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Zeeland Offshore Champion



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For Statoil, Heerema Fabrication Group constructed a launch jacket and pre-drilling wellhead module for the Gina Krog gas field.

Offshore has been an important industry in and around Zeeland for decades, and looking at recent developments in the offshore wind industry, it is evident that this is not about to change.

The ports of Vlissingen and Terneuzen, located in the southern Dutch province of Zeeland, are used by numerous global companies for storage, transshipment, construction, (de)mobilisation, maintenance and decommissioning activities. Within a radius of no more than 25km, a large number of facilities are available for offshore projects of every description. Ranging from recruitment to heavy lift operations and from the mobilisation of jack-up vessels to the design and construction of mega offshore constructions, every service is provided in and around the port area.

Due to its diversity, the offshore cluster is flexible and capable of adjusting to changing circumstances. Proof of this is the successful transition made by the ports of Vlissingen and Terneuzen towards offshore wind. Within the last ten years, the ports have become market leader in this booming industry.

Initially, the activities were limited to logistics, focussing on turbine monopiles and foundations, but activities soon expanded as various companies in and around the port area stepped into the market. It is not just a broad range of experience and services that makes the difference. In addition to the existing facilities, 55ha of quayside land is available to new investors at Zeeland Seaports for production, assembly and logistics.

With its vicinity to the offshore oil and gas rigs and North Sea wind farms, Zeeland offers optimal infrastructure. Its lock-free port facilities, unencumbered by tidal and air-draught restrictions, coupled with its proximity to main trading routes, means that large vessels can reach the ports easily. The ports also offer first-rate, congestion-free, multi-modal connections to the hinterland, board-to-board transshipment facilities and a 24m-deep pocket for heavy lift operations with submersible vessels. The heliport at Zeeland Airport is available to companies active in the operations and maintenance sectors. Last, but certainly not least, the offshore cluster's friendly, dedicated and motivated workers ensure quick turnaround times and safe and careful operations.



Photo courtesy of Wim Kosten

The Ensco 122 jack-up rig entering the port of Vlissingen on her way to Damen Shiprepair.

Overview of the port of Vlissingen.

