



Quo Vadis 2014 Wind Energy Conference

Pre-Event Dinner on
Wednesday, 22nd October 2014
Conference on
Thursday, 23rd October 2014

Hotel Hafen
Seewartenstraße 9
20459 Hamburg, Germany

Quo Vadis[®]
Conference

The FREE wind conference
only for Owners and Operators

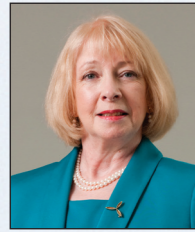
WRS GmbH
windpower renewable solutions

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The Speakers



Maria McCaffery, Chief Executive, RenewableUK

Maria McCaffery was appointed Chief Executive of RenewableUK in June 2006. She is a graduate Chemist with a long track record in business support and international trade. Her previous appointments include Director General of The Institute of Export and International Director for The British Chambers of Commerce. She is passionate about renewable energy systems and now champions the use of the UK's natural energy resources for electrical power generation, primarily from wind, wave and tidal technologies. With a strong focus in policy development and communications, she is engaging with industry, government, academia and the finance sector to accelerate the deployment of all forms of renewable energy. In 1998 Maria was awarded an MBE for her services to international trade.



Clifford McSpadden, CEO, GWA Supplies Limited

Clifford McSpadden is a high performance and inspiring business leader, with a successful track record in transforming business performance through people and leading edge business practices in large multinational teams. His experience spans twenty-five years in the highly competitive and dynamic aerospace industry, working for three of the world's leading companies, in a range of senior executive positions.

Clifford is the co-founder and director of GWA Supplies Limited, engaging with others to enhance the performance of wind turbine operations through embracing the company's mission statement: "To be Your First Choice Independent Supplier of Wind Turbine Spares - Globally". He is also the founder and Chairman of the Global Wind Alliance.



Ralf Ansoerge, Mgr Application Engineering., Wind Power Gearboxes, Schaeffler Technologies GmbH & Co KG

Ralf Ansoerge joined Schaeffler in 1998 and worked as an application engineer for automotive belt drives. Then in 2001 he moved to the wind application department where he was in charge of various main bearing and gearbox projects. Since 2007 Ralf has been responsible for the application engineering team for wind gearboxes. He and his team are located in Schaeffler's Industrial headquarters in Schweinfurt, Germany.



Jason Halsey, Power Plant Manager – Sheringham Shoal, Statkraft

Jason Halsey has been involved in offshore wind operations since 2009, first working for Vestas and then as Head of Operation UK for Dong Energy. He is now Vice President Power Generation Offshore UK for Statkraft Energy Limited. Jason graduated with an MBA from Manchester Business School. Originally he trained as a mechanical engineer.



Markus Billmann, Fraunhofer IISB & Billmann Engineering

Markus Billmann worked for more than 8 years at Semikron Elektronik GmbH in the power electronics development department. He was part of the SKIIP-I and SKIIP-II OCP generation IGBT power module design team. Today he provides application support and consultancy in the field of traction and wind power inverters. He joined the Fraunhofer Research Organization in 2000 as a founder member of the newly installed Power Electronics Department at the Fraunhofer IISB in Erlangen. As CEO of Billmann Engineering he shares his experience in power electronics development and trouble shooting, based on IGBT power modules, control circuits and sensors up to the class of several megawatts. Since 2006 he is involved in M²C design & topology issues for gigawatt energy transportation as offshore HVDC application.



Keir Harman, Regional Head of Asset Operations and Management (AO&M), DNV GL

Keir Harman has worked in the wind energy industry for more 18 years. Over 10 years he developed operational wind farm services for Garrad Hassan, now a key business area within DNVGL. In his role with DNVGL, Keir has expanded capability to full operational management and control room services. He manages a team responsible for many aspects of renewable operations including asset management, inspections, performance monitoring and energy forecasting. Before joining GLGH, Keir worked for National Wind Power (now RWE) where he was responsible for the evaluation of performance of a large operating wind farm portfolio. A Chartered Engineer, Keir holds an MSc in Renewable Energy Systems from the University of Loughborough, UK.



Richard Smith, Principal Engineer, Fleet Maintenance, Romax Technology

Richard Smith has over 18 years engineering expertise in the aerospace, automotive and mechanical industries working for the likes of Rolls Royce and Jaguar LandRover. Currently, Richard works as a Senior Engineer for Romax Technology, a world-leading independent drivetrain consultancy that offer turn-key solutions in design, engineering and software solutions for gearboxes, drivetrains in the wind energy industry. Richard leads a team of experts in the design and analysis of wind drivetrains to assess and implement solutions for improved drivetrain reliability and optimization.



Scott McSpadden, Material Logistics and Client Manager, GWA Supplies

Scott McSpadden provides a key role in the procurement and warehousing of spare parts in GWA Supplies. He is also an integral link between providers and end-users, committed to develop and leverage successful relationships as a client focused manager. Strengthened by a background in Marine Science, Scott is involved in GWA Supplies' SPUD product which converts spare part historical usage data into knowledge.

Agenda

09.00h Welcome and Preliminaries

Kevin Donovan, GWA Supplies Limited
(Host and Organiser)

and

Clifford McSpadden, GWA Supplies Limited
(Moderator)

09.25h Official Welcome Address

Maria McCaffery, CEO of RenewableUK

09.45h Mechanism of Bearing Damage in the Wind Industry based on the WEC (White Etched Cracking) Phenomenon and Counter-Measures

Ralf Ansoerge, Schaeffler Technologies GmbH & Co KG

The WEC phenomenon will be explained in detail, exploring the differences between classic fatigue and WEC. Testing concepts will be examined and the results data explained to give an understanding of possible causes and influencing factors.

10.15h Break for Coffee, Exhibition, Networking

In the Exhibition Area

11.00h Post Warranty Operations at Sheringham Shoal

Jason Halsey, Statkraft

The presentation will explain the process leading up to the end of the OEM's warranty period and how to be best prepared for taking over operations from the turbine OEM.

11.30h Faster Failure Identification in Wind Turbine IGBT Inverters

Markus Billmann, Fraunhofer IISB & Billmann Engineering

IGBT inverters in wind turbines are often reported to fail at a non-tolerable rate. Why do they fail? Is the inverter always the root cause? Why will an obligatory exchange of the IGBT modules lead to extended down times and create unnecessary cost? Physical background of "sensitive IGBT modules" will be explained and methods for a more accurate identification of weak devices are described, to reduce exchange of good parts. Beneficial effect on return shipments and spare part management will be illustrated. A simple handheld tester for fast identification of power module failures will be demonstrated.

12.00h Lunch Break

In the Exhibition Area

13.30h Wind Farm Long-Term Performance Degradation

Keir Harman, DNV GL

How do wind farms perform in the long term? Does the performance degrade over the years? If so, how bad is it? What causes it? Recently there have been a number of negative articles stating that the output of wind farms drops substantially after a few years of operation as a result of degraded performance. DNV GL will share their experience from a large number of operating wind farms and reveal how wind farms really perform.

14.00h Challenges in Operation, Maintenance and Improving Main Bearing Reliability

Richard Smith, Romax Technology

Through global case studies Romax will demonstrate costly main bearing problems, methods for understanding bearing health, how best to maintain main bearings and assess their remaining useful life. Topic will include; failure investigations, reducing risk at end of warranty, ongoing health monitoring, managing problems to extend bearing life, forecasting remaining useful life, and predictive maintenance.

14.30h Break for Coffee, Exhibition, Networking

In the Exhibition Area

15.00h SPUD - Transforming Data Into Valuable Knowledge

Scott McSpadden, GWA Supplies

If wind farm owners knew what parts were going to fail on their turbines and when, they could prevent costly periods of turbine downtime. GWA Supplies have recognized the significance of using historical part usage data to promote proactive management of this opportunity. The Spare Parts Usage Database (SPUD), launched at Quo Vadis in 2013, captures usage data and transforms it through analysis and algorithms into valuable knowledge in the form of management reports. This transformation enables a forecast of future usage, benchmark of performance against the industry and the development of stocking and logistics strategies. This presentation will explain the process steps and show illustrations of recent client applications.

15.30h Looking Forward

Kevin Donovan and Clifford McSpadden

A brief overview of GWA Supplies' products and services portfolio.

16.00h Official Closing of Quo Vadis

More time for networking

A Hearty Welcome To Hamburg from Your Hosts



Kevin & Sigrig Donovan

Kevin got involved in the wind industry some 10 years ago and co-founded GWA Supplies Limited to serve the growing wind energy market in the UK, Europe and overseas with offices in Germany and the UK. His wife Sigi has been involved in Marketing for 3 decades.

Kevin and Sigi held the first Quo Vadis Conference in 2007. The conference is now in its eighth year and is recognised by wind farm owners and operators as one of the most important and valuable events in the wind industry.

The history of Quo Vadis Conference



This year's event is co-hosted by Schaeffler UK Limited.

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It would not be possible for us to offer our Quo Vadis Conference free of charge without the support of our Platinum Sponsors DNV GL and Romax Technology who also contribute towards the costs.



The following companies have booked exhibition space and will show their products and services: GasTOPS, Hove, Morgan Advanced Materials, Renewable Advice, Winergy, ZF Services.

