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Jack-Up Barge installs Germany's first offshore wind turbine



Jack-Up Barge B.V. recently marked a major milestone. On its maiden assignment, the company's newbuild monohull jack-up platform JB-114 completed the installation of Germany's first offshore wind turbine.

After mobilization in Eemshaven, the Netherlands, the JB-114 was towed to the offshore location, about 45 km north of the island of Borkum in the North Sea. Within 36 hours of arrival it installed the tower, turbine and rotor blades of the first wind turbine in the Alpha Ventus wind farm.

Ronald Schukking, Managing Director of Jack-Up Barge B.V., said: "The installation could not have gone any better. This project once again proves that our jack-up platforms are extremely suitable for utilization in the offshore wind turbine construction industry."

The JB-114 and twin sister the JB-115 were both delivered last month by Drydocks World - Nanindah (former Labroy Shipyard) at Batam, Indonesia as part of an extensive newbuild program.

Both jack-ups will be working on the construction of the Alpha Ventus wind farm this summer. The JB-114 is chartered by German company Prokon Nord, which is responsible for the installation of six 5 MW Multibrid wind turbines on tripod foundations. The JB-115 is chartered by DOTI and will be installing the slots and templates on the seabed in preparation for the jacket foundations of the six remaining 5 MW REpower turbines.

The Alpha Ventus wind farm, with a total capacity of 60 MW, is expected to be completed before the end of this year, making it the first operational wind farm in German waters.

Jack-Up Barge B.V. specializes in the manufacturing, sales and rental of standard and modular self-elevating platforms and is a member of the Van Es Holding Group.