



Hywind Scotland has performed well in its early months

Photo: Statoil

Korean tie-up breathes new life in Hexicon floater

Joint venture with Coen Co aims to develop serial production of innovative concept off Southeast Asia

by **Darius Snieckus** in London

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Swedish floating wind pioneer Hexicon has finalised a deal with Korean integrated service provider Coens Co to form a joint venture (JV) company to develop offshore wind farms in Southeast Asia.

The JV, to be named CoensHexicon, aims to move the designer's steel floating platform concept, which can be fitted with a pair of turbines, into serial production in Korea.

“This is the winning formula for reaching the lowest cost of energy production in the floating wind power segment,” says Henrik Baltscheffsky, chief executive of Hexicon AB, noting that Coen Co shipyard industry has a proven track record after decades serving the global offshore oil & gas industry.

Steve Seo, executive vice president of Coens Co, added: We are keen to transfer the innovative floating offshore wind technology from Hexicon AB to the Korean renewable energy expansion that will contribute to the offshore wind market in Asia and elsewhere.

Hexicon had been developing the 10MW Dounreay Tri demonstration unit off Scotland using 5MW turbines from China's HZ Windpower, but fell afoul of cash flow problems after it became clear it would not be deployed in time to receive Renewable Obligation Certificates.

Baltscheffsky told Recharge that the Korean JV had given new life to the innovative floating wind concept.

“This transaction is evidence of the international interest outside of Northern Europe for innovative new foundation designs that are completed and tank tested,” he said.

“Will the South Korean shipbuilding companies take the lead in floating wind construction? Perhaps the scaling of serial production of floating wind units will start in Asia”.

The floating wind power sector has leapt ahead in recent months with switch-on of Norwegian energy giant Statoil's 30MW Hywind Scotland array and in-port commissioning of the 2MW FloatGen Unit developed by France's Ideol.

A 150MW project was recently announced off California through a deal between Redwood Energy and a consortium made up of Principal Power, Aker Solutions and Portuguese utility EDPR.

Market forecasts suggest a fleet as large as 12GW could be online around the world by 2030.