



HUMBER UPDATE

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QUALITY SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

We introduce Boston Energy, our sponsor for this feature who are dedicated to the delivery of commercial energy solutions using renewables. Adrian Yeaman, Operations Manager takes up the story...

OVERVIEW

Boston Energy is a division of Bostonair, who with the parent group supply engineers to the aviation and turbine maintenance industries.

From the beginning, personnel from our highly skilled aviation based workforce were selected and trained to Siemens for the O&M activities associated with wind turbines. This gave Boston Energy the ability to support Operations and Maintenance with quality engineering support from the onset and has proved a great success at site level support.

CROSS SKILLING

The vision of cross-skilling gave Boston Energy the flexibility to respond to the increasingly competitive and dynamic market in which our customers operate.

Boston Energy's services to the energy industry span multiple areas...

- Recruitment and temporary labour services to meet workflow peaks
- Reskilling/cross-skilling of engineers through client approved technical training courses and to GWO standards
- Maintenance - applying practices from airline O&M to windfarm O&M
- Turnkey construction projects onshore and support to our renewables division for solar PV projects
- V164 pre-assembly with MVOW and 6MW pre-assembly with Siemens
- Managed service contracts onshore including troubleshooting
- Independent inspection and service including testing, repairs and certification of...
 - Lifting equipment; service crane, winches, hoists & rope lift equipment
 - Eye/anchor bolt inspection, fall arrest/man safe system inspection, fall arrest system inspection & certification (planned ongoing)
 - Man riding lifting equipment (planned ongoing)

RECRUITMENT

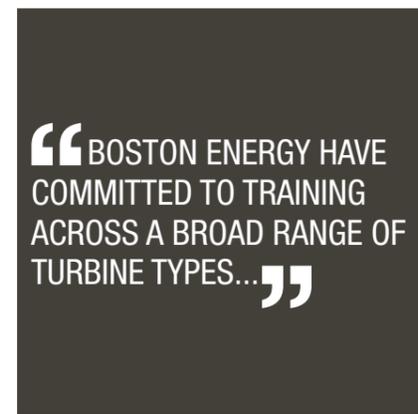
The company recruit and train candidates from mechanical and electrical backgrounds. These can be drawn from heavy or light mechanical, commercial electrical, military engineering, aeronautical or other heavy mechanical industries. We believe this broad approach brings a wide range of skills, experience, maturity, flexibility and a 'can-do' attitude that identifies Boston Energy as delivering services at a level to exceed expectations.

With a continuous improvement focus Boston Energy have committed to training across a broad range of turbine types, developing core service competencies and working towards involvement in construction roles.

Within the last 18 months, the company has taken over service managed O+M contracts for UK onshore WTG assets and delivered a broad range of service and troubleshooting support, assisting our European client with the implementation of UK legislative training courses and Health and Safety protocols for use by their staff when working in the UK.

THINKING AHEAD

This ability to think around the corner has seen not just a client and supplier service agreement – but the development of a trusting partnership with a mutual goal of safety, excellence and maximum renewable generation.



RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES

Good recruitment strategies can mean the difference to short term or long term staff retention. Placing technicians close to home provides continuity, flexibility and a reassurance from our clients that along with their principle of delivering back into the local community, we value and work towards the same goals. We train extensively bringing new opportunities and exciting new careers to engineers from all walks of life. We value the lifeblood of our business – our technicians – and we are able to see them not just as employees, but as family providers and dedicated people.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

As a people business, understanding is key to a safe working environment and successful output. Boston Energy are committed at every level in the business to understand, communicate and deliver to client expectations.

A successful example of co-operation and enhanced service delivery was when we asked a client what would improve their day to day operations, both in terms of safety, output and economy. Supervision was seen as the crux of the problem, with valuable resources being detailed to support technicians who could not work autonomously due to lack of internal approvals.

WORKING TOGETHER

Boston Energy worked with this customer to determine the processes needed, additional training and how to involve the technicians, ultimately achieving the competency approval and a reduction at site level of supervisors required. This net effect allowed the customer to re-distribute key figures to other critical tasks and save cost on planned manpower budgets per site. The success of this approval procedure showed that we could deliver technicians at a higher level, at speed and to good cost, gaining additional roles as a direct result of our proactive approach to the problems.

HMF CRANES – NOW PART OF BOSTON ENERGY

HMF Cranes has been operational in the wind industry for over 10 years, focusing on the supply, installation, service and inspection of wind turbine nacelle service cranes, lifting equipment and parts/consumables. They also have a dedicated training department, specialising in the supply of bespoke training, tailored for the wind industry.

The team currently inspect, service and maintain equipment in over 1800 wind turbines for many clients, across the full range of wind turbine manufacturers, both in offshore and onshore locations throughout Europe.

STANDARDS

HMF engineers are fully certified to all European standards and are highly experienced including wind turbine 'authorised' technician status for turbine access, egress, take-over and handover procedures.

The engineers carry out regular inspection, service, maintenance and testing to ensure wind turbine equipment continues to operate safely and reliably, to safeguard minimum downtime and ensure clients' wind turbine equipment is always compliant and within international regulatory requirements.



Adrian Yeaman
Operations Manager
Boston Energy