



PROVIDING HELP. SAVING LIVES.

About WINDEAcare

Providing medical care to workers on offshore wind farms is an important component of wind farm safety. Because a colleague who does not feel well can be a safety risk! In addition to work-related accidents, illnesses can occur at any time, from a slight cold to strokes or heart attacks or even major trauma. But medical infrastructure like that on land is not readily available in offshore work environments.

While previous concepts only offered individual modules, WINDEAcare now offers a **holistic and practical medical care concept**, all from a single source. We provide appropriate assistance from minor ailments that can be diagnosed and treated via telemedicine to life-threatening injuries and difficult rescue situations. Numerous experienced and established service providers have come together in close partnership to provide this comprehensive range of services. We offer a unique, interdisciplinary combination of expertise in the fields of medicine, emergency services, nautical sciences, aviation, firefighting and wind energy.

WINDEAcare is not a separate company, but a product that exists through cooperation of the partner companies, each of whom acting independently. The product WINDEAcare is sold by WINDEA Offshore GmbH & Co. KG. Any and all joint and several liabilities (*Gesamtschuldnerische Haftung*) of the partner companies being involved is excluded.



Figure 1: Partners of the WINDEAcare cooperation

Interdisciplinary Emergency Rescue Management

Considering the worst case before it occurs – and being structured and prepared. Modern emergency rescue management can no longer function without structured decision-making processes. WINDEAcare provides support for the development of concepts for emergency rescue management by using its know-how from national and international implementation expertise. In addition to gathering sound data, the goal is the combination with best practice concepts and thus developing concepts which may also applied in practice and which work well, even when time is the critical factor.

Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS)



Due to the considerable distances that have to overcome in offshore emergency situations, time plays a major role. It is therefore important to reach the patient as quickly as possible and deliver treatment within the timeframes critical for patient survival. The helicopters used (Eurocopter AS 365 N3 / EC 155 B1) boast the latest technology and modern emergency medical equipment such as monitors, ventilators, ultrasound, mechanical CPR device, etc.

The offshore rescue station in the North Sea is located in St. Peter-Ording. For the Baltic Sea region, a rescue helicopter is stationed in Gütting on the Island Rugia. Both stations are staffed 24/7 with a flight and medical crew and ensure short flight times to the wind farms. In the event of a technical failure of one helicopter, an equivalent replacement is always on stand-by.

Emergency Dispatch & Medical Support Centre



JOHANNITER

The emergency dispatch & medical support centre works closely with wind farm operations centres. Standard operation procedures are followed to ensure continuous information updates from the wind farm to the emergency dispatch & medical support centre. Together with the information provided during the emergency call, the team obtains a complete overview of the situation.

Likewise, the necessary procedures for interactive communication with governmental authorities (CCME, MRCC, etc.) are coordinated. As a result, the support centre can quickly and reliably integrate government rescue teams into the emergency response by working in close coordination with their management teams. The same applies to networking with the medical services of other wind farms.

Paramedic on site (German: Notfallsanitäter)



JOHANNITER

In order to give employees in the wind farms a sense of security and wellbeing, it must be possible to seek medical advice at all times. In addition, the first response in case of emergency must be quick. These tasks are carried out by the paramedic who acts as the interface between first aid and the emergency medical care of a physician. The paramedic is integrated into the operating processes of the wind farm, platforms or vessels and thus becomes part of the preventive medical care. At any time, he can seek the advice of an emergency physician by telemedicine consultation, so that they can perform any necessary treatments, especially in life-threatening emergencies, until the arrival of the rescue helicopter, including those treatments which are normally reserved for a physician, such as supply of highly potent painkillers.

The paramedic plays an important role not only in emergency rescue care. Often technicians become ill during their 14-day offshore operation and have no access to their family doctor. Also, in this case the medical treatment of the patient can be carried out by means of telemedicine, without having to be flown ashore with a rescue helicopter.

Telemedicine

In order to bridge the distance in space and time between specialist physician and patient in offshore wind farms and to close medical care gaps, Klinikum Oldenburg AöR have established a centre for telemedicine: Emergency physicians at the clinic of maximum care assess without delay the clinical situation of patients, make diagnoses, make further therapeutic decisions and direct the first-aider offshore or the paramedic on site.



Firefighting

Maritime firefighting is characterised by many special features, which is why specialists and special equipment are absolutely necessary. For example, long distances to the mainland often must be covered and complex technical conditions require special extinguishing procedures. Falck Fire Services offers an extensive portfolio for this demanding environment.



First-aider Offshore Training

For us emergency rescue does not only start when a case of emergency occurs, but already with the training of the employees, who may act as first-aiders if a colleague is injured or ill. Therefore, we train technicians to become first-aiders offshore. The contents of the trainings are in accordance with the current DGUV and GWO guidelines as well as the guidelines by the European Resuscitation Council. The special focus of our trainings lies on the practical approach and includes i.a. also the handling of telemedicine.



Alternative Means of Evacuation

In the event that rescue via helicopter is not possible due to bad weather conditions, an alternative rescue by ship is planned in advance and a suitable vessel, which is used in the wind farm for daily tasks (e.g. for crew transfers, etc.), is prepared accordingly for the transport of patients.

