

HWG – Newsletter 07/2014

Interview with Tobias Griesshaber, Project Manager, RWE Innogy GmbH



Mr Griesshaber, you're currently testing the vibration technology for offshore pile foundations at the Cuxhaven-Altenwalde site as part of a four-month pilot project called VIBRO in conjunction with other business partners. Are the piles that are inserted by means of vibration as stable as those that are rammed into the ground in the traditional way?

That's exactly what we want to explore in this pilot project. We've inserted three test foundations in the subsurface using the vibration technique during the last few weeks and installed three other foundations with the traditional impact ramming process. We'll compare the two techniques in August and examine whether both processes provide the same degree of stability: that is to say, whether the soil characteristics provide in both cases a secure anchor in the seabed for the wind turbines against the forces of wind and waves over an operating period of 25 years. We'll probably be able to say something about the results by the end of the year.

What benefits are there in using the new ramming process for the offshore wind power sector?

We hope to make savings by using the vibration technology when building offshore wind parks and send an important signal to the sector. Inserting piles by means of vibration is faster than impact ramming. The technology is also much quieter and this will particularly benefit protected marine mammals like porpoises. If the process proves to be just as efficient as impact ramming, future offshore projects could benefit from this when steel piles need to be installed.

Why was the Cuxhaven-Altenwalde site selected for the tests?

The sandy base in Cuxhaven-Altenwalde is absolutely ideal for the project, because the soil conditions here are very similar to those encountered in the North Sea. For example, the dense layers of the sand and the groundwater level, which is about two metres below the site's surface, are very similar to the conditions that we find out at sea. As a result, we can transfer the results from here to most of the offshore wind parks that are being planned for the North Sea and this makes the tests all the more meaningful.



Cuxhaven’s Maritime Community showcases its services in Hamburg



The port of Cuxhaven presented its services in Hamburg on 7 July under the heading “Maritime Economic Centre/Cuxhaven Offshore Base”. 80 people accepted the invitation issued by the Cuxhaven Port Business Community to attend the lecture and networking evening in Hamburg. Frank Horch, the Hamburg Senator for Economic Affairs, Transport and Innovation, opened the occasion. The mayor of Cuxhaven, Dr. Ulrich Getsch, then spoke about the town as a maritime business centre and its standing as an offshore base.

Short presentations introduced the guests to the different facets of Cuxhaven’s maritime business in a vivid manner. The speakers included Jens Lühmann from the Lühmann freight forwarding company, Michael de Reese from Cuxport GmbH and Marcus Braue from DFDS Seaways. Andreas Wulf from Otto Wulf GmbH & Co. KG and Tobias Griesshaber von RWE Innogy also gave presentations. The other speakers were Edward Dreger from OMM Offshore Marine Management and Rolf Fremgen from the Cuxhaven Offshore Safety Training Centre.

Its unique portside and landside infrastructure makes the port of Cuxhaven an ideal base for the offshore sector. Also Senator Horch emphasized the port’s ideal location as a base for the offshore industry. Cuxhaven is an important partner for the metropolitan region of Hamburg. A multitude of companies operating in maritime and offshore business have set up offices in Hamburg. So the level of interest in the event organised by Cuxhaven in Hamburg was enormous.

The Port Business Community: an introduction to Harren & Partner

Profile

Company name: Harren & Partner Group
Founded in: 1989
Sector: Shipping
Business sites: Bremen, Cuxhaven, Haren/Ems, Singapore, Ciudad del Carmen, Kingston, Istanbul, Riga and Manila



Portfolio: Our core business involves ship management for our own vessels and those belonging to third parties. We also offer customised transport solutions at sea and overland for all kinds and sizes of project cargo.

Interview with Imke Harren, Head of Internal Communications and PR at the Harren & Partner Group

Question 1 – How would you describe the qualities at your company?

We're a shipping group, which mainly focuses on ship management, and we're celebrating our 25th anniversary this year. We're an international company with seven business sites around the world and we look after a fleet of about 55 vessels with 160 employees on land and 1800 out at sea. Our fleet is highly diverse and covers tankers, container feeders, bulk and heavy lift carriers and dock ships. And we offer an extensive range of services in our portfolio: we provide all the services in the ship management sector in-house, ranging from ship finance over technical and insurance services to matters of flag state registration and all this supported by extensive reporting in line with international standards. We also have direct access to the relevant charter markets for our different types of vessels through long-term cooperation arrangements and joint ventures with reliable partners in the relevant freight markets. This enables us to handle the complete value-added chain for shipping within our company.

Harren & Partner is an **owner-managed** company and therefore focuses on long-term success rather than short-term improvements in key figures. This also means short decision-making processes so that we can act quickly. For example, we can respond to changes in the market place or customer requests in a **flexible and dynamic** way. We **focus on the future** and place great importance on **long-term** partnerships, but also rely on **innovative** shipping and transport concepts. Our in-house range of services enables us to provide the highest safety and quality standards in every field of business while completely keeping costs under control. We also place great importance on **transparency** and offer our customers, banks and investors extensive reporting services.

Question 2 – Why are you a member of the Cuxhaven Port Business Community?

Our membership in the Cuxhaven Port Business Community enables us to be part of a strong community in which the maritime business interests of Cuxhaven are pooled and where we jointly promote the distinctive benefits of the Cuxhaven business location. From our maritime point of view by working together we can be particularly successful in the booming offshore industry. Together we are strong!

Question 3 – What would you personally like to see happen at your company?

Despite turbulent times in economic terms, I would like to see us successfully implement our strategic corporate goals so that we are well-placed for the future. These goals include expanding our crewing activities and establishing our own crewing agency in the long term. We also want to grow in providing ship management services for third party tonnage and continue to expand and extend our presence in the offshore sector.

Generally, I am sure that we will continue to meet our high quality standards at all times so that we can continue to perform our services to our customers' complete satisfaction. But I'm also very

concerned to ensure that our employees on land and out at sea obtain a sense of satisfaction and I trust that they enjoy doing their work for the Harren & Partner Group.

You can obtain more information on the company here: www.harren-partner.de

Members of the Cuxhaven Port Business Community donated prizes for the Duhnen Wadden Sea horse races



The Cuxhaven Port Business Community (HWG) is committed to promote Cuxhaven as a whole. Consequently, eight members of the HWG once again donated prizes for the traditional Duhnen Wadden Sea horse races on 20 July this year.

The Duhnen mud-flat races have a long history; the world-famous “horse races on the seabed” were held on the mud flats near the spa resort of Duhnen for the first time in 1902. There are twelve races in all and they take place every 30 minutes on the 1.2 kilometre-long circular course round the mud flats.

As in previous years, eight members of the Port Business Community supported this summer’s traditional competition by donating prizes for the winners of the individual races. Among them were i.a. Rhenus Cuxport GmbH, DFDS Seaways, MIBAU Baustoffhandel GmbH and Kutterfisch-Zentrale GmbH.

There is nowhere else in the world that hosts a comparable turf spectacle where trotting and galloping horses seek to win the races and secure the top finishing positions. Even the organiser of the event, Nordseeheilbad Cuxhaven GmbH, is a member of the Cuxhaven Port Business Community. The annual Wadden Sea horse races regularly attract more than 30,000 spectators to Cuxhaven Duhnen.

59° 52' N 08° 42' E



This message was sent to you by the Cuxhaven Port Business Community (Hafenwirtschaftsgemeinschaft Cuxhaven e.V.).

Legal notice

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