



CASE STUDY

Lead logistics partner - offshore wind

A 6-month update on the integrated logistics services Peterson Energy Logistics is delivering for the Sofia Offshore Wind Farm.



TRUST WELL PLACED

PETERSON

PROJECT DETAILS

Start	September 2024
End	Ongoing
Location	Southern North Sea



CHALLENGE

Delivery of the lead logistics scope for the Sofia Offshore Wind Farm, one of the largest offshore wind farms in the world.



SOLUTION

Development of a customised, multi-location logistics strategy (including innovation in helicopter accessibility) to optimise the efficiency of operations.



RESULTS

The project has kicked off with success, resulting in cost savings of up to 60% per shared cargo voyage, significant CO2 savings, and streamlined operations for the client.



This case study provides a reflection of progress on the scope of work Peterson Energy Logistics is carrying out for the Sofia Offshore Wind Farm project in the Southern North Sea on behalf of its client GE Vernova.

Built on a partnership approach and supported by Peterson's turnkey logistics solutions, this update highlights key achievements, proactive strategies, and seamless collaboration, all of which are driving the success of the project.

IMPLEMENTATION & ADJUSTMENTS

At the outset of the project, Peterson Energy Logistics developed a customised, multi-location logistics strategy tailored to optimise the efficiency of operations between the UK and mainland Europe. Some notable aspects of the initial approach include:

- **Flight routes from Den Helder and Norwich:** By offering flight routes from two strategically located bases, Peterson enabled more efficient workforce mobilisation, reducing travel time and costs. This geographical advantage ensured that personnel were quickly deployed, enhancing overall operational efficiency.
- **Maintaining workforce continuity:** One key step to ensure project stability was the introduction of a retention bonus strategy. This initiative successfully addressed the potential for turnover, keeping essential subcontractors on the project and maintaining continuity. It was a proactive, strategic decision that prevented delays and kept operations on track.
- **Adaptability in procurement:** Peterson's flexible procurement system allowed for quick sourcing and delivery of critical equipment, keeping offshore operations running smoothly. This flexibility is an essential part of Peterson's ability to swiftly address evolving project needs and ensure uninterrupted progress.
- **Emergency response rescue vessel:** In the initial phase of the project, Peterson secured the Emergency Response Rescue Vessel (ERRV) for two 15-day contracts. However, recognising the increasing operational requirements, Peterson successfully extended this arrangement to a 13-month contract. This proactive decision ensures continuous availability of a critical resource for emergency situations, contributing to both safety and operational efficiency.
- **Helicopter capacity challenges:** The project has faced occasional helicopter capacity shortages, which had the potential to delay operations. To mitigate this risk, Peterson has implemented backup contracts for additional helicopter capacity, ensuring a more reliable offshore workforce mobilisation during high-demand periods.



PROACTIVE INNOVATION IN HELICOPTER ACCESSIBILITY

Peterson Energy Logistics has taken a proactive approach to improving offshore helicopter accessibility under high-wind conditions, an ongoing challenge in the North Sea. Under current regulations, helicopter landings are restricted when wind speeds exceed 20 knots, which can cause delays across the industry.

Recognising the operational impact of this limitation, Peterson has initiated independent collaboration with aviation partners and specialised pilots to test solutions aimed at lifting these restrictions. This initiative, separate from client requests, has the potential to significantly enhance offshore accessibility, not only for GE Vernova but for the broader wind farm industry. Through these efforts, Peterson is driving innovation that could improve operational efficiency for all future offshore projects in the region.

MEASURED IMPACT

As the project progresses, several measurable impacts have been realised, showcasing the effectiveness of Peterson's approach:

- **Cost savings:** Peterson's innovative SNS Pool shared cargo strategy has achieved significant cost reductions, with savings of up to 60% per shared cargo voyage. This model not only benefits GE Vernova financially but also minimises reliance on the volatile spot market, making logistics costs more predictable and stable.
- **Environmental impact:** By reducing the number of cargo runs through the shared cargo approach, Peterson has contributed significantly to CO₂ savings, aligning the project with sustainability objectives and enhancing its environmental responsibility.
- **Operational efficiency:** Early performance data shows that Peterson's approach has streamlined operations for GE Vernova, reducing administrative burdens and allowing the team to focus on its core activities. This ongoing partnership continues to provide long-term operational efficiency, beyond just financial savings.



Our partnership with GE Vernova exemplifies how integrated logistics and proactive innovation drive real impact in offshore energy projects.

By addressing challenges like helicopter access and optimising shared cargo strategies, Peterson is not just delivering solutions—we're shaping the future of offshore logistics.



Steef Ritzema,
Managing Director at Peterson Energy Logistics



KEY TAKEAWAYS & LEARNINGS

Over the past six months, Peterson has made key adjustments to ensure ongoing success.

Demonstrating unwavering commitment, Peterson goes the extra mile by being available 24/7 as a strategic partner. Providing turnkey, integrated logistics solutions—spanning marine, aviation, road transport, warehousing, personnel provision, and customs management—has streamlined coordination for GE Vernova, enhancing project execution and minimising complexity. Key learnings include:

- **Proactive problem-solving:** Challenges like helicopter access during high-wind conditions have underscored Peterson's adaptability. Our proactive approach to lifting the 20-knot restrictions showcases our commitment to innovation and operational excellence.
- **Integrated logistics:** With skilled personnel across specialties—ranging from OEM reps to crane drivers and mechanical engineers—Peterson has ensured a seamless operational presence, providing unmatched reliability and efficiency across the project.

- **Sustainability gains:** By leveraging shared cargo runs, we've reduced costs significantly and the project's carbon footprint, aligning with GE Vernova's sustainability goals.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Looking ahead, Peterson will build on the solid foundation established in the first six months. Key priorities include:

- **Helicopter access:** Peterson will continue working with aviation partners to improve offshore accessibility and lift the 20-knot restriction, minimising weather-related delays.
- **Shared cargo strategy:** We will further optimise the SNS Pool strategy to maximise cost savings and environmental benefits for GE Vernova.
- **Service enhancements:** Peterson will introduce new service improvements, such as backup helicopter agreements and ensuring full regulatory compliance, strengthening operational resilience.

As our partnership with GE Vernova progresses, we remain focused on innovation, operational excellence, and sustainability to ensure the continued success of the offshore wind farm project.

