ASK THE EXPERTS

Sailing towards a sustainable horizon

After nearly a decade of operation, dship Carriers has solidified its position as a leading player in the global shipping industry. Through years of expertise and dedication, it has successfully navigated through the dynamic wind energy sector, adapting to changing industry demands and embracing innovative solutions. By actively supporting the smooth implementation of wind energy projects, the company emphasises the essential role of this sector in fostering sustainable development.

In an exclusive interview with Ruslan Mosolov, Head of Sales, PES delves into the insights shared by dship Carriers, highlighting its commitment to sustainability, customercentricity, and technical excellence.

PES: dship Carriers has been established for almost 10 years now. What changes have you seen in the wind industry during this time? Ruslan Mosolov: Over the past decade, we have witnessed remarkable changes in the wind energy sector. Not too long ago, offshore wind was a relatively novel and unexplored domain, but today, it stands as a thriving and well-established industry, partly even outpacing onshore wind ventures in growth. Notably, the sizes of wind turbine components have also evolved, with turbines becoming more powerful and efficient.

Looking back, the wind energy industry's progress over the past decade has been impressive. The advancements in offshore wind have been particularly noteworthy, with a growing number of wind turbine generator



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Ruslan Mosolov

addressing the volume requirements for both onshore and offshore projects.

While there is a growing demand for heavy lift vessels to handle larger components, we have sufficient lifting capacity to manage the current demands. However, we recognise the ongoing trend of wind turbine components becoming larger and more challenging to transport. As such, we continually monitor industry developments and are prepared to invest in advanced lifting equipment and heavy lift vessels to meet future needs effectively.

PES: What about issues and challenges of the industry moving further and further offshore?

RM: As the wind industry continues to expand offshore, new challenges emerge due to the size and weight of wind turbine components. The transportation of oversized components such as monopiles and foundations poses complexities that demand specialised logistics planning and vessel capabilities. For conventional heavy lift vessels, the increasing sizes of wind turbine components, especially monopiles, present challenges in terms of lifting capacity and stability during transportation.

To overcome these issues, vessels and lifting equipment designed to manage these larger components are essential. As the industry moves further offshore, we remain committed to enhancing our capabilities to meet the evolving transportation demands and support the growth of offshore wind energy.

PES: What do you think the wind industry will look like 10 years from now?

RM: In the next decade, we anticipate a continuation of the current trends in the wind energy sector. The industry's growth will persist, with wind energy projects playing an increasingly critical role in the global energy landscape. However, the pace of turbine size increase may not be as rapid

units reflecting the industry's enduring trajectory, and we have been at the forefront of meeting its transportation demands. These developments signal a future where renewable energy, driven by technological innovation and greater efficiency, will continue to play an increasingly vital role in the global energy landscape.

PES: How has supply and demand grown, and how has dship been able to adapt to this?

RM: We have experienced a surge in requests for transporting wind turbine generators and their various components. To adapt to the evolving demands, we recognised the necessity of developing new vessel types and designs that could efficiently handle the larger wind turbine components.

Our new build vessels have been tailored to address the specific requirements of transporting these components, including the integration of long cargo holds for towers and blades. For instance, our F500 vessels have already incorporated adaptations to accommodate longer blades. We believe that the next generation of F-type vessels will require further modifications to ensure more efficient intake and consumption, including measures to reduce emissions and continue compliance with regulatory standards. By keeping a close eye on the market demands, we continuously strive to optimise our fleet.

PES: As the wind industry grows, so too do the turbines and the equipment needed. Are you seeing more call for your heavy lift vessels and lifting equipment as a result?

RM: It is essential to note that it is not just the lifting capacity that matters in wind energy transport. For onshore wind projects, heavy lift vessels are not always required, but these projects also face limitations related to road transportation. Although heavy lifting capacity remains crucial for certain aspects, we emphasise



as it was in the last decade, as turbines have already reached significant dimensions. Onshore wind projects, while still essential, may face limitations due to transportation constraints and local regulations. As a result, the focus is likely to shift more toward offshore wind projects.

Offshore wind energy presents significant commercial advantages, allowing for the installation of larger turbines that produce more electricity per unit and require less maintenance over their lifespan. Furthermore, offshore wind farms offer less disruption to local communities, making them politically favorable. While the wind industry will continue to evolve, we expect it to remain a prominent contributor to the global transition toward renewable energy sources.

PES: And for dship Carriers, are there future plans for growth in the pipeline?



RM: Looking ahead, we have ambitious plans for growth and innovation. Guided by our core principles of having a young fleet, an experienced team, and a future-focused approach, we will be able to implement the required measures that precisely align with the future needs of the wind energy sector, ensuring that we remain at the forefront of delivering sustainable and reliable shipping solutions.

www.dship-carriers.com

About the company

dship Carriers has established itself as a strong force in the wind energy transportation sector, skillfully adapting to the changing landscape of the industry. With a focus on sustainability, technical expertise, and customer-centricity, the company remains committed to contributing to the growth of renewable energy worldwide.

As the wind energy sector continues to evolve, the company stands poised to lead the way in delivering innovative and efficient solutions for the transportation of wind turbine components, supporting the global transition to cleaner and more sustainable energy sources.