

PRESS RELEASE

LOC Group enhances its wind farm design offering through the acquisition of INNOSEA, a Centrale Nantes spin-off

Nantes, 21st June 2018 – LOC Renewables, a part of LOC Group, the leading international marine and engineering consultancy, has announced it has acquired a 70% stake in INNOSEA, a marine energy engineering company. The acquisition will see LOC Group build out its planning and design services to the offshore wind industry.

INNOSEA was founded in 2012, a spin-off company from the École Centrale de Nantes maritime & offshore engineering research department, and is based in Nantes, France. The company has world-class expertise in engineering and modelling for the marine environment, particularly in the areas of offshore structures & turbine engineering for fixed and floating substructures.

With a team of 25, the company offers a range of services to comprehensively support the development cycle of marine renewable technologies and projects, from concept studies and detailed engineering, to basin and sea trials, surveys and certification support. INNOSEA's main areas of expertise include the design of fixed and floating substructures for the offshore wind, with all related hydrodynamic, metocean, structural, aeroelastic analyses. INNOSEA owns several expert software tools such as PREDIN, a dedicated offshore wind foundation integrated basic design commercial software. INNOSEA is also expert in moorings, cable protection and cable analyses, especially for the floating wind market.

Combined, LOC Renewables and INNOSEA will offer an increasingly comprehensive array of services to support the offshore wind sector, ranging from the planning and permitting stages through to operation and maintenance of the completed farm.

Arnaud Poitou, Director of Centrale Nantes said: "INNOSEA's international development is a fine example of our desire to provide close support for companies. Startups, SMEs, indeed companies of all sizes, can benefit from collaboration with Centrale Nantes and real support for their research. Nearly half of the school's budget comes from industrial collaboration."

R.V. Ahilan, Joint Group Chief Executive of LOC, said: "Separately, LOC Renewables and INNOSEA have provided a range of comprehensive services to our clients working in the offshore renewables markets for many years."

"By acquiring INNOSEA, we are able to consolidate this offering 'under one roof', streamlining the process for our customers and furthering our strategy of ambitious growth in the renewables market. This acquisition, coming hard on the heels of our recent initiatives in geoscience and turbine engineering, enables LOC Renewables to provide a comprehensive capability, not only for complete early wind farm development but also for the integrated design that is so crucial to reducing costs in the sector."

Hakim Mouslim, joint founder of INNOSEA, added: "This acquisition offers an exciting opportunity for both of our companies to accelerate our growth in the market, allowing us to extend the services we provide to our Clients and to deliver these globally together with LOC Renewables. In turn, our expertise and leadership in the early stages of project development will complement LOC's existing offering."

About INNOSEA

INNOSEA is an independent engineering firm specializing in Marine Renewable Energies (MRE): offshore wind (fixed and floating), tidal energy, wave energy, and ocean thermal energy. INNOSEA is a spin-off company from the Ecole Centrale de Nantes.

INNOSEA offers technical expertise and multidisciplinary engineering services for MRE systems and production farms. It aims to increase the profitability of its clients' projects while preserving the integrity of the systems through their life cycle. To this end, INNOSEA offers engineering solutions that are tailored to design machines and marine energy production farms.

The team of MRE experts includes engineers and academics specializing in aerodynamics, hydrodynamics, structural analysis and geotechnical engineering. Using numerical modeling of offshore structures for design and engineering phases is a key asset of the company.

<http://www.innosea.fr>

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About Centrale Nantes

Founded in 1919, Centrale Nantes is a French engineering school and member of the Ecoles Centrale Group. Its undergraduate, Master and PhD programmes are based on the latest scientific and technological developments and the best management practices. At Centrale Nantes, research and training are organised into three key areas for growth and innovation: manufacturing, energy transition and healthcare. With research platforms ranging from digital simulation to prototyping using full-scale models and an incubator with 20 years of experience in supporting start-up projects, the school has two major tools for innovation and creation, working hand in hand with the world of business. Centrale Nantes promotes its teaching and research capabilities at international level through around 100 partnerships with prestigious universities and schools worldwide.

Centrale Nantes welcomes 2,320 students, including 1,550 undergraduate students, 200 Executive Education and ITII degree apprenticeship students, 260 PhD students and 400 Masters students, on its 40-acre campus. For more information, visit www.ec-nantes.fr

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About LOC Renewables

The LOC Renewables team is a part of LOC Group, a leading international marine and engineering consulting firm that was founded in 1979. Headquartered in London, the Group operates over 30 offices in 15 countries around the world, employing over 400 staff. The Group comprises subsidiary companies Longitude and John LeBourhis Associates.

LOC Renewables combines traditional LOC services with those of its sister company, Longitude Engineering. These services include marine warranty survey (MWS) services, marine & engineering consultancy, surveys, inspections & audits, claims, disputes & litigation, and management of marine casualties.

The company is now the market-leading MWS service provider and sits on the MWS advisory panel to the Joint Rig Committee of underwriters. LOC Renewables has acted as marine warranty surveyor on more than 30 offshore wind projects, thus making LOC Renewables the number one MWS provider in the offshore wind sector. This position on offshore wind is enhanced having provided engineering design and consulting services on a further 30 projects.

<http://loc-group.com/renewables/>

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