

# TRITON KNOLL PRESS RELEASE

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## **Growing East Coast firm pledges new jobs after Triton Knoll contract award**

- **SMC to supply marine coordination, technician and inspection services during construction**
- **Contract can support local jobs and international growth**

UP TO 35 new jobs could be created in the Grimsby coastal community as Triton Knoll continues to drive investment into the region's rapidly expanding offshore support sector.

Bridlington-based Specialist Marine Consultants Ltd (SMC) is the latest local company to be awarded a contract by the Triton Knoll Offshore Wind Farm project, which is led by innogy.

The company says this latest contract will provide much needed experience for new and upcoming talent in the industry and will help SMC grow a workforce for the future - strengthening its expertise and competitiveness in global markets like Japan and Taiwan.

Julian Garnsey, Project Director for Triton Knoll and innogy, said the contract was great for the project and for the local area: *"SMC is a competitive company with ambitions for growth in offshore wind, having transitioned from the oil and gas industry into the renewables sector.*

*"We are very pleased to have their expertise onboard at Triton Knoll and to be supporting their growth and all that brings with it – opportunities for jobs and for investment into the north east coastal region.*

*"The commitment of Triton Knoll to engage local, competitive businesses is a direct reflection of our desire to help develop the UK supply chain's capability and encourage the export of UK offshore wind expertise around the world."*

Triton Knoll is a state-of-the-art 857MW offshore wind farm, consisting of 90 of the world's most powerful turbines, and representing a significant investment in new UK energy infrastructure.

Offshore construction is due to start in Q1 2020, during which SMC will provide marine coordination services. They will also provide some 30 site technicians to maintain the offshore foundations and assets, which includes the statutory inspections and testing requirements for the assets to remain in service and accessible. In addition to the personnel supply, SMC shall be providing, managing and re-certifying specialist offshore Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), and will also be responsible for Triton Knoll's inspection requirements for the vessels required to build the wind farm located 20 miles out in the North Sea.

The offshore activity will take place out of Triton Knoll's new, multi-million-pound base being constructed in Grimsby, and which is already the focal point for recruitment and training both for the project and for SMC.

Captain Ian Coates established SMC in 2006 and it has since grown from a single employee to a business of over 170 people at peak times, with teams now located and leading projects around the world.

He said: *“This contract award with Triton Knoll is fantastic; a real milestone for us.*

*“It is an important step in our ambitions for growth, and means we now have the chance to employ more people from the area. Locally, we would hope to create around 35 jobs through the construction period – bringing new people into the sector and hopefully retaining them to work on future projects. We will also be investing in kit from local regional and UK suppliers, as well as using local vessel inspectors.*

*“Offshore wind offers some great, long-term opportunities for young people, with the chance of jobs for life and fantastic opportunities for progression. Contracts like this with Triton Knoll mean we can give new people a taste of offshore life and hopefully develop and integrate them into both our own business and the wider sector.”*

Located 32km off the Lincolnshire coast, Triton Knoll is the largest offshore wind farm currently in construction by innogy and once fully operational will be capable generating renewable energy equivalent to the needs of over 800,000 typical UK households. (2)

The project is owned by innogy (59%), J-Power (25%) and Kansai Electric Power (16%), with innogy managing the construction as well as the long-term operation and maintenance works, on behalf of its project partners.

For more information about the project, please visit: [www.tritonknoll.co.uk](http://www.tritonknoll.co.uk)

**Ends**

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**(1) Energy Generation**

It is estimated that the average annual generation expected at the site could be equivalent to the approximate domestic needs of an expected minimum of 800,000 average UK households.

Energy predicted to be generated by the proposal is derived using wind speeds monitored in the local area and correlated with long term reference data. The energy capture predicted, and hence derived homes equivalent figure may change as further data are gathered.

Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4100 kWh. This figure is supported by recent domestic electricity consumption data available from The Digest of UK Energy Statistics and household figures from the UK National Statistics Authority.