

## Drydocks delivers two jack-up barges

*The vessels are for European wind-farm construction*

By VINCENT WEE

(SINGAPORE) Drydocks World-Southeast Asia (DDW-SEA), the regional unit of Dubai-based Drydocks World, has signalled its growing prominence in the construction of specialised vessels with the delivery of two jack-up barges meant for wind-farm construction in European waters.

Platforms JB-114 and JB-115 - from the Drydocks World-Nanindah yard on Batam - were built for Self Elevating Platforms unit Jack-Up Barge, which serves the oil and gas, civil construction and wind turbines markets.

'Drydocks World has again met our expectations - the quality and finish of JB-114 and JB-115 is excellent,' said Jack-Up Barge managing director Ronald Schukking. 'We look forward to working closely with Drydocks World in the future.'

The SEA 2000-type barges, designed by Holland's GustoMSC, are the third and fourth of this type built by DDW-SEA. The platforms are rigged with a 300-tonne capacity pedestal crane and designed for operations in water depths up to 40 metres in and around the southern North Sea.

DDW-SEA chief executive Denis Welch said: 'JB-114 and JB-115 are part of a series of sophisticated barges contracted by Self Elevating Platforms and we are pleased to have delivered four of them to date. These barges will be used specifically for wind farm installation activities, which is one of the industries - alternative energy or power generation - that we are actively pursuing, given that our ship-repair, conversion and new-building capabilities can be easily extrapolated to suit this growing industry's requirements.'

The global wind generation market is estimated to be growing at 28 per cent a year.

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