

VDS – Offshore Construction Terminal

The offshore wind business in and around the ports of Vlissingen and Terneuzen not only involves logistic operations. VDS is an all-round offshore construction company for design, construction, painting and coating, maintenance, storage and installation of steel and aluminium offshore structures.

It has been active in the offshore wind industry for years, offering a broad range of tailor-made solutions ranging from (de)mobilising OSV's to building complete topsides for HV stations.

When considering vessel demobilisation, a big plus for VDS is that it can execute the job from scratch to execution. The company not only prepares the vessel for a new job, it furthermore designs and constructs all necessary structures. Depending on the vessel's task, this may include WTG and foundation grillages and blade racks. For the Oleg Strashnov, a pile upending frame incorporating hydraulic and E&I systems was designed and fabricated. Mr Mark Roelse, Business Development Manager at VDS, explains: "In the past, most vessels were

mobilised and one looked no further than one project at a time. Today, we look for longer-term solutions together with our clients. This ultimately saves a lot of money." VDS has mobilised vessels and barges for a broad range of wind parks such as Dudgeon, Blighbank, Gemini, West of Suddon Sands, Veja Mate, Luchterduinen, Westermeerwind and Walney.

VDS's service however extends further than mobilisation. Complete top decks are designed and constructed, like the recent deck for Dong's Walney offshore windfarm. Two top decks for HV stations will be delivered for Northern and Hohe Sea offshore windfarms this year. "Our strength lies in our scale. We are not a mass producer, but a company

specialising in projects ranging to no more than one to six workpieces per project," adds Roelse.

Located in the Westhofhaven, with a 250m long quay and a 10.5 draught, VDS is a first-class base for every offshore construction project. "It is our ambition to coordinate the construction projects from design to final installation, always focussing on our customer's satisfaction. After all, our mission statement is to keep our customer relationships as strong as our constructions," concludes Roelse.

I. WWW.VDSSTAALBOUW.COM

Construction of a top deck for DONG Energy's Walney offshore windfarm.



Photo courtesy of VDS

A pile upending frame, incorporating hydraulic and E&I systems were constructed for Seaway Heavy Lifting's Oleg Strashnov