



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 from a slight cold to strokes or heart attacks can occur at any time. On land there is quick access to medical care - but such infrastructure 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**, from a single source. We provide appropriate assistance for minor ailments that can be diagnosed and treated via telemedicine or 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 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 – while being structured and well 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 data gathering, the goal is to connect with best practice concepts and thus developing approaches that are also applied in practice and even work when time is the critical factor.

Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS)



Due to the considerable distances that have to be 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, and mechanical CPR device.

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 to 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.

Paramedic on site (German: Notfallsanitäter)



JOHANNITER

In order to offer safety and wellbeing to the employees in the wind farm, it must be possible to obtain medical advice at any time. 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, the paramedic can seek the advice of an emergency physician by telemedicine consultation and perform any necessary treatments – including those which are normally reserved for a physician, such as supply of highly potent painkillers. This is especially vital in life-threatening emergencies to bridge the time until the arrival of the rescue helicopter.

The paramedic not only plays an important role in emergency rescue care. Often technicians fall ill during their 14-day offshore operation and have no access to their general practitioner. In this case, the paramedic can conduct the patient's medical treatment by means of telemedicine, without them 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 a maximum care hospital assess the clinical situation of patients without any time delay, make diagnoses, further therapeutic decisions and direct the first-aider offshore or the paramedic on site.

First-aider Offshore Training



JOHANNITER

To us emergency rescue does not start in case of an emergency, 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 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.