Matthieu Van Damme

Freelance Offshore Wind Transport & Installation / Interface Manager
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Freelance offshore wind T&I and interface manager (VMAT BV) combining contractor-side delivery experience at Jan De Nul Group with owner-side package management for Les Éoliennes en Mer. Covers foundations (monopile, jacket, pin piles), offshore substations and inter-array cables, from installation engineering and operational readiness through offshore execution as superintendent. Full GWO, HUET and offshore medical in place; fluent English, French and Dutch; available for international assignments.

SKILLS

- Offshore wind T&I: monopile and jacket foundations, pin piles, pile driving, grouting, scour protection, offshore substations (OSS), inter-array cables (IAC)
- Operational readiness and offshore execution: cable laying, pull-ins, trenching, termination & testing, heavy-lift installation, superintendent duties
- Interface management between project packages (FOU, WTG, OSS, Grid, IAC) and with contractors, marine warranty surveyors and authorities; T&I contract management (FIDIC; EPCI and multi-contracting)
- Installation documentation: method statements, risk assessments, lift plans, permits to work, readiness reviews
- Tendering, contract drafting and negotiation (BIMCO charter parties, FIDIC-based contracts), vessel selection and chartering
- Offshore certification: Full GWO, HUET CA-EBS, OGUK and STCW medical, VCA-VOL, Chester step
- Freelance via VMAT BV (Belgium); mobile across Europe and Asia-Pacific; fluent English, French, Dutch

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

IAC Interface & Operations Manager Dec 2025 – Present

Les Éoliennes en Mer Services (Ocean Winds / Sumitomo Corporation project company), via VMAT BV (freelance) | Paris, France

Projects: Îles d'Yeu et de Noirmoutier OWF and Dieppe Le Tréport OWF, France

- Owner's single point of contact for all interfaces between the Inter-Array Cable (IAC) package, procured as a single EPCI contract, and the Foundations (FOU), Wind Turbine Generator (WTG), Offshore Substation (OSS), Grid and CONS packages across two offshore wind farms.
- Drive owner-side operational readiness for the IAC Transport & Installation (T&I) phase: cable laying, end pull-ins, trenching, scour protection and termination & testing (T&T).
- Review contractor installation documentation (method statements, risk assessments, installation procedures) and track interface deliverables, actions and risks in line with project HSE requirements.
- Procurement and contracts for the IAC stabilisation scopes: drafted and negotiated a BIMCO charter party with N-Sea for the vessel EDT Protea (temporary stabilisation, rock bag installation), including vessel selection; now tendering, drafting and negotiating the rock bag removal contract and the permanent stabilisation (rock berm) installation contract.
- Operate within a multinational owner's organisation (Ocean Winds / Sumitomo Corporation joint venture) alongside French, European and Japanese stakeholders.

OSS Transport & Installation Manager Aug 2024 – Nov 2025

Les Éoliennes en Mer Services (Ocean Winds / Sumitomo Corporation project company), via VMAT BV (freelance) | Paris, France

- Owner's T&I manager for the Offshore Substation (OSS) packages of two offshore wind farms: pre-piled jacket foundation at Îles d'Yeu et de Noirmoutier and post-piled jacket foundation at Dieppe Le Tréport.
- Foundation scope covered pin pile installation, pile driving and grouted jacket connections for both pre-piled and post-piled configurations, followed by topside installation.
- Managed the OSS T&I contracts post-FID on behalf of the owner under a multi-contracting strategy (not EPCI): jacket fabricator Navantia, topside fabricator Chantiers de l'Atlantique and installation contractor DEME. Contractor performance monitoring, schedule and readiness reviews, approval of method statements, risk assessments and lift plans.
- Tendered, negotiated and drafted the contract for OSS scour protection installation.

- Managed interfaces between the OSS fabricators, the installation contractor, the electrical and foundation packages, the marine warranty surveyor and authorities.

Senior Project Engineer & Superintendent – Offshore Renewables T&I

Sep 2019 – Aug 2024

Jan De Nul Group | Brussels, Belgium and offshore

- Thor OWF (RWE, Denmark): monopile (MP) foundation T&I – installation engineering and execution preparation for RWE's offshore wind farm in the Danish North Sea.
- Borkum Riffgrund 3 & Gode Wind 3 OWF (Ørsted, Germany): monopile foundation T&I from marshalling port operations through offshore installation and handover.
- Formosa 2 OWF (Taiwan): pre-piled jacket (JKT) foundation T&I – pin pile installation, pile driving and jacket installation with grouted connections, from the marshalling port in Taichung to offshore installation in the Taiwan Strait.
- TPC Offshore Wind Farm Phase 1 (Taiwan Power Company, Changhua, Taiwan): onshore logistics for the pre-piled jacket foundation T&I scope as project engineer – marshalling port and yard operations.
- Offshore superintendent on heavy-lift installation vessels, supervising installation operations and contractor and subcontractor crews in compliance with HSE and permit to work systems.
- Prepared and reviewed method statements, risk assessments, lift plans and installation procedures; interfaced with developer (client) teams, marine warranty surveyors, fabricators and port authorities.
- Worked in multinational project teams across Denmark, Germany, Taiwan and Belgium.

Project Finance Analyst – Energy Sector Sep 2017 – Aug 2019

KPMG | Brussels, Belgium

- Financial modelling and transaction advisory for energy infrastructure projects.
- Supported due diligence and project finance structuring for energy-sector clients.

Investment Banking Intern Sep 2016 – Sep 2017

BNP Paribas CIB | Brussels, Belgium

- Financial analysis and transaction support within corporate and investment banking.

CERTIFICATIONS

- GWO Basic Safety Training – full module set, incl. Working at Heights and Sea Survival (Global Wind Organisation)
- HUET with CA-EBS (Helicopter Underwater Escape Training)
- OGUK Offshore Medical and STCW Medical
- VCA-VOL – Operationeel Leidinggevenden (safety certificate for operational supervisors)
- B0/H0/H0V electrical safety habilitation (NF C18-510, France)
- Chester Step Test

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, option Aerospace Engineering 2015

KU Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven), Leuven, Belgium

Advanced Master of Financial Markets, Magna Cum Laude 2017

Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, Brussels, Belgium

CFA Level 1 (passed, 90th percentile) 2019

CFA Institute

LANGUAGES

Dutch (native) · English (fluent, full business) · French (fluent, full business) · German (basic) · Japanese (beginner, studying)