



ERT provision at Gwynt-y-Môr offshore wind farm

James Fisher Marine Services* designed and delivered a bespoke ERT training programme for offshore workers at RWE's Gwynt-y-Môr wind farm.

The training programme was delivered prior to works commencing in the Offshore Field, located 18km off the coast of North Wales and covering an area of approximately 80 km².

The Challenges

- RWE's senior management team set a target of all offshore workers having access to the same level of emergency response as their onshore colleagues.
- This meant any injured or sick colleague working at an offshore location would receive treatment within 20 minutes.
- The 18km distance of the site from shore meant it falls outside the remit of conventional emergency services.

The Solution

- JF Renewables designed a bespoke emergency response team (ERT) training programme for use at the wind farm site. The team used a bespoke trauma rucksack containing all the latest equipment and had four main aims:
- Identify life-threatening injuries and provide first aid
- Perform key interventions
- Achieve rapid extrication
- Provide timely transport to an appropriate medical facility

The Results and benefits

During the offshore construction campaign, the ERT was called upon nearly 40 times, of which, 22 incidents required specialist equipment or skills not covered by standard first aid at work training, (the majority of which were health related or a pre-existing condition). Some of the individuals were treated on-site by the ERT, others were taken ashore following a joint effort from the ERT and the RNLI or RAF, but all received initial first aid or assistance within 15 minutes.

This level of response has instilled confidence in the workforce and a reassurance that everybody is a valued member of the project team, as demonstrated by this testimonial from Mr Morten Holme, Siemens Wind Senior Project Manager:

"One of our Installation Leads on Wind Solution was evacuated by helicopter to the Glan Clwyd Hospital in Rhyl with severe chest pain. Initial tests indicated that he had suffered a heart attack and a subsequent scan showed a blockage in an artery, and doctors decided to operate immediately. The operation was a success and he was discharged from the hospital shortly after. Can I ask you to extend my thanks to RWE's Emergency Response Team, who were at the scene within 15 minutes of the call and whose knowledge and professionalism made a huge difference, not just to the individual but also to his family, his colleagues and his friends."

*A James Fisher Renewables legacy brand