Floating Wind Solutions

Meeting the Anchoring Challenges for Floating Wind

Tom Fulton, Head of Renewables and Mooring Development









Oil and gas

From pre-development to decommissioning, we maximise cost efficiencies by providing our customers with all-in-one project support and reducing project footprint while minimising environmental impact.

Offshore renewable energy

Our integrated engineering solutions optimise capital and operating expenditure to lower the life-cycle levellised cost of energy, and include large and floating structures.



Nearshore construction

Our deep domain knowledge leads to innovative nearshore construction installation methods, increased efficiencies and decreased costs.



Site characterisation

- 1/ ROV and AUV surveys
- 2/ Geotechnical and geophysical surveys
- 3/ Geotechnical consultancy

Engineering

- Global coupled performance analysis
- 5/ Mooring system design
- 6/ Anchor design
- 7/ High-voltage cable specification, design and integrity
- 8/ Pre-construction and route surveys
- 9/ Installation engineering
- 10/ Logistics and cost analysis
- 11/ Hydrogen flowline design

Installation

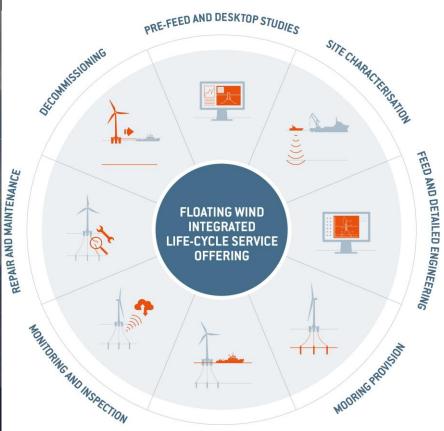
- 12/ Logistics and base port services
- 13/ Mooring component provision (chain, rope and connectors)
- 14/ Survey and positioning
- 15/ Prelay mooring installation
- 16/ Floating platform tow and hookup
- 17/ Cable installation
- 18/ Hydrogen flowline installation
- 19/ Anchor procurement (drag, SEPLA, suction, driven, drilled and grouted piles)

Operations

- 20/ Asset integrity and digital twins
- 21/ Structural monitoring
- 22/ Corrosion prevention
- 23/ ROV and AUV surveys
- 24/ Mooring and cable inspection, maintenance and repair
- 25/ Predictive performance monitoring devices

Decommissioning

- 26/ Floating platform disconnection
- 27/ Towing
- 28/ Mooring and anchor recovery
- 29/ Cable recovery
- 30/ Final site surveys







Presentation Contents

Why is anchor selection important?

Current anchor types for floating wind

Anchor sizes and weights

Anchor total installed cost

New anchor concepts

Take aways



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Why is anchor selection important?

Cost of the anchor

• Can be 50%+ the cost of a mooring system

Installation time

 For a commercial scale wind farm can be many months

Complexity

- Changing seabed conditions across the wind farm
- Hard bottoms / rock
- Logistics for large anchors





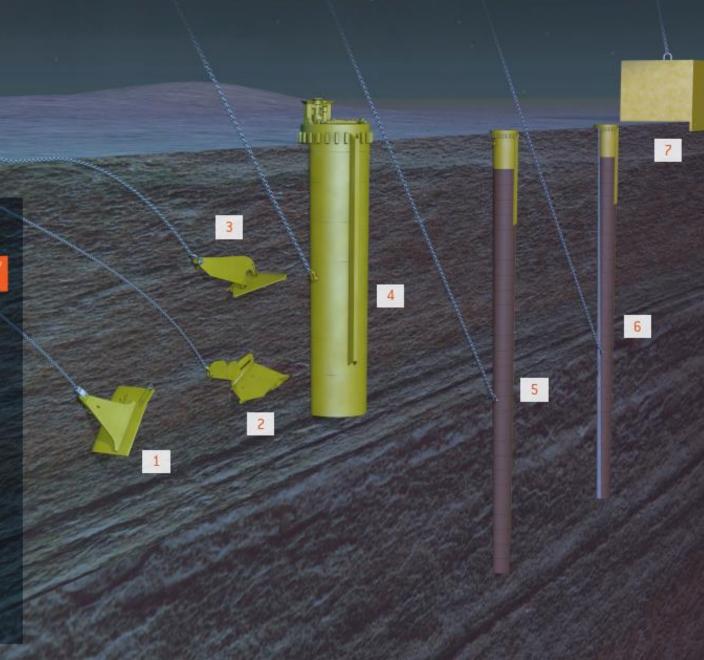
ANCHOR TYPES FOR FLOATING WIND

PERFORMANCE OF VARIOUS ANCHOR TYPES IN DIFFERENT SOILS AND THEIR POSITIONING ACCURACY

anchor (SEPLA)	cision/ uracy	Precis accur	Vertical load capable		Soil			Anchor type
anchor (SEPLA)	SE			No sediment	Hard	Sand	Clay	
2/ Drag VLA *** ***	***	**	***			*	***	1/ Suction embedded plate anchor (SEPLA)
	*	*	***				***	2/ Drag VLA
3/ Drag anchor *** *** **	*	*			**	***	***	3/ Drag anchor
4/ Suction anchor *** * ***	***	**	***			*	***	4/ Suction anchor
5/ Driven anchor *** ** ***	***	**	***		***	**	***	5/ Driven anchor
6/ Drilled and grouted anchor * * *** *** ***	***	**	***	***	***	*	*	6/ Drilled and grouted anchor
7/ Gravity (clump weight) * * * * * * *	**	**	*		*	*	*	7/ Gravity (clump weight)
*fair **better **	**best	***	fair **better					

Many variables are taken into consideration when choosing anchoring options, including:

- soil and geotechnical properties
- required precision of the embedment location
- installation vessel capabilities
- type of asset and mooring system
- metocean conditions and environmental regulations
- cost and availability of mooring components.



Case Study Parameters

Anchors studied:

- Drag anchors
- Suction anchors
- Suction Embedded Plate Anchors (SEPLAs)
- Driven piles
- Drilled and grouted piles
- Gravity anchors

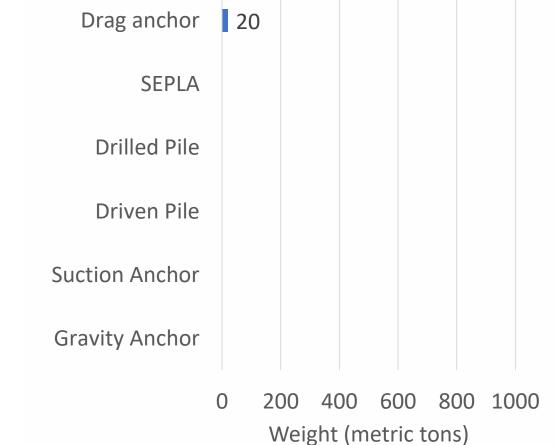
Anchor load: 1,000mt at 25°

• Except drag anchors – no angle

Soil type: Medium clay

• Except drilled pile - rock



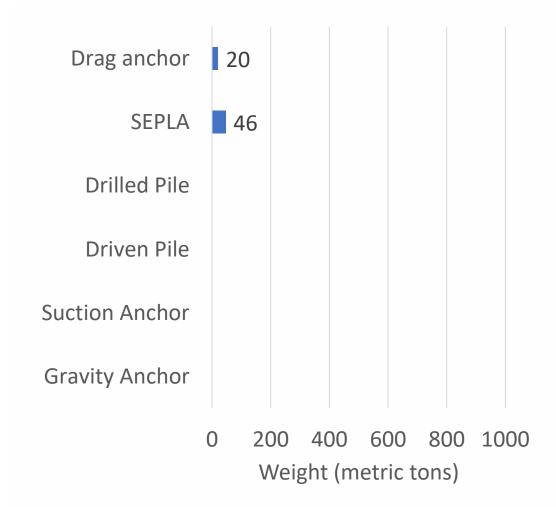


Drag Anchor 7.3m x 6.6m

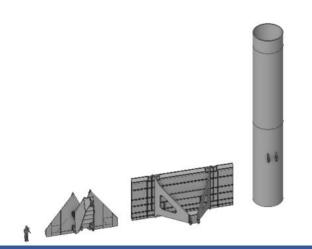


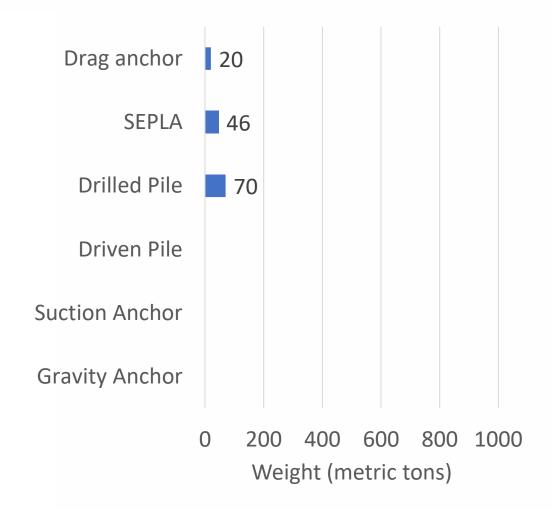






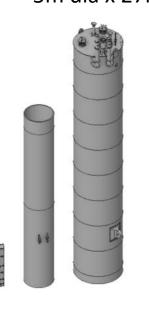
Drilled Pile 3m dia x 20m

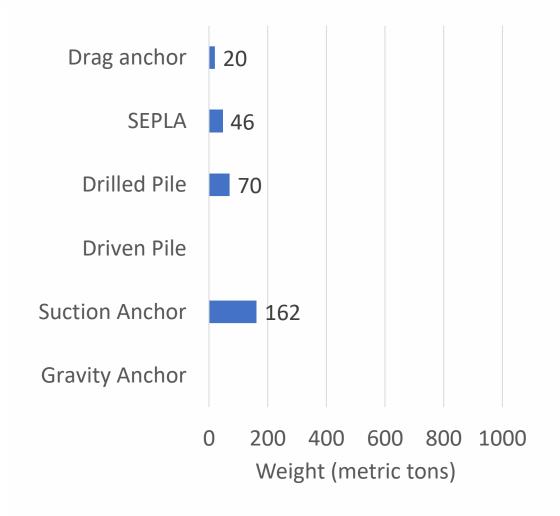






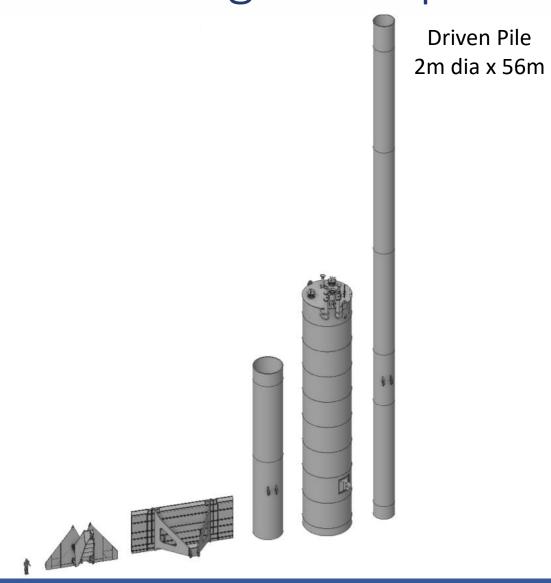
Suction Anchor 5m dia x 27m

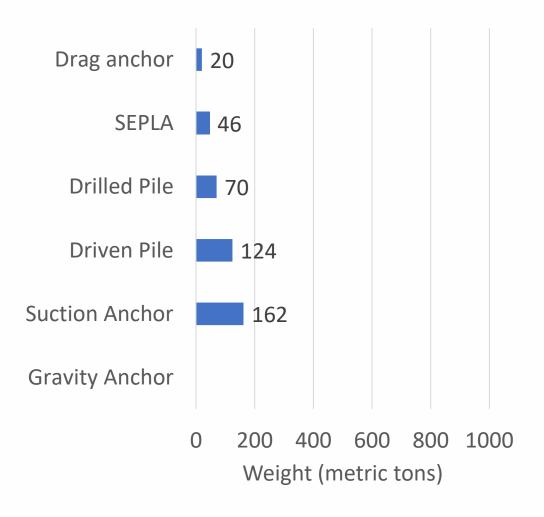




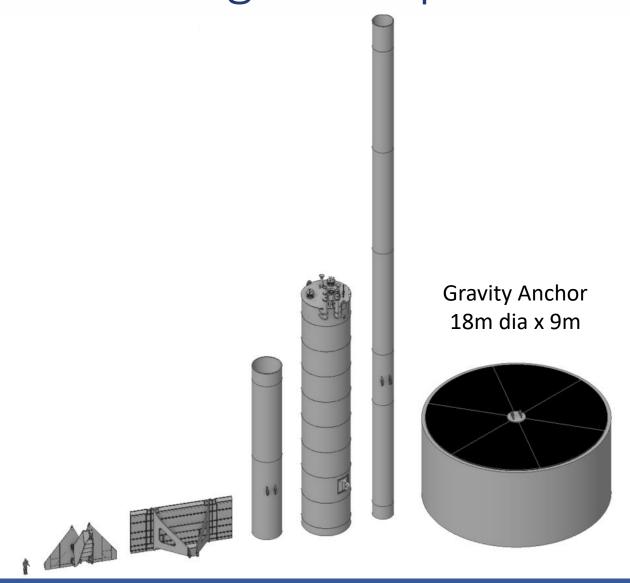
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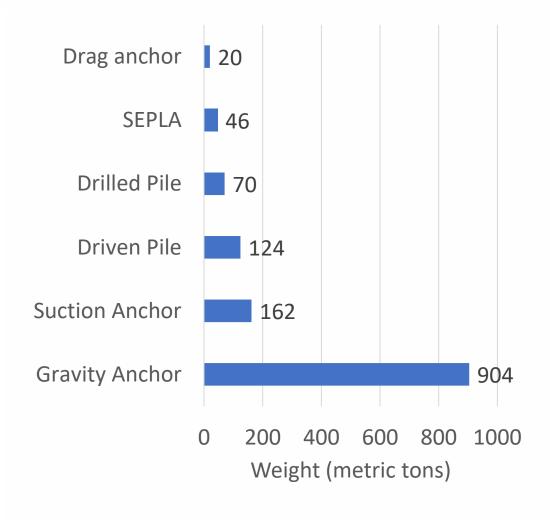






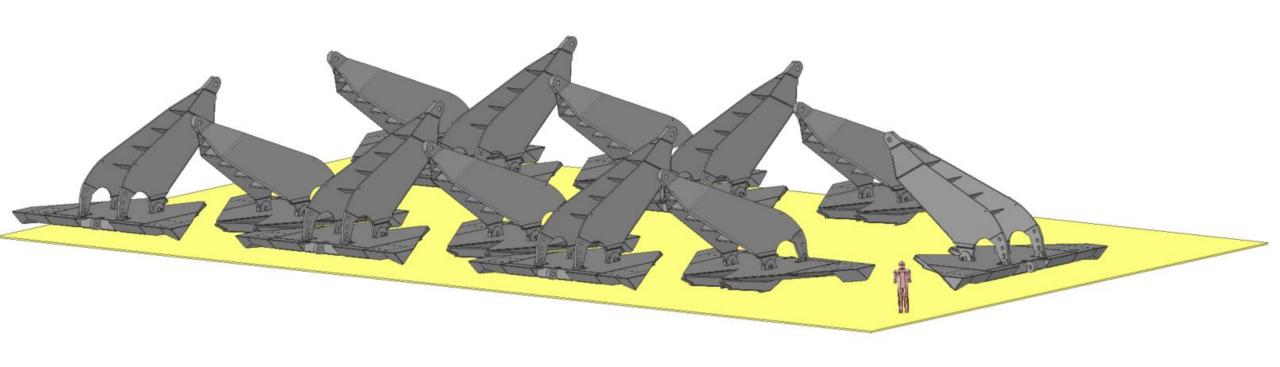






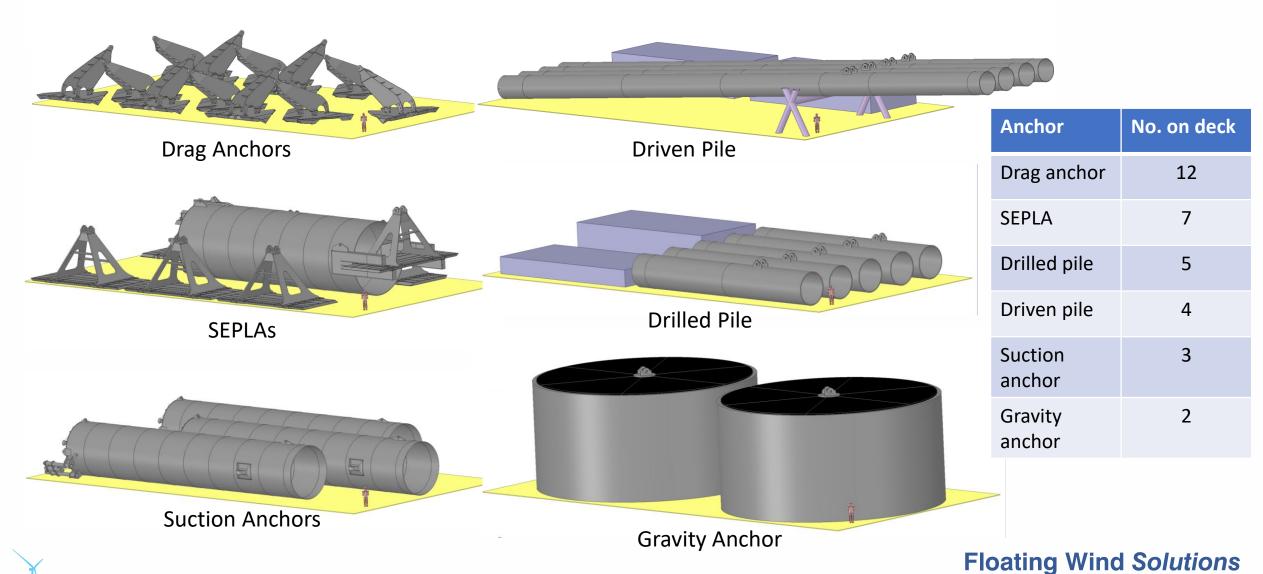


How many fit on a 40m x 20m deck?

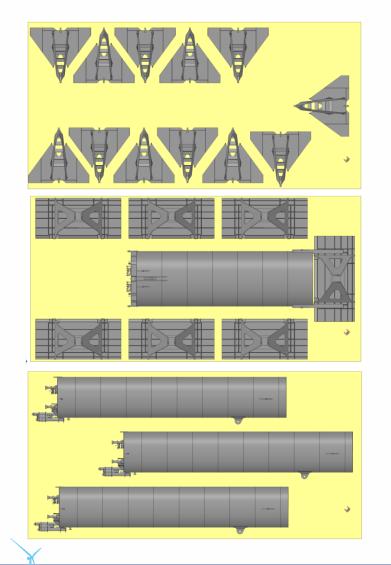


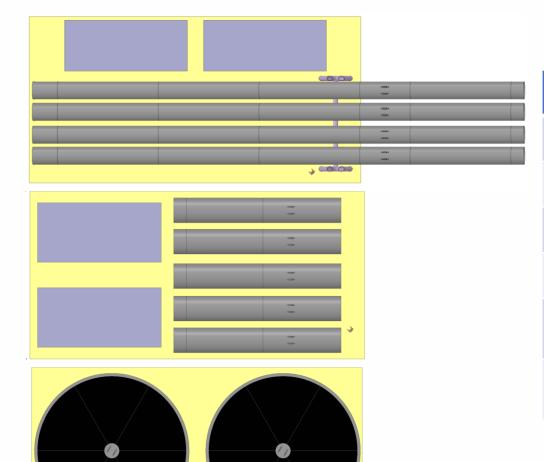


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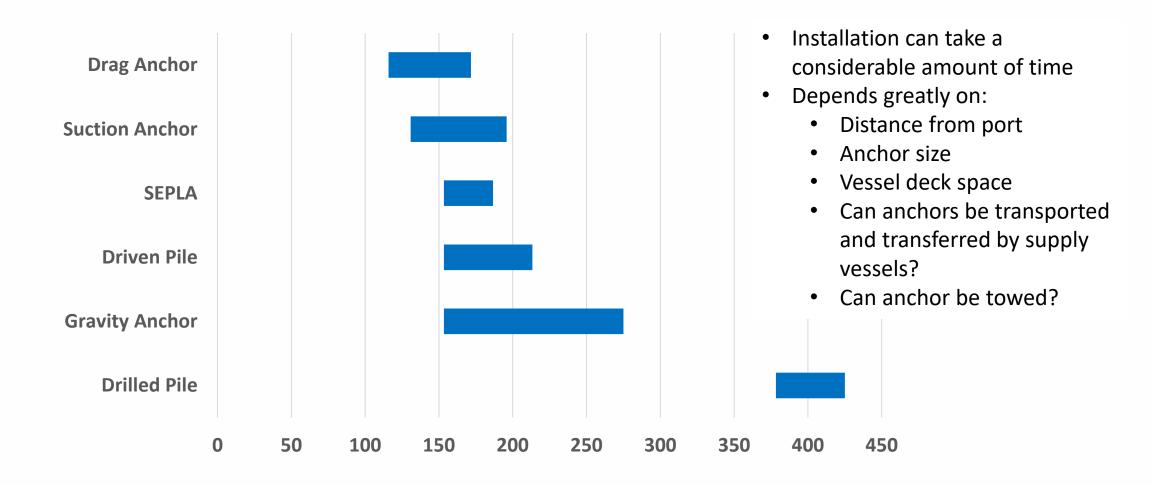
How many fit on a 40m x 20m deck?





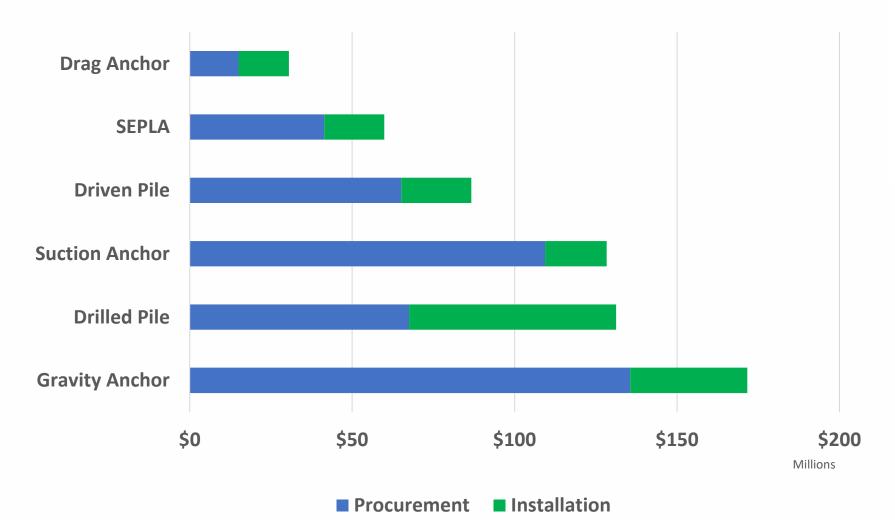
Anchor	No. on deck
Drag anchor	12
SEPLA	7
Drilled pile	5
Driven pile	4
Suction anchor	3
Gravity anchor	2

Installation Time for 150 anchors (days)





Total Costs for 150 anchors

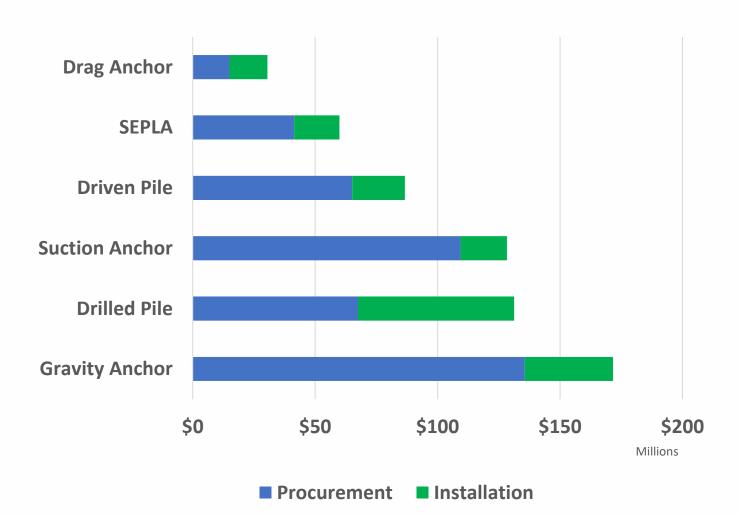


Main assumptions:

- Use for comparative purposes only!
- No base port costs included
- No engineering included
- Cost assumes 1 non-stop installation campaign
- Site 100mn from base port



Total Costs for 150 anchors



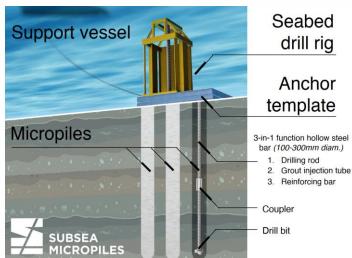
SOME COMMENTS

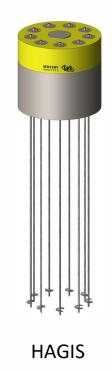
- Drag anchor tensioning needs subsea tensioner (such as Bruce tension) and temporary reaction anchor
- Drag anchors cannot withstand vertical loading (some allowed in soft clays)
- Drag anchors, SEPLAs, and Suction Anchors are recoverable
- Drilled and driven piles have installation noise
- Gravity anchors cost can vary significantly due to materials used and volume needed for ballast

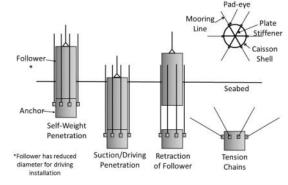


New Anchor Concepts

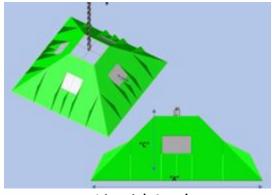
- Subsea micropiles (drilled)
- Triton Systems Helical Anchor Group Installation System (HAGIS) – rotation
- Texas A&M Deeply Embedded Ring Anchor (DERA) – (suction/driven)
- Oceanetics/Aubin Liquid Anchor (gravity anchor with dense liquid)
- Olav Olsen AS OO Anchor (vibratory embedded)



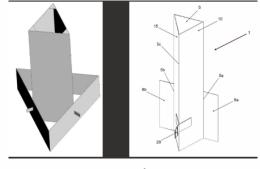




DERA



Liquid Anchor



OO Anchor



Take Aways

Anchor selection is important!

- Study options early
- Driven by local seabed conditions

More than one anchor type could be efficient across a wind farm

Make sure design, procurement, installation and risk are all considered

Logistics is critical due to space constraints and time

Anchors are a significant portion of overall mooring cost



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