Nordergründe offshore wind farm, the first German offshore wind farm to be equipped with such a system

For the first time, a German offshore wind farm will be equipped with an Aicraft Detection Light System ADLS: After successful tests were carried out, investors and operators of the Nordergründe offshore wind farm (OWF) have now commissioned the independent full-service provider <u>Deutsche Windtechnik</u> to equip the entire wind farm with an ADLS, which comprises a total of 18 Senvion 6.2M 126 wind turbines. Deutsche Windtechnik is playing a pioneering role in the retrofitting of offshore wind farms from a single source. All services related to the projects are carried out and supervised by offshore service teams and staff of Deutsche Windtechnik's Technical Controlling, including supplying the ADLS, installation, upgrade of the warning lights, the entire range of offshore logistics and support with the approval procedures.

The retrofitting work will take place in spring 2022. The transponder-based ADLS complete solution that will be installed was developed by Deutsche Windtechnik in cooperation with f.u.n.k.e. Avionics GmbH. The hardware of the offshore ADLS is only partially different from the onshore version: For example, the Transponder Receiver Module (TRM) installed inside of the nacelle is identical, but the antenna unit of the offshore system mounted on the turbine roof is made of materials that are more resistant to corrosion.

Eckhard Stürtz, Managing Director of the operating company Nordergründe OWF, said: "Even though offshore wind turbines in Germany do not need to be retrofitted with ADLS until the end of 2023, we wanted to seize the opportunity and install the ADLS now to avoid night-time light emissions coming from the nearshore site. Deutsche Windtechnik supports Nordergründe OWF as part of a full-service contract, and we are glad that we can also benefit from the company's ADLS expertise."

ADLS offshore tests successfully completed

In the second half of 2021, Deutsche Windtechnik had already installed the ADLS on two wind turbines at the Nordergründe OWF and began performing tests. "The installation and connection of our ADLS test system to the existing wind farm control system and the technical infrastructure at the Nordergründe OWF went according to plan and without complications. In addition, we have validated the operation of the ADLS and the data processing in the backend under offshore-specific conditions. This included different weather scenarios and flight frequencies, such as those that occur near military training bases with more frequent flight operations," Matthias Brandt, Director of Deutsche Windtechnik, explained. Preparations are now underway to complete the installation of the ADLS at the Nordergründe OWF.



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Fig. 1 Deutsche Windtechnik's offshore service teams are equipping the Nordergründe offshore wind farm as the first German wind farm with an ADLS. *© Deutsche Windtechnik AG*

About Deutsche Windtechnik AG

Bremen-based Deutsche Windtechnik AG offers a single-source full technical maintenance package for wind turbines in Europe, the USA and Taiwan. The company operates both onshore and offshore. More than 2,000 employees provide service for over 7,500 wind turbines worldwide under permanent maintenance contracts (basic and full maintenance). The company's system engineering focuses on Vestas, Siemens, Nordex, Senvion, Fuhrländer, Gamesa, Enercon and GE turbines.

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