

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release: 28 October 2013



### **OceaNET: A new EC training network of engineers and researchers coordinated by WavEC Offshore Renewables**

A network of ten universities and research institutes (as well as several companies as associated partners) has obtained a €3.4 million grant from the European FP7 Marie Curie Initial Training Network programme for the OceaNET project. WavEC Offshore Renewables is responsible for the coordination of the project.

The aim of the OceaNET ITN is to train a new generation of engineers and scientists in the area of floating offshore wind and wave renewable energies to support the emerging offshore renewable energy sector. The network will bring together international partners from across Europe and offer thirteen Early Stage Researcher (ESR) positions at the different host institutions. The recruitment of the ESR positions at each host organisation is currently underway.

Commenting on the OceaNET project, Prof. Antonio Sarmiento, President of WavEC's Board of Directors, said "this project provides the opportunity to train young engineers with technical, economic and environmental skills with a specific market oriented approach for the upcoming offshore renewable energy market".

#### **OceaNET**

The OceaNET project will focus its efforts in the areas of array design, implementation and O&M for wave and floating offshore wind energy applications. The development of enabling technologies to support the deployment and operation of arrays will also be explored. The ITN aims to expand on the existing experience of fixed foundation offshore wind to floating offshore wind and wave energies. In parallel with the technical project objectives, OceaNET aims to create a long-term network between the ESRs, partners and associated partners. The training program will include individual research projects developed under doctoral programs, short courses on a range of topics relating to the field of offshore renewables and secondments to industrial partners to build relations between academic and industrial.

#### **Participating Organisations**

The OceaNET project partners include: WavEC Offshore Renewables, Instituto Superior Técnico (Portugal), Uppsala Universitet (Sweden), Fraunhofer-IWES (Germany), MARIN (The Netherlands), University College Cork (Ireland), The University of Exeter (UK), École Centrale de Nantes (France), Fundacion Tecnalia & Universidad de Cantabria (Spain).

Several companies from across Europe with relevant expertise to the OceaNET project have signed up to the project as associated partners, including: ESB Energy International (Ireland), Kymaner, Blue Edge, Critical Materials, Critical Software (Portugal), OceaTEC Energías Marinas (Spain), INNONSEA (France), Woelfel Beratende Ingenieure (Germany), EDP Inovação (Portugal), Mojo Maritime Ltd. (UK), Seabased (Sweden), Fortum (Finland), Ocean Energy Ltd. (Ireland), Aalborg University (Denmark), HIDROMOD (Portugal) & ABENGOA SEAPOWER SA. (Spain).

#### **About WavEC Offshore Renewables**

WavEC Offshore Renewables is a private nonprofit association created in 2003 to develop its activities in three areas: applied research, consulting, and pro bono activities, characteristic of a private non-profit organization, namely the dissemination and promotion of opportunities associated with the early development of marine renewable energy in the country, among companies, the public administration and the general public, and also the training of young people within curricular internship and advanced training, including Master's and PhD theses.

The most valuable asset of WavEC is the [400 kW OWC pilot plant \(Azores\)](#), providing important field experience and monitoring activities to the centre's staff and invited researchers.

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For more information, please see the links below:

[OceaNET](#)

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