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# Marine & Ports

Marine ports play an important role in the construction and operation phases of offshore wind farms. Generally, the ports and requirements to the ports, can be classified into two phases:

- i. Construction phase
- ii. Operation phase

During construction phase of an offshore wind farm, the port location is based on the infrastructure, assembling, vessel parking, loading and storage facilities. Various types of vessels that are required during different stages of the project could range from survey boats/ tugboats to heavy jack vessels.

The respective port requires the facility to store the important components like blades, towers, foundations, cables, switchgears, etc. out of which some require to be assembled at the port itself and get fixed to the respective sites.

The criteria for port selection during the construction phase are for example related to sufficient storage space, quays to handle high loads, desired crane capabilities, heavy transport capabilities and the ports location relative to the offshore wind farm.

Typically for the construction of an offshore wind farm, the port requires the necessary space to unload the components shipped through supply vessels, storing these components, assembling nacelles or other important equipment and loading back the components or assembled parts on to respective locations through transport vessels.

During the operational phase of the wind farm, the location of the port is generally preferred having close distance to the wind farms for keeping the personnel and equipment transfer time as minimum as possible. Broadly the operational port requires facilities like: reinforced quays, deep berths, cranes, extensive storage and assembly areas, bunkering capabilities, adequate storage space for tools, spare parts and components, suitable accommodation and shelter for personnel and good connectivity with public transport network.

**For more information, refer the following informative links/material:**

1. Outline about "UK Ports for the Offshore Wind Industry: Time to Act" by BVG Associates for 'Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC)'.  
(<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file49871.pdf>)
2. Informative directory about different type of vessels published by Navingo BV, Netherland.  
([http://issuu.com/navingo/docs/ow\\_vd\\_2016\\_totaal\\_losse\\_paginas/178](http://issuu.com/navingo/docs/ow_vd_2016_totaal_losse_paginas/178))
3. ORECCA project: An EU: Seventh Framework Programme funded project collaborative project, whose objectives are to create a framework for knowledge sharing and to develop a research roadmap for activities in the context of offshore renewable energy (RE).  
([http://cordis.europa.eu/result/rcn/54046\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/result/rcn/54046_en.html))

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