



June 2011:

30th OMAE Conference & the Floating Wind Turbine Challenge

In January 2010, MARIN already started its efforts to organise the OMAE 2011 conference, together with the Dutch offshore industry. A group of around 30 young engineers from various Dutch offshore companies have volunteered their services to ensure that the upcoming OMAE is a dynamic and stimulating event.

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This enthusiastic group of youngsters are organising many interesting events such as the welcome reception and a tour through Rotterdam harbour and there will be a lot of extra activities planned outside of the conference programme. To enjoy this interesting conference and to have a chance to visit the Dutch offshore industry and experience the Netherlands in summertime, we would like to invite you to join OMAE 2011 (www.omae2011.com).

During the OMAE week technical tours will be organised to IHC shipyards and MARIN. To complement the technical sessions of the 30th OMAE in Rotterdam, MARIN and the International Network on Offshore Renewable Energy (INORE), have organised a design and build contest, the "Floating Wind Turbine Challenge".

This challenge consists of developing and testing a small-scale, floating structure for a wind turbine in 24 hours! Small teams of students and young researchers will make their floating turbines on-the-spot and then their scaled models will be tested in the

Shallow Water basin of MARIN. During the MARIN technical visit, on the last day of the OMAE, the winning design of the Floating Wind Turbine Challenge will be announced and visitors will be able to see the contest entrants test their designs.

INORE brings together young researchers from around the world to meet, collaborate and share knowledge on renewable energy. Spurred on by the conviction that shipbuilding and offshore knowledge can be applied to new technology in offshore renewable energy, MARIN formed the Renewable Energy Team (RENT) in mid-2009. Members of this RENT team soon came across INORE's representatives at conferences and they were very impressed with the level of enthusiasm and dynamism of INORE. It is very gratifying that MARIN has found a good partner in INORE to contribute to the long-term development of offshore renewable energy. □

Competition registration is via the INORE website at www.inore.org/events/fwtchallenge.