



MAERSK
TRAINING

Transitioning to the Offshore Wind Industry:

A Guide for the Armed Forces Community



Introduction

As the global demand for renewable energy rapidly grows, the offshore wind sector has become a key player, helping service leavers, veterans, and their families navigate its landscape and highlighting the exciting career paths within this thriving industry.

Maersk Training helps with the transition of Armed Forces veterans into the renewable energy sector, recognising the invaluable skills and disciplines they bring. The offshore wind industry, backed by governmental and private investment, stands as a testament to sustainable growth, with a considerable portion of its workforce comprised of those who have served in the military. This guide seeks to illuminate the path for those considering a leap into this dynamic and impactful industry.



The Offshore Wind Industry Overview

The offshore wind sector represents a crucial component of the UK's renewable energy strategy, harnessing the nation's high wind speeds and maritime advantages. It's an industry marked by rapid expansion, innovation, and a commitment to sustainability. With projects ranging from fixed bottom to floating wind farms, the sector not only promises a sustainable energy future but also a wealth of job opportunities across various stages of wind farm development, from planning and construction to operations and maintenance.

The industry is structured around key players including developers, operators, manufacturers, and a broad supply chain, ensuring a diverse range of roles suitable for various skills and backgrounds. As the sector evolves, especially with the advent of floating wind technologies, the demand for skilled professionals is set to rise, presenting an opportune moment for service leavers and veterans to transition into rewarding careers in offshore wind.

Transitioning from HM Forces

The transition from the Armed Forces to the civilian workforce can be a pivotal moment, and the offshore wind sector offers a promising avenue for those seeking stable, fulfilling careers post-service. The sector values the transferable skills that veterans bring, including leadership, problem-solving, and technical expertise, aligning with the industry's needs for discipline, adaptability, and teamwork.

Whether drawn to technical roles such as wind turbine technicians or managerial positions overseeing project development, the industry accommodates a wide range of aspirations and

backgrounds. Importantly, the geographical spread of offshore wind projects offers flexibility in terms of location, with significant clusters around the UK's coastlines, particularly in the east of England and Scotland, as well as opportunities for international assignments.



Careers in Offshore Wind

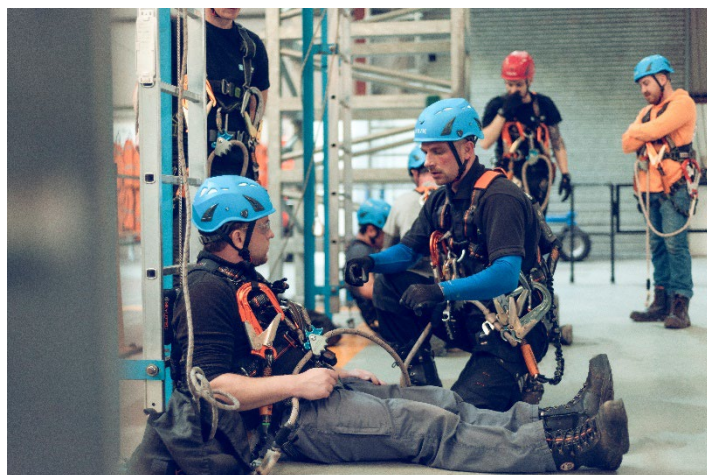
The offshore wind sector encompasses a variety of roles throughout the lifecycle of a wind farm project, including:

- **Construction and Installation:** Roles such as cable jointers, crane operators, and marine engineers play a critical part in the establishment of wind farms.
- **Operations and Maintenance:** From wind turbine technicians to dive supervisors, professionals ensure the smooth and efficient running of wind farms.
- **Support Functions:** Positions in project management, health and safety, legal, and human resources contribute to the overarching success of wind farm projects.

For those transitioning from the Armed Forces, understanding the scope of available roles and the qualifications required is crucial. While some positions may demand specific technical skills or certifications, many others leverage the leadership, strategic thinking, and operational expertise cultivated through military service.

Training and Qualifications

Transitioning into the offshore wind industry may require additional training or qualifications, depending on the desired role. The Global Wind Organisation (GWO) Basic Safety Training (BST) is



a fundamental requirement for offshore work, covering essential safety and emergency procedures. Further technical training, such as the GWO Basic Technical Training (BTT) or specific qualifications in electrical or mechanical engineering, may enhance employability in technical roles.

Service leavers should explore funding options for training, including Enhanced Learning Credits

(ELCs), Individual Resettlement Training Costs (IRTC), Green Skills Bootcamp and grants from military charities. Employers in the offshore wind sector may also offer training programs to bridge any skills gaps, recognizing the value of military experience in fostering a skilled and disciplined workforce.

Why is the Renewable Energy Sector a Game Changer for Service Leavers?

Picture this: the UK government is on a mission to supercharge renewable energy tech, paving the way for energy independence and slashing carbon emissions. As this green revolution gains momentum, there's a mad scramble for skilled hands—hands like yours, fresh from military service, brimming with talent and drive.

But why should you care? Well, let us break it down for you:

Pro Tip:

Spruce up your CV with your top skills front and centre. Make it so easy for hiring managers that they can't resist giving you that call!

Skills Switch: Think of the renewable energy industry as a skills playground. Companies here are hungry for expertise, constantly investing in training and development. And guess what? Your military stint has armed you with good soft skills—think problem-solving, teamwork, and communication—that are like gold dust in this arena. With a little trade training, you're set to become the MVP (Most Valuable Player) in their team.

Pay Checks: Salaries in renewable energy often tower over the national average, and for good reason. Take an Offshore Wind Electrical technician, for example. With the right credentials, you could be looking at a starting salary that could make anywhere from £30,000 to £60,000!

Role Variety: Bored of the same old grind? Say no more. The renewable energy sector offers a variety of roles tailor-made for your military background. From Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) to wielding wrenches as Mechanical Technicians, from calling the shots in Project Management to running operations like a boss—there's something for everyone.

And here's the kicker: these gigs come in all shapes and sizes, from your standard 9-to-5 to thrilling offshore adventures with monthly shift rotations.

Pro Tip:

Don't just fixate on the wind turbines. There's a whole ecosystem out there, with companies from various sectors joining forces to make magic happen. Your dream job might just be waiting for you in a supplier's office!

Moving Forward

Embarking on a career in the offshore wind industry is a journey of exploration, learning, and adaptation. Networking, leveraging resettlement resources, and engaging with industry-specific training are key steps in transitioning successfully. As the industry continues to grow, the demand for skilled, adaptable, and resilient professionals will only increase, making the offshore wind sector a promising horizon for veterans and service leavers seeking to contribute to a sustainable energy future while building rewarding civilian careers.



This guide serves as a starting point for those interested in the offshore wind industry, offering insights, advice, and encouragement to the Armed Forces community. As you navigate your transition, remember the unique skills and experiences you bring to the table, and consider the offshore wind industry as a vibrant field where you can continue to grow, contribute, and make a difference.

So, what are you waiting for? The renewable energy world is calling, and it's time for you to answer!