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The Pelamis Wave Energy Converter

A phased array of heave + surge point absorbers

Max Carcas, Business Development Director



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Pelamis WEC technology - CONCEPT

- Articulated cylinder
- Swings head-on to incident waves
- 4 x main segments, 3 x joints
- Wave induced joint motion resisted to absorb power







140m long, 3.5m diameter
750kW rated power
Capacity factor 0.25-0.4

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Pelamis WEC technology – POWER TRAIN



3 x 2-axis, 250kW rated 'POWER CONVERSION MODULES'
Hydraulic rams pump fluid into smoothing accumulators
Hydraulic motors drive induction generators to generate STEADY OUTPUT

PROVEN, AVAILABLE & EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGY & COMPONENTS

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Pelamis WEC technology - Features

PELAMIS Features

- Offshore deployment
- Inherent survivability
- Highest power capture/unit weight
- Available technology
- INDEPENDENTLY VERIFIED

- Forecastable output
- Negligible visual intrusion
- Minimal environmental impact
- Minimum on-site construction work
- Off-site maintenance

Experimental and numerical modelling



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Pelamis WEC technology – SURVIVABILITY



- Small cross-section, finite length, streamlined form, compliant moorings
- Self-limiting 'hydrostatic loading' => limits absorbed power in large waves
- Almost invisible to 'hydrodynamic loading' in large seas
- Too short to react against extreme storm waves

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CF16539GG 1

Extreme '100 year' wave – 28m wave height



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Full-scale production prototype - Development



Rigorous, staged & efficient R&D

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Full-scale operation



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Production prototype – Specifics

- 750kW production prototype
- Outsourced fabrication with assembly and operation undertaken by OPD
- Proven company processes have successfully 'prototyped OPD'
- Launched and tested April 2004
- 4 sets of sea trials
- Installed at EMEC August 2004
- 1,000 hours operation recorded
- Concept, handling, operation and control confirmed
- Initial teething problems resolved
- Power capture and conversion in line with prediction



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PROJECTS



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Enersis – Project #1



Enersis

- Portugal's largest developer of renewable projects
- Subsidiary of Semapa
- Aim to be Portugal's leading wave developer
- Project phase 1:
- Three Pelamis P1A machines
- 2.25 MW
- 5km off Aguçadoura
- 50m water depth
- Cable + substation in place



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Enersis – Project expansion

Phase 1

- Three Pelamis P1A 750KW machines
- Production underway
- Permitting and consents secured

Phase 2

- Letter of intent
- Expand project to 24MW
- Grid connection rights secured

Phase 3

Multi-site deployment

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Production for Portugal

Order – 3 x P-1A 750kW machines

Main tube fabricator: Main tube castings: Power module fabricator: Hydraulic rams: Accumulators: Generator Pack:

Assembly/commissioning:





Camcal

RDI

Hystat

FCH

Hytec

OPD

Goodwins





Production of 3 machines progressing to cost and schedule

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Ross Deeptech - Stonehaven



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Fife energy park - Methil



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Camcal - Lewis





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Scotland





Major international utility UK's largest wind developer



Developer of UK's first offshore and Europe's largest wind-farm (700MW) in Western Isles

- Consortium development
- Plan: phased 22.5MW wave farm
- Grid connection applied for
- Target: first stage 2005/6
- Key DTI/Scottish Executive market enablement mechanisms

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South West England

Wave Hub

Cornwall

- £1.5m Consenting and permitting
- 20MW (30MW ultimately)
- Initially allocated in 5MW tranches
- Anticipated 2007

Ocean Prospect

- Expression of interest for 5MW at Wave Hub
- In discussion about larger UK project
- Overseas opportunities





United States







Electrical Power Research Institute

- Public/private project part funded by DOE, NREL and individual states
- Project: five state wave energy sites in Maine, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Massachusetts + city of San Francisco
- Pelamis selected by EPRI as system currently recommended for deployment.
- Target installation 2007
- Funding for ocean energy approved in recent Energy bill

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MARKET POTENTIAL



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Global market



WORLD

eg UK

- > 2000 TWh/yr, £500bn CAPEX (c.f. existing hydro & nuclear)
- > 80 TWh/yr (~20%), >£20bn CAPEX
- eg Portugal > 12 TWh/yr (~25%), >£5bn CAPEX

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Cost barriers

Cost reduction drivers:

- Technological advances
- Cost of capital
- Economies of scale



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Cost reduction – Driving down the costs



Other potential market opportunities

- Off grid
- Oil and gas generation
- Oil and gas pumping
- Desalination



Source World Resources 2000-2001, People and Ecosystems: The Fraying Web of Life, World Resources Institute (WRI), Weshington DC, 2000



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