

WINDFORCE 2012 – Event deemed a great success

6,000 visitors were welcomed to Germany’s first trade fair for the offshore wind industry and WAB’s eighth offshore conference from 26 to 29 June 2012 in Bremen

“Our expectations were more than met”, said Jens Eckhoff, managing director of the Offshore Wind Messe- und Veranstaltungen GmbH, after four successful days of the WINDFORCE 2012 fair. The organiser of Germany’s first trade show for the offshore wind industry was very pleased with the positive response he garnered from exhibitors and visitors alike. “Many exhibitors confirmed again and again how successful the trade fair was both in terms of its high quality and their business talks at stands. That makes us very happy and at the same time spurs us on for the coming years”, said Mr Eckhoff.

WAB’s eighth offshore conference took place at the same time in Bremen. Ronny Meyer, managing director of Wind Energy Agency WAB, said: “Our conference has become a tradition in the industry in the past eight years and is still enjoying growing interest. Combining it with the trade fair was another successful step we took. We are pleased with this cooperative effort and are looking forward to 2014 when we will join forces again in Bremen”.

The organisers counted altogether 4,600 visitors to Halls 4 and 5 at the Bremen Fair between 26 and 28 June. When WINDFORCE 2012 opened the fair to the public on 29 June, nearly 1,400 visitors filled the halls, there to find out more about the future of offshore wind energy, career opportunities and vocational training, and to use this chance to talk to businesses in the industry. At the Job & Career Market in Hall 4, experts were there that day to answer questions and provide information to the public in brief talks about career choices in the offshore industry.

WINDFORCE 2012 laid the groundwork for success in coming years, and organisers Ronny Meyer and Jens Eckhoff are looking forward to upcoming events. Next year the ninth WAB offshore conference will be back in Bremerhaven. In 2014, WINDFORCE will return to Bremen for the second WINDFORCE trade fair and the tenth WAB conference. Several businesses have already booked a stand for the 2014 show.

WINDFORCE 2012

WINDFORCE 2012 took place in Bremen for the first time from 26 to 29 June 2012. The event was a continuation of the seasoned WINDFORCE – DIRECTION OFFSHORE industry conference. This year it combined Germany’s first offshore wind energy trade fair (26 – 29 June 2012) with the nation’s most important offshore conference (26 – 28 June 2012). In future, WINDFORCE will alternate each year between Bremen and Bremerhaven, with the trade fair being a feature of the event when it is held in Bremen.

The dates for WINDFORCE until 2016:

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| 4 – 6 June 2013 | Conference in Bremerhaven |
| 17 – 20 June 2014 | Trade fair and conference in Bremen |
| 9 – 11 June 2015 | Conference in Bremerhaven |
| 7 – 10 June 2016 | Trade fair and conference in Bremen |

The organisers are the Wind Energy Agency WAB and the Offshore Wind Messe- und Veranstaltungen GmbH.

www.windforce2012.com

The Wind Energy Agency WAB is the network of the wind energy industry in Germany's northwest region and the national contact for Germany's offshore wind industry. More than 350 businesses and institutes have become WAB members since 2002. They represent the entire value-added chain of the wind energy sector, from research and production to installation and maintenance. WAB receives core funding from the State of Bremen; all other costs are covered by membership fees. www.wab.net

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