

Look up for new solutions

As the offshore industry expands quickly in the coming years, innovative solutions are needed. HeliOIS wants to add more flexibility and efficiency by creating new service and inspection concepts that can optimise the way we work.

Imagine this: a wind farm operator discovers that a substation in the North Sea is malfunctioning and needs repairs. But the technician who can do the job is working at another wind farm far from the problem, and cannot be at the malfunctioning substation for days, even if he jumps on a CTV immediately. Normally, this situation would mean many days of downtime and unnecessary loss of both sustainable energy and money.

HeliOIS wants to change this, with innovative solutions that bring a new flexibility to the offshore industry as it is growing rapidly.

'The offshore industry is suffering from growing pains,' says Janni Andersen, CEO & Co-founder of HeliOIS. 'The industry is expanding due to the focus on renewable energy and the current system cannot scale quickly enough. So we believe that innovation and new out-of-the-box solutions are needed.'

Technician on site in 24 hours

To solve the problem described in the beginning of this article, HeliOIS has a concept that brings technicians to any European offshore site in 24 hours, from anywhere in France, Belgium, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, Poland or Denmark.

This 24-hour transportation service can reduce costs significantly when technical malfunctioning is causing downtime on substations or wind farms. The secret to the fast response is using helicopters for transportation as an addition to CTVs.

Adding helicopters to the offshore service fleet has more than one advantage. First



Janni Andersen

and foremost, you travel faster by air than by sea. And as the industry grows both in size and in geography companies need to allocate qualified employees almost all over the globe.

Secondly, the number of CTVs are limited, and with the current shortness of steel and general supply chain challenges it is difficult to procure more vessels, and therefore the CTV fleets are not growing at a pace that can keep up with demand. By adding helicopters to the equation assets can be freed for other tasks.

Optimise through innovation

'The system needs more flexibility to keep up with the current demand. The offshore industry has a strong maritime history, but it is time to be innovative and look up in the

sky for new solutions. Literally. We need new solutions that are holistic and innovative. HeliOIS wants to challenge the status quo and create new innovative solutions that saves money, saves time and CO2, continues Janni.

Innovation is a prime focus for HeliOIS, as the Danish company believes that through innovation the offshore industry can be optimised and improved. The goal is to make it easier, safer, and more comfortable to work offshore.

'We want to create innovation and new solutions that are second to none. To do that we have gathered a network of specialists in logistics, aviation and offshore industry, each an expert in their field. When different expertise and competencies work together innovative solutions emerge,' explains Janni, who has more than 15 years of experience with aviation logistics in different airline companies.

The 24-hour transportation service is just one of several new solutions from HeliOIS.

Outsource all inspection and audits

Another innovation from HeliOIS is the possibility to outsource all offshore inspections and audits to its subject matter experts.

Offshore inspection and audits are complex matters for most companies, as they are not their core competence. The work includes contacting many different contributors and authorities and requires vast knowledge of regulations and standards.

'When outsourcing inspection and audits to us you get a simple and yet very competent





solution to a complex task. First of all, we are aviation experts and our subject matter experts are skilled and experienced.

Secondly, we have a holistic mindset and make sure that everything is covered, and that all relevant levels and partners are both involved and informed e.g., park owner, subcontractors, mill producer, and service providers. We want to make this complex and unfamiliar task easy for the offshore industry,' says Janni.

HeliOIS can take care of all inspections of helidecks, helibaskets, fuel stations and blades. The work is done by in-house subject matter experts.

Blade inspection: pollution control

HeliOIS can provide surveillance and analysis of blades, performed either by drone or helicopter and a cameraman. By using drones and special camera setup in the helicopter, we ensure the best and most accurate results. The footage can be used for analyses as the files provide details of blade condition about erosion, nicks, dents or damage, and the metadata on the footage ensures correct location on both wind turbine and blade.

Helibasket and helideck Inspection

The concept also includes full inspection reports on helibaskets and on helidecks both on- and offshore. The inspections can be performed on pre-installation, pre-shipping or after installation. The inspections live up to ICAO and The International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (OGPs) standards with respect to CAP 437.

'We are experienced in working offshore and our auditors and inspections comply with industry standards and recommendations and work closely together with authorities. Our inspection services cover Europe, Northeast US and Taiwan, with several other locations to come, 'promises Janni.

Fuel station inspection

HeliOIS can also inspect fuel stations, both offshore and onshore, as part of the concept. The inspection lives up to JIG standards and CAP 748 / FAA ICAO Annex 14 chapter 9.

Safe and simple

Using helicopters for offshore inspection is relatively new, but increasingly favoured due to the agility and speed. Inspection at offshore sites is safer and more efficient when done by helicopter rather than by vessel. The G+ states in their 2020 incident data report that safety is increased by 90% when using helicopters for offshore inspection rather than vessels.

Doing inspections by helicopter rather than by boat may sound like a less sustainable solution in terms of energy consumption. But surprisingly it is not.

'A CTV and a helicopter consume the same amount of fuel per hour, but a helicopter is 3 to 4 times faster than a CTV, so it actually can be a fuel reduction,' explains Janni.

Single point of contact

By gathering all inspection tasks with one supplier, the work can be more efficient in different ways. One subject matter expert can do several inspections at the same time, when all inspections are done by one company instead of several. But it is also more efficient for the park owner as they only need to work with one supplier instead of many to make sure the inspection is always compliant.

'The offshore industry is a complex business, we want to make it a little simpler. By outsourcing all inspections to us, you only have one supplier. Instead coordinating different suppliers and people in an area, that is not core business for you. That's not very efficient and not a good use of your time,' claims Janni.

Efficiency equals employees

According to Janni, efficiency can help solve one of the important issues in the offshore industry: labour shortage.

'The business is expanding, and more qualified employees are needed everywhere. By optimising the way we work, we can free up time and make sure that employees use all their time in the best possible way,' he says.

HeliOIS is driven by the idea of making it simpler and safer to work in the hostile offshore environment for everyone.

'It is our mission to make it easier, safer, and more comfortable to travel and work offshore.'

Tailormade aviation

HeliOIS specializes in offshore aviation logistics and service worldwide and can help companies in the offshore energy sector with every travel and inspection need. HeliOIS also provides tailored aviation solutions, just as the inspection concepts are more efficient, as it saves time for employees and money for the offshore companies.

The travelling concept is simple: tailormade streamlined aviation solutions for the offshore industry. For example, a chartered plane for a full crew, that travels together to an airstrip by the shore, is picked up by a helicopter that takes them offshore to the wind park. Tickets, boarding, certificates, covid test, PPE, etc. all taken care of and information available in the offshore travel app.

'We pride ourselves on providing outstanding service. HeliOIS is your single point of contact 24/7/365. Call us and we will find a solution for you,' concludes Janni.

□ www.heliOIS.com

