



PRESS RELEASE



Breaking New Ground in Offshore In-Water Surveys: LDA and MaDfly Deploy ROV in Open Sea Operations

Suresnes, France – April 2, 2025 - Louis Dreyfus Armateurs (LDA) and MaDfly are proud to announce a breakthrough in offshore in-water surveys with the successful deployment of a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) in open sea conditions. This pioneering operation was conducted on the service operation vessel (SOV) 'Wind of Hope' next to the Hornsea 2 wind farm in England, marking a significant advancement in offshore inspection technologies.

The innovative in-water survey was performed by MaDfly's expert team under the supervision of the classification society Bureau Veritas. This operation was unique in that it was conducted entirely at sea, without requiring the vessel to halt its ongoing operations or return to port. Despite challenging conditions, including swells of up to 2 meters, MaDfly's ROV technology enabled the survey to be completed swiftly and efficiently.

Game-Changing Advantages

This cutting-edge approach offers multiple advantages over traditional methods:

- **Safety:** Reduced physical risk with no divers at all.
- **Quality:** High-quality results with minimal equipment and resources.
- **Cost-efficiency:** Technology-driven operations have reduced costs by half.
- **Time-saving:** Rapid deployment ensures minimal downtime and precise results.

The success of this operation is highly significant because it paves the way for simplifying inspection planning and execution. This is achieved by minimizing the impact of external factors that can cause delays or reduce the quality of standard techniques. With MaDfly's advanced ROV technology, the operation was completed quickly and seamlessly, with the added benefit of livestreaming the inspection footage to experts around the world.

« We are thrilled with the success of this operation, which showcases our commitment to innovation and excellence in the offshore wind industry. By leveraging advanced ROV technology, we've not only enhanced the safety and efficiency of underwater inspections but also significantly reduced operational costs. This is a game-changer for the industry, and we're excited to continue pushing the boundaries of what's possible,» said **Thierry Guillot, CEO of MaDfly**.

Gaël Cailleaux, Renewables General Manager, Louis Dreyfus Armateurs, commented: *« For LDA, this operation underscores our dedication to providing the highest level of service to the renewable energy sector. The ability to conduct such an inspection without interrupting our vessel's operations is a testament to our commitment to operational excellence and sustainability. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with MaDfly to deliver cutting-edge solutions that meet the demanding needs of our clients,»*

Christophe Chauviere, VP, Bureau Veritas Marine & Offshore, said: *'We were very pleased to be able to conduct a satisfactory in-water survey using the innovation of an ROV with a BV approved service supplier, responding to the operational needs of the client and the realities of wind, waves and currents to help ensure success. We congratulate LDA and MaDFly on their success in using the new technology, providing flexibility with at least the same quality of survey as could be achieved with divers - without the need to put people in the water.'*

Looking Ahead

The success of this IWS at Hornsea 2 highlights the transformative potential of ROV technology in the offshore wind industry. LDA and MaDFly are committed to supporting the renewable energy sector with tailored technological solutions that ensure continuous operation and efficiency.



Images: Left: Wind of hope propeller – © MaDFly / Right: Wind of Hope – © Christophe Beyssier

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About Louis Dreyfus Armateurs

For over 170 years, LOUIS DREYFUS ARMATEURS Group (LDA) has specialised in providing custom industrial maritime solutions with high-added-value activities and integrated services to its clients, ranging from ship design and ship management to maritime operations, in the fields of transport, logistics, submarine cables and renewable energy. LDA is a French family-owned group, offering a worldwide presence with over 3,000 staff and 100 vessels. For more information, visit: www.lda.fr

About MaDFly

MaDFly – Marine Drone Services - offers services to meet the access constraints of the maritime, onshore and offshore environment. We bring the value of the drone for inspection, as well as all the interventions facilitated by this tool, indoor, outdoor and underwater.

Inspection and maintenance of confined spaces and those with limited access (height or other) or underwater is a challenge. With its maritime and industrial experience, MaDFly selects the best innovations to make these dangerous areas accessible in a safer and more efficient way. The human risk, the downtime and the overall cost are reduced. For more information, visit: www.madfly.eu