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Dear reader,

This is the latest version of the newsletter from the DecomTools project, a EU project funded by the European Union's [Interreg North Sea Programme](#).

In this newsletter you will find information about the newly launched reports and papers in the project.

First of all, you can read about our final conference the 19.01.2023:

[Final Conference - DecomTools, Belgium](#)

Secondly, you can read the paper: [Gap Analysis - Rules and regulations 2022](#) highlighting both international and national regulations within the topic of dismantling and repowering.

Finally, you can read the report: [End-of-Life phase and three circularity concepts for Wind Turbine Blades](#) bringing the “End-of-Life phase and three circularity concepts for wind turbine blades” into a larger context. Furthermore, you will get an early introduction to the paper: A Comparative Assessment of Cutting Techniques for Offshore Energy foundation structures which soon will be published.

 **The DecomTools project has come to an end.**

The project will end in January 2023 which also means that this will be the last newsletter from the project. You will still be able to access the webpage for while.

We hope you enjoyed reading our news and we wish you a merry Christmas. 



Final Conference DecomTools

Date: January 19, 2023 from 9.30 - 16.30

Venue: BLUEBRIDGE, Wetenschapspark1, Ostend (Belgium)

Language: English

During the final conference, participants will receive various impulses and a detailed overview of the results of the project based on specialist lectures and panel discussions. Innovative technologies and demonstration pilots from the fields of logistics, ship design and up- and recycling will be considered. Which are supplemented by technical concepts for process optimization for the dismantling of individual offshore wind turbines and by economic and political analyzes of the offshore decommissioning market. In addition, there are sufficient opportunities for networking with various stakeholders from the industry. Join us for the final conference in the DecomTools project and get the newest insights about decommissioning, repowering and future perspectives.

Join our Conference on Wind Recycling Concepts and meet stakeholders from different sectors working within the field of decommissioning in the wind industry.

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GAP ANALYSIS RULES AND REGULATIONS 2022

The decommissioning of offshore wind farms lacks an all including regulatory framework. This negatively affects concepts such as liabilities. It also strongly impacts other fields like the planning of the process and the resulting environment. The gap analysis can be used as a guide line for covering the most important difficulties that can confront parties taking on a successful decommissioning.

The identified gaps are:

- the regulations,
- the planning of the process,
- the vessels' availability
- the environmental impact

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End-of-Life phase and three circularity concepts for Wind Turbine Blades

The report provides three circular concepts for decommissioned blades: cement-kiln route, pyrolysis, and repurposing, which all have their special pros and cons. The common factor between these is their focus on EoL solutions. This is important in the context of finding solutions for the currently operating (onshore and offshore) wind farms, from which thousands of tons of WTB waste are expected. Before the blades end up in any of these three EoL solutions, several other decisions related to economics, technical feasibility, legislation and environmental impacts need to be made by the wind farm owners, which make the role of EoL solution providers highly uncertain regarding business development. Without regulative push, the EoL solution providers often have to compete with the low landfilling and incineration prices. When the volume of feedstock material (WTBs) is uncertain and processes never get optimized, the service price stays high, hindering the progress toward more circular solutions.

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A study with the topic: **A Comparative Assessment of Cutting Techniques for Offshore Energy Foundation Structures** has been finalized.

The study presents an overall assessment of the current five most conventional cutting technologies in the offshore industry from the economic, production, safety, and environmental impact viewpoints. The applicability, advantages, and disadvantages of each cutting technique for cutting operations of jacket structures are summarised. The cutting times required by different techniques are investigated for decommissioning of jacket structures with different diameters and wall thicknesses. The study provides overall suggestions on the suitability of techniques for cutting offshore foundation structures.

The study has not yet been published but please feel free to contact: Kenneth Bisgaard Christensen, Doctoral Researcher, PhD Student (k.bisgaardchristensen.19@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.



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