Press Release

Hannover research groups set to benefit from €9m EU marine renewables fund

'MaRINET' initiative opens access to marine testing sites across Europe

The German marine renewable energy sector is set to benefit from a new €9m EU-funded initiative to provide access to test facilities in specialist marine renewable energy centres across Europe. 'MaRINET' (Marine Renewables Infrastructure Network) offers periods of marine renewable energy testing at these centres at no cost to participants through funding from the European Commission. ForWind members of the Leibniz University Hannover, the Forschungszentrum Küste from Hannover as well as Fraunhofer IWES, Bremerhaven are key partners in this initiative.

MaRINET supports testing of concepts and devices in areas such as wave energy, tidal energy, offshore-wind energy and the environment, to accelerate Europe-wide development of marine renewable energy. The funding seeks to remove financial barriers for the first time by enabling companies and research groups to access unique world-class European testing facilities outside their own country, which is generally not covered under national grant schemes.

The initiative, with at least four calls for applications, runs until 2015 and the first call for applications opens today, 1st December. Potential users, who must work in Europe or a country associated to the European FP7 programme, are invited to apply to access this first call.



The network of research centres who are offering access to their facilities through MARINET

The network consists of 42 testing facilities at 28 research centres in 12 countries. By linking these marine renewable energy testing facilities and using an agreed testing framework, this initiative now provides a clear path to commercialisation by allowing users to seamlessly progress their device through each phase of testing. All participating centres will use common standards, conduct research to improve their own testing capability and provide training to enhance expertise in the field.

Contact:

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Countries &	organisations	participatina	in MaRINET:
countries a	organisations	participating	

Country	Organisation
Belgium	1-Tech s.p.r.l.
Brazil	Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas do Estado de São Paulo S.A.
Denmark	Aalborg Universitet
Denmark	Danmarks Tekniske Universitet
France	Ecole Centrale de Nantes
France	Institut Français de Recherche Pour l'Exploitation de la Mer
Germany	Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung Der Angewandten Forschung e.V.
Germany	Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universität Hannover
Germany	Universität Stuttgart
Ireland	University College Cork, National University of Ireland, Cork - Coordinator
Ireland	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
Italy	Università degli Studi di Firenze
Italy	Università degli Studi della Tuscia
Italy	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
Netherlands	Stichting Tidal Testing Centre
Netherlands	Stichting Energieonderzoek Centrum Nederland
Norway	Sintef Energi AS
Norway	Norges Teknisk-Naturvitenskapelige Universitet NTNU
Portugal	Wave Energy Centre – Centro de Energia das Ondas
Spain	Ente Vasco de la Energia
Spain	Fundación Tecnalia Research & Innovation
UK	National Renewable Energy Centre Ltd.
UK	The University of Exeter
UK	European Marine Energy Centre Ltd
UK	University of Strathclyde
UK	The University of Edinburgh
UK	The Queen's University of Belfast
UK	University of Plymouth