



NEW GENERATION OF OFFSHORE TURBINE BLADES WITH
INTELLIGENT ARCHITECTURES OF HYBRID, NANO-ENABLED
MULTI-MATERIALS VIA ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Carbo4Power project: New generation of offshore turbine blades of nano-enabled multi-materials

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- **Full title:** New generation of offshore turbine blades with intelligent architectures of hybrid, nano-enabled multi-materials via advanced manufacturing
- **Acronym: Carbo₄Power**
- **Call identifier:** H2020-NMBP-ST-IND-2018-2020
- **Topic:** LC-NMBP-31-2020 Materials for off shore energy (IA)
- **Number of partners:** 18
- **Duration:** 48 months (1.11.2020 – 31.10.2024)
- **Funding:** ~7M €
- **Coordinator:** NTUA, R-NanoLab, Prof. Costas A. Charitidis



Consortium



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



CATAPULT
Offshore Renewable Energy



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cidetec
surface engineering



18 partners
10 RTOs
8 SMEs
9 EU
countries



- Robust new material architectures, **hybrid nano-engineered multi-materials** with tailored diverse functionalities.
- Feedstock for **composites**, **adhesives** and **coatings** manufacturing technologies for offshore energy applications.
- **Digital tools**: multi-scale modelling, design, topology optimization and data analytics

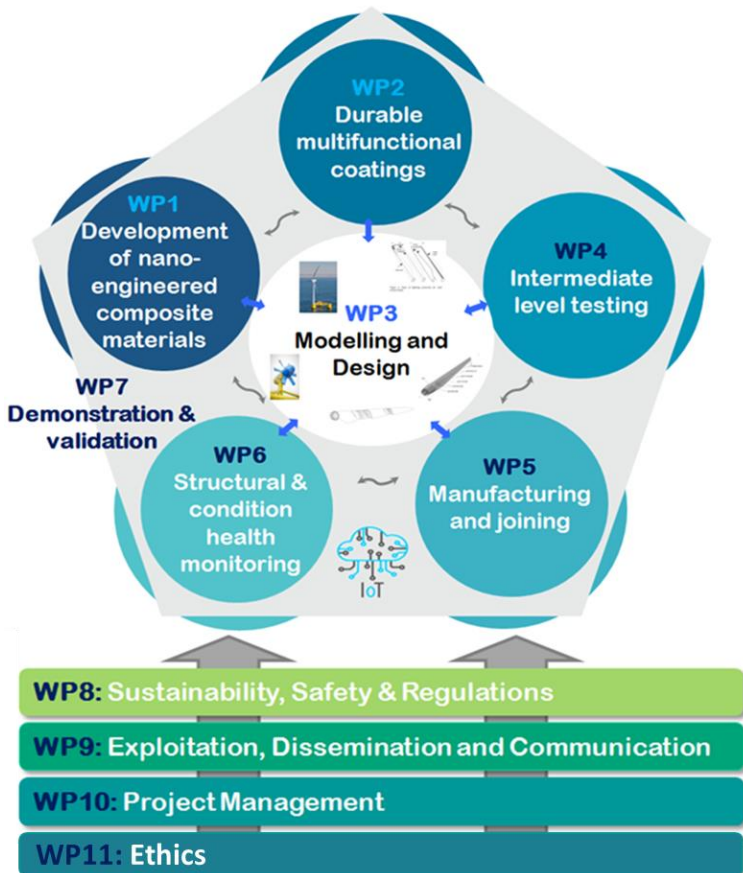
A new generation of **lightweight, high strength, multifunctional, digitalized multi-materials** for offshore wind / tidal turbine rotor blades.

Increased operational performance and durability while **reducing cost of energy production, maintenance and environmental impact.**

- **Nanocomposites based on dynamic thermosets** with inherent recyclability and repairability and tailored nano-reinforcements.
- **Multifunctional nano-enabled coatings** to improve turbine protection (e.g. against lightning and biofouling).

- **New Blade segments** designed and fabricated by advanced net-shape automated multi-material composite technologies (ca. ↓20% scrap).
- **Recycling of blade materials** - ↑ up to 95% - advanced functionalities of 3R resins & de-bonding on demand adhesives.

New pathways of **composites manufacturing** for multiple processing life cycles, and explore the emerging valorization opportunities in **offshore energy sector.**



Phase 1

WP1, WP2, WP3

- R&D on the 3R resins, nano-additives integration in epoxies, fibres, coatings, adhesives, characterisation of their functionalities
- A portfolio of materials/process/joining technologies and techniques
- Validation at lab-scale - specific applications
- Multi-physical models

Phase 2

WP4, WP5

- Intermediate level testing toward manufacturing of demo cases for validation of developed technology solutions (elements, joints)
- Realistic environmental condition test rigs (icing wind tunnel, seawater, accelerated UV chamber, thermal aging, among others)
- Optimization of materials combination - "right materials in right place"
- Manufacturing of demo scale blades.

Phase 3

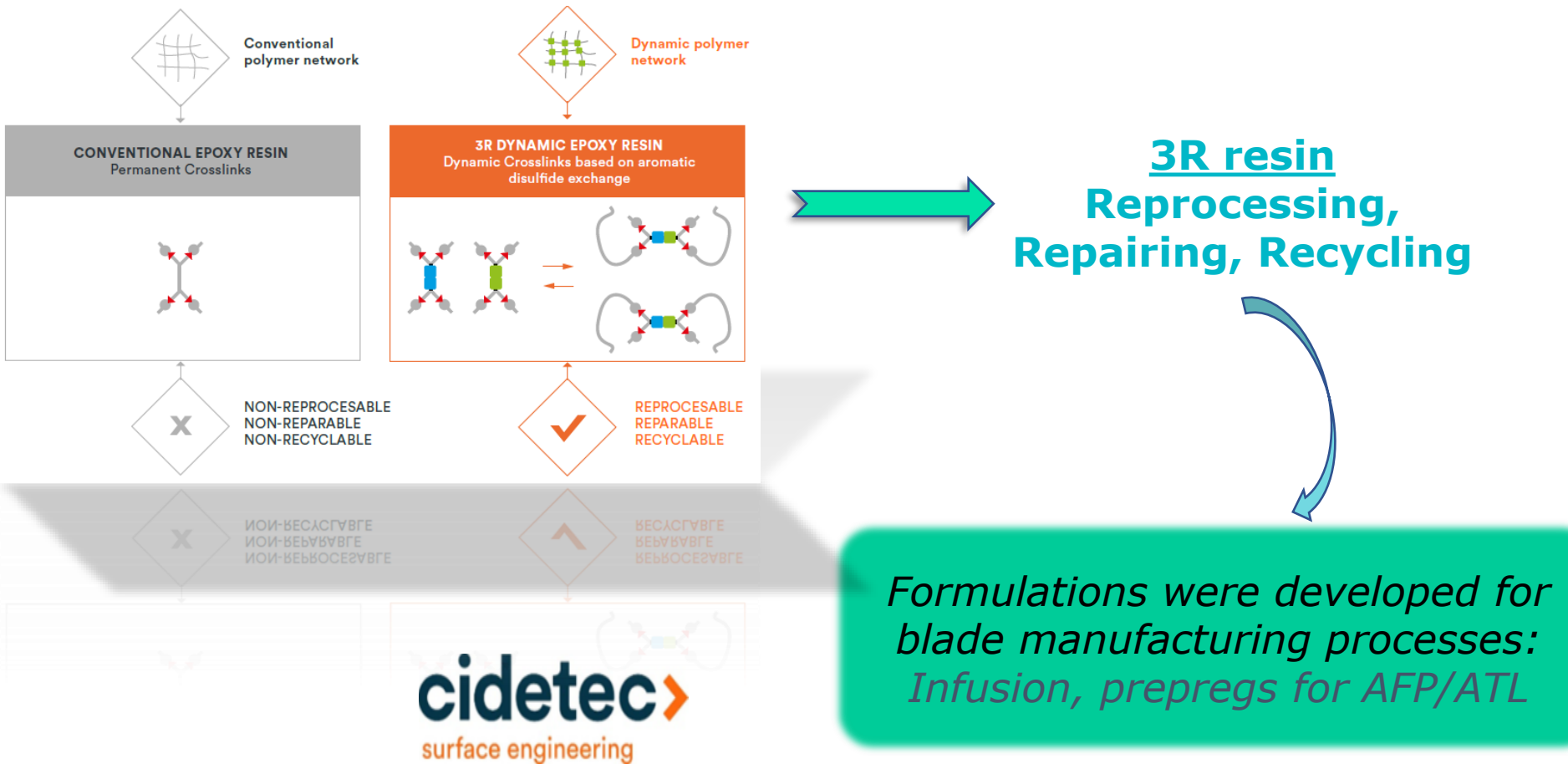
WP6, WP7

- SHM - materials and process information will be combined with the digital tools for demonstrating the achievement of the TRL6.
- Testing and validation two demo on WTB and TTB (TRL6).
- Capability of blade materials to undergo the recycling process.

Horizontal

- Sustainability, safety and regulations
- Cost /benefit analysis of the novel materials & manuf. technologies
- Exploitation, Standardisation, Communication & Dissemination
- Project Management and Coordination
- Ethics

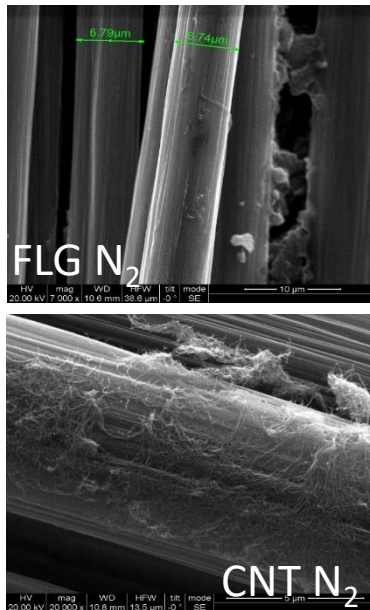
3R resin formulation for W/TTB



Novel Multi-functional composite materials

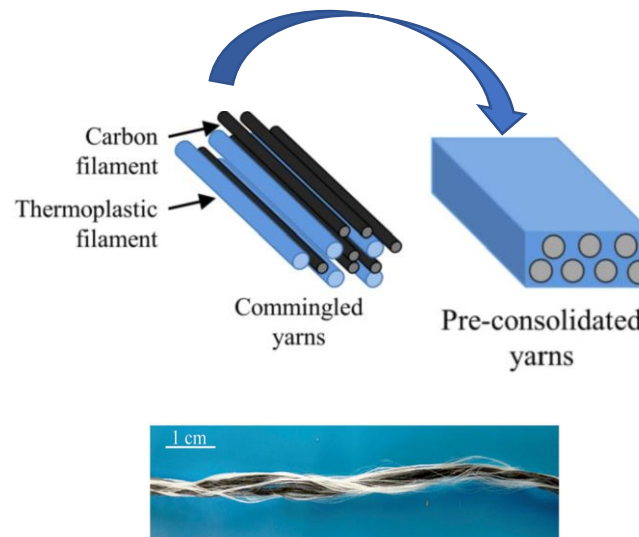
Fiber surface Functionalisations

- ❖ Plasma treatment
- ❖ Electropolymerisation
- ❖ Nanoenhanced C-based sizing



Hybridization of conventional fibres, in the form of CY or tapes

- ❖ Successful & stable production of PPS/Cf commingled yarns
- ❖ Novel UD TP tapes with CY produced via pultrusion and hot-melt process



Novel non-intrusive quantum sensors (QRS):

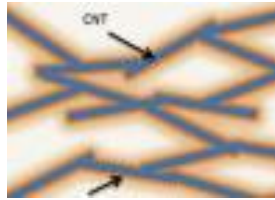
- ❖ monitor different thermal/mechanical events during fabrication & operation
- ❖ Strain sensing → SHM
- ❖ pQRS, tQRS, fQRS and hQRS for process health monitoring



Novel Multi-functional composite materials

Functional resistive heaters for de-icing

- ❖ Graphene-based nanocomposite layers
- ❖ Embedded on the composite for active de-icing



Functional preregs for Lightning Strike Protection

- ❖ Conductive C-based nanomaterials
- ❖ Preregs manufactured with 3R resin



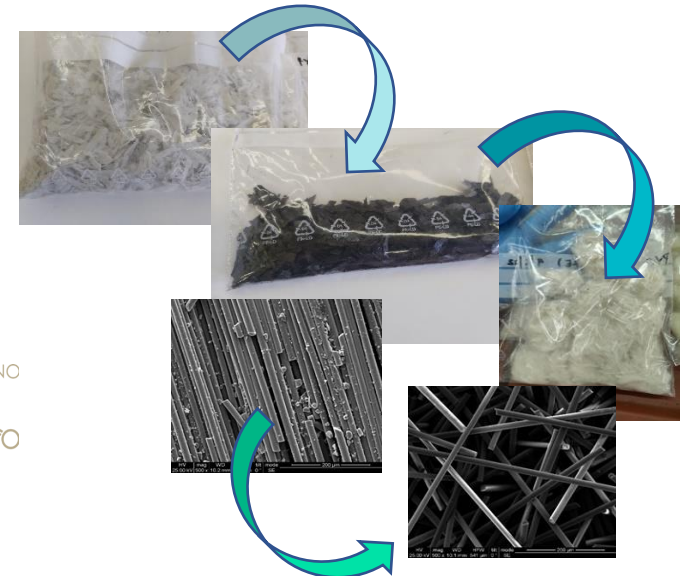
Adhesive joints with debonding on demand capabilities

- ❖ Adhesive modifications with thermo-expandable particles (TEP)
- ❖ Adhesive modifications with Magnetic Nanoparticles
- ❖ Introduce a damage mechanism for the disassembly



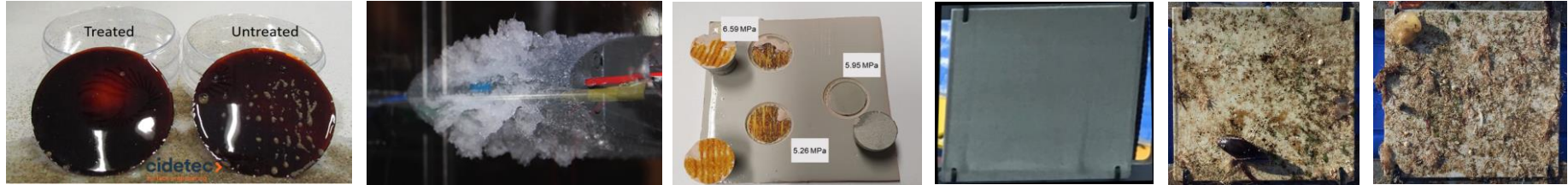
Functionally graded recycled fibre adhesive carrier

- ❖ Recycling of WTB blades for GF reclamation
- ❖ Manufacturing of FGA mat

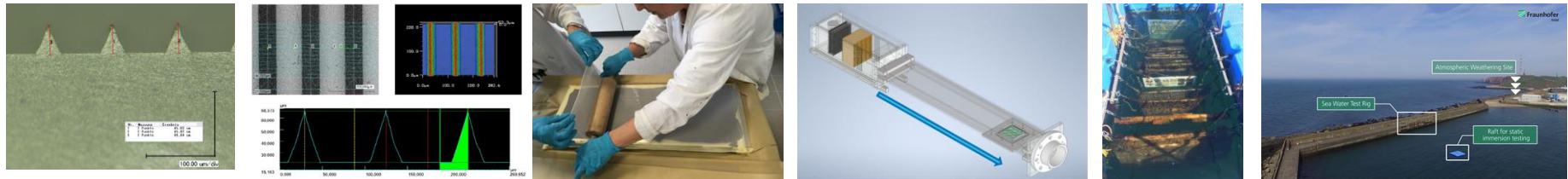


Novel Multi-functional Coatings

Low surface energy coatings with self-cleaning properties to reduce surface contamination / corrosion effects (incl. ice, biofouling, soiling, water)



Drag-reducing riblet and lift increasing surfaces for improved energy harvesting

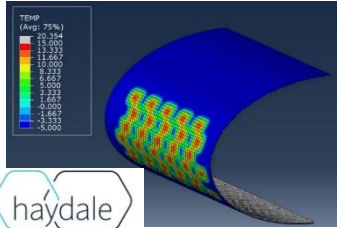


Erosion protection coatings for leading edge protection, considering high strength / self-healing properties

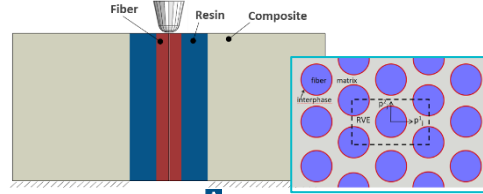


Modeling and Design

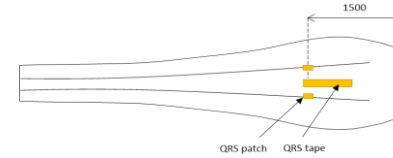
Design of Nanomaterial-enhanced heater system for de-icing



Study of carbon fibre treatments to improve CFRP properties



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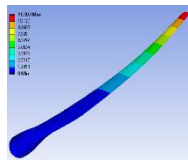
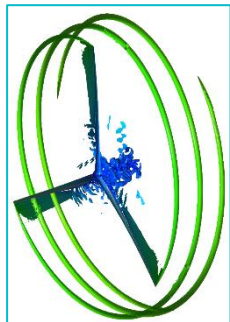
Localization of QRS sensors



Design of Riblets introduction for drag reduction and efficiency improvement

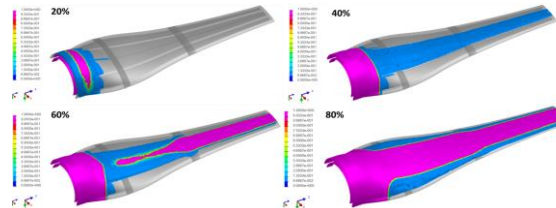


Coupled CFD-FEM simulations for accurate evaluation of blade operation



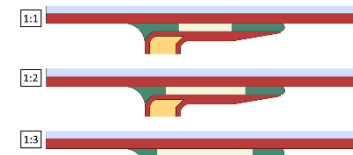
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Support in TTB demo infusion process definition



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Analysis of innovative bonded joints solutions



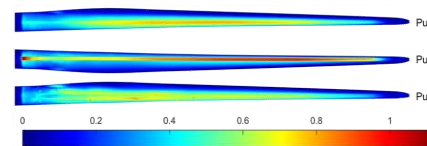
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Scarf-joints



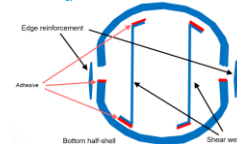
Bi-adhesive joints

Structural analysis of blades at full and demo scales



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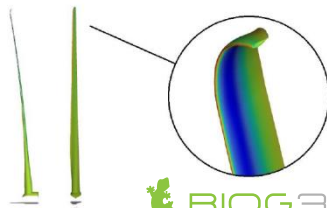
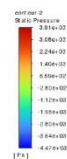
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Demonstrators design

sabelja

Optimised Bladelet design

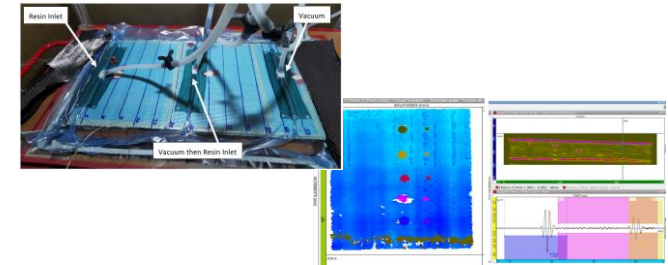


BIOG3D

Project Highlights

Intermediate level testing

- ❖ Infusion of panels for intermediate mechanical testing
- ❖ Infusion of one thick reference panel with artificial defects to evaluate different NDT testing methods



Manufacturing Processes

- ❖ 3R processability evaluation
- ❖ Infusion of W/TTB shells
- ❖ Advanced manufacturing:
 - ATL/ AFP (WTB spar)
 - NCF placement (TTB blades)



Demonstrators

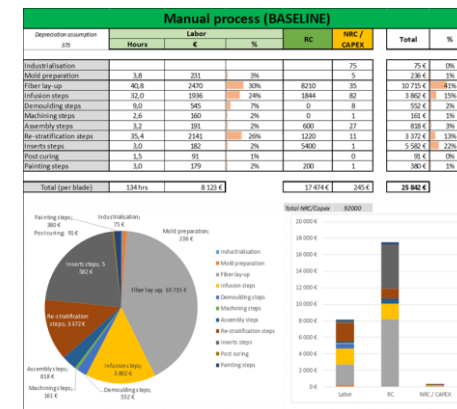
WTB:

- ❖ *scale-down 1:20 modular blade >15MW (infusion & ATL/AFP manufacturing)*

TTB:

- ❖ *1x D12 truncated (4m) scale 1 blade (NCF/DFP/infusion manufacturing)*
- ❖ *1 x Scale 1:2 truncated (0.7m) Tidal blade (One-shot manufacturing)*

Technical-economical study for manual/automated process



Horizontal Activities

- Sustainability, safety and regulations
- LCA/ LCC Analysis
- Liaison with Standardisation Bodies and Advisory Board
- Cost /benefit analysis of the novel materials & manuf. Technologies
- Exploitation, Standardisation, Communication & Dissemination



CAMBRIDGE
NANOMATERIALS
TECHNOLOGY LTD

From 1M – 48M of project implementation

Expected Impact

Significant reduction of life cycle costs maintaining or improving other performance properties

Significant reduction of maintenance cost:

Production and Acquisition costs < 30%.

Installation and Commissioning costs - reducing transportation costs from the production factory to the port of ~ 60%.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) < 50%.

Decommissioning and Disposal ~ 15% reduction.

Operational & Maintenance Costs



Optimised materials cost & improved durability

↓ 40% Levelized Cost of Energy

<10 ct€/ kWh for wind

<15 ct€/kWh by tidal stream

Increase of **energy production** for a given turbine size.

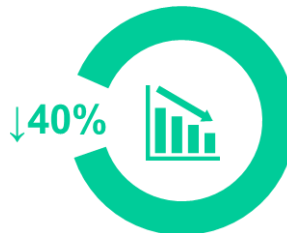
Increase in the **annual energy** >6%.

Overcome durability-related issues affect the in-service life of offshore turbine blades .

Increase the lifetime of blades by 100% and decrease maintenance costs by approx. 50% (OPEX).

Overall cost of blades which is expected to be reduced by at least 40% (CAPEX).

Levelized CoE



Reduction of environmental impact by 35% based on life cycle assessment (LCA) and eco-design:

Thermo-mechanically **reprocessable** composites.

High rate of **recyclability** at EoL

Enhanced repairability.

Environmentally-friendly nature (no chemicals used) coatings.

Focus on **on-demand debonding** functionality in joints.

Cost-effective transportation - new modular blade design.

Environmental impact





THANK YOU!

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