

Bibby Offshore moves into offshore wind cable installation

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Bibby Offshore, a well known owner and operator of vessels in the offshore oil and gas sector has announced a move into the offshore wind array cable installation market. The company has acquired a power cable lay carousel from Ecosse Subsea Systems (ESS), which will enable it to lay power cables for offshore wind projects from its vessels.

Bibby Offshore and ESS have also entered into a strategic alliance by way of a framework agreement. Under this strategic alliance, Bibby Offshore will provide commercial expertise supported by subsea project management and engineering experience; ESS will provide innovation and indepth sector competence through its trenching expertise. The companies will collaborate to develop other technologies and working methods which will benefit clients by reducing risk and lowering project costs.

Bibby Offshore's entry into the market complements Bibby HydroMap's offshore survey capability and Bibby Marine Services' recent investment in a newbuild walk-to-work service operation vessel, *Bibby WaveMaster 1*.

Bibby Offshore chief operating officer Fraser Moonie said: "We are very excited by our entry into the cable lay market which strengthens our renewables offering in the North Sea. We have worked with ESS in the subsea market for more than a decade, and this new strategic alliance will help us further our offshore offering and support our diverse client base."

Ecosse Subsea Systems Limited managing director Mike Wilson said: "We are delighted to be collaborating with Bibby Offshore in the offshore wind arena. This will enable us to tackle much bigger projects and clients, with the opportunity to use a genuine UK-owned and operated supply chain in this sector."

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