



Dedicated cooperation between AtSite A/S and ESVAGT has resulted in a fast and efficient inspection of turbines and foundations on the BARD Offshore 1 wind farm. Photo: Visual Working.

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Safe, fast and efficient inspection with drones

Drone inspection on offshore wind farms can contribute to faster inspections and improved efficiency. Safety is also strengthened by eliminating the need for rope access.

The potential in using UAVs – unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly called 'drones' – in the offshore industry is considerable, and ESVAGT has therefore added drone inspection to its list of offered services.

Most recently, the 'Esvagt Champion' assisted with the drone inspection of wind turbine blades and towers on the 80 wind turbines on the BARD Offshore 1 wind farm, German sector, in cooperation with AtSite A/S. AtSite A/S are specialists in inspection, analysis and database solutions for blades and main components for wind turbines.

A drone inspection is a visual inspection of the surfaces and edges of the turbine blade and takes approximately 25 minutes per turbine. In comparison, an inspection with rope access takes between a half and a whole day per turbine and involves working at heights and personnel transfer between vessel and TP.

Using a vessel as central base for the drone inspections, the wind farm can be quickly, safely and efficiently inspected.

"You save a great deal of time. This service is relevant for many," says Mads Obling Rasmussen, CEO for AtSite A/S.

At the same time as the drone inspection, AtSite A/S also collected photo documentation from the 'Esvagt Champion' of the wind turbine's foundations and substation.

About ESVAGT

ESVAGT is a dedicated provider of safety and support at sea, founded on an experienced and well-trained offshore crew and unmatched rescue capabilities.

We support the offshore Oil & Gas industries with a wide range of specialized services: Standby, Emergency Response and Resque Vessels (ERRV), Oil spill response, Firefighting, Tanker assists, Rig moves, Supply services and Interfield transfer of cargo and personnel.

In 2010, ESVAGT brought the dedicated offshore wind Service Operation Vessels (SOV) to the market. The SOVs provide accommodation for technicians, spare time facilities, offices and conference room, storage for small turbine parts, workshops, etc. The SOV offers flexible personnel and equipment transfer capabilities by either Walk-to-Work gangway system or Safe Transfer Boats.

ESVAGT was founded in 1981 and has a fleet of more than 40 vessels and approximately 900 employees on- and offshore.

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