



# Merkur Offshore Windfarm

Hempel is protecting a new North Sea windfarm that will power half a million homes by the end of this year.

Windfarms are one of the most exciting modern developments. As a relatively new sector, wind power offers an opportunity to contribute to state-of-the-art technology while protecting the planet, so Hempel was delighted to be selected to coat these gigantic structures for the North Sea's Merkur Windfarm.

Jointly constructing the turbines' transition pieces on behalf of main contractor GeoSea were Windar and Idesa, both part of the Daniel Alonso group. Idesa was entrusted with creating the tubular structures which link the generator and the base as it is one of the most respected companies in the world with regards to the design, production and supply of static and modular equipment, and one of its areas of expertise is to provide top quality steel foundations for offshore windfarms.

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The transition pieces have been constructed far from the North Sea in Spain's Valliniello Quay. Each one of them is 28 m tall and 14 m wide and weighs 260 tonnes. Getting them to their final destination was no mean feat, but locals got used to seeing the bright yellow tubes travel vertically in a special Rolldock Sea boat along the Avilés River. The windfarm will be supplying energy to half a million homes each year by the end of 2019.

Hempel is always delighted to be involved in projects with this sort of scale and vision and, given the bitterly cold, corrosive conditions of the North Sea, it was essential the Merkur Windfarm was supplied with coatings it knew it could rely on. 'Agrapisa', 'Emesa' and 'Pinturas Sabi' were the companies entrusted to apply the selected Hempel paint system, which was specially designed for cold climates and uses around 160,000 litres of Hempadur Multi-Strength 45753, Hempadur Multi-Strength 45703 and Hempthane HS 55610. The first of those products, for example, is a self-priming, two-component, high build pure epoxy which cures to an abrasion and corrosion resistant coating, making it the ideal solution for the location.

Hempel is proud that its paints have been selected for such an important venture. It speaks to the reliability and protective qualities of our coating systems that they have been trusted to weather the bitter conditions of the North Sea for years to come so that half a million homes can enjoy clean energy.



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