

11<sup>th</sup> CSPCWG-1<sup>st</sup> NCWG MEETING  
Rostock, Germany 27-30 April 2015

Paper for Consideration by NCWG  
Floating Tidal BlueTec Platform

<b>Submitted by:</b>	UK
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	A floating platform holding tidal turbines beneath the sea... to be deployed in large farms. How would you chart this?
<b>Related Documents:</b>	None
<b>Related Projects:</b>	None

### Introduction / Background.

Extract from Hydro International 21/04/2015

Floating Tidal BlueTEC Platform Ready for Production

The first BlueTEC tidal energy platform was formally named BlueTEC Texel by Francine Giskes, the Mayor of Texel, at the Port of Den Helder, The Netherlands, on Thursday 7 April 2015. **The floating platform, holding tidal turbines beneath the sea surface, will soon be installed south of the island of Texel for supply to the Dutch grid.**



This first BlueTEC will serve as a demonstration platform targeted at remote locations worldwide, such as islands in Indonesia, the Philippines and the Pacific. It is also the start of further development of higher-capacity tidal energy platforms, **to be deployed in large farms.**

The coming weeks, the platform will be installed offshore the island of Texel and connected to the Dutch electricity grid – starting its electricity production before summer. It is meant to stay there producing electricity for several years, allowing

multiple turbines to be tried out.

### Flexible Installation

This platform is targeted at a worldwide market, it can be shipped as containers and installed anywhere in the world, to provide clean electricity in remote areas and small islands, replacing expensive and polluting diesel generators. An important advantage of tidal energy is its predictability and consistency, bringing stability to local electricity grids.

As all vulnerable electronic equipment is safely housed inside the unit, with easy access from the surface since it floats, inspection for maintenance and repair purposes is a straightforward matter. It is also the first time that a complete, integrated tidal system is offered to the market.

### Collaborative efforts

The project draws on the specialist skills and experience of an impressive list of partners, many of them having their core business in the offshore oil&gas industry: Bluewater, Damen/Niron Staal, Van Oord/Acta Marine, Vryhof Anchors, TKF, Tocardo, Schottel Hydro, NIOZ, Tidal Testing Centre, Nylacast, Port of Den Helder. The project will also be supported by the Waddenfonds and possibly by the RVO.

### Modular benefits

The platform is an application of Damen's modular barge system – a flexible product that can be put into effect in the construction of a wide range of vessels from dredgers and jetties to ferries and pontoons.

Damen used three standard container-sized modules to construct the Texel platform. The efficiency of containerised transportation combined with uncomplicated assembly means that the platform can be transported and installed anywhere in the world.

**The NCWG is invited** to note this information and answer the questions:

How would you chart this? L6, L10, L16, L24, ...?

Should description of L6 be amended, e.g. 'Renewable energy device/farm', to cover tidal energy?

(Compare B-445.11 and B-445.12)

Similar but fixed example in Strangford Lough (Admiralty Chart 2159):

