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MAINTENANCE SIMULATOR A TRAINING TOOL FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF EUROPEAN WIND FARMS

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Project overview

Launched in December 2017, SIMULWIND is an ambitious European funded project aiming at developing a maintenance simulator. It is for general use, open to training of operation and maintenance (O&M) professionals. The project ends on 14 December 2019. The SIMULWIND project receives funding under the <u>ERASMUS + programme</u> of the European Union.

The project is in line with the wind industry's priority for a digital transformation of the sector. It replies to and answers some of the challenges that currently impact the wind farms operation: the need of professional staff and new operational modes for training staff with less costs.

Simulator ready for use!

The final version of the SIMULATOR is available on the <u>project website</u>. The website will host a user's platform to share experiences.

The simulator presents specific situations and cases in a virtual reality way that can occur during the operation of a wind farm. This represents a further step in training operation and

maintenance professionals, as they now can test some real life situations and concepts acquired in different training modules. The simulator offers the possibility for operation and maintenance workers to understand and know the details of a wind turbine before actually starting working onsite. This means a great advancement as it is not always an easy and affordable task in the training phase, particularly for offshore wind turbines.

Pilot tests in Italy, Germany and Spain

Three pilot tests were organised in Italy, Spain and Germany, in the training courses of BZEE, AEE and ANEV. The findings were used to complete the simulator. For more information on the simulator and the pilot tests, please contact the project coordinator at <u>info@bzee.org</u>

European dissemination event, 28 November, Copenhagen, Denmark



AEE presents the simulator



GWO and Deputy Director-General, DG RTD, Patrick Child at SIMULWIND event

WindEurope organised a dissemination event in Copenhagen alongside the WindEurope Offshore 2019 <u>event</u>. At this workshop, experts addressed the industry training needs with regard to virtual reality (VR)/ online training tools and new procedures for skilled operation and maintenance professionals.

The event featured the presentation of the simulator, its context and final result, followed by a high level panel debate. The VR simulator developed in Simulwind is a customizable and adaptable tool that can be altered to the need of the training and the type of wind turbine. Starting from the simulator, the Spanish Wind Energy Association, Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy, Vattenfall and GWO discussed the role of virtual reality tools for training future wind professionals and current training needs. According to experts, virtual reality still has a long way to go before it is completely included as a normal part of training in the wind energy sector, but it offers many possibilities.

Project meetings

Fifth project meeting, Brussels, December 2019



The final project meeting took place in Brussels on 4 December 2019. The partners discussed the pilot test phases and the national and transnational events. They focused on the feedback received and the



Project Consortium



For more information on the project please contact the project leader BZEE at <u>info@bzee.org</u> or visit the <u>project website</u>

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