

# Quo Vadis Conference 2024

Pre-Event Dinner on  
Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024  
Conference on  
Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Hotel NH Vienna Airport  
Einfahrtsstraße 1-3  
Vienna, Austria

15<sup>th</sup> Quo Vadis®  
Conference

The only FREE wind conference  
for owners and operators

Quo Vadis®  
Conference

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# The Speakers



## Tom Kent, Lead O&M Engineer; Scottish Power Renewables

Tom is a Mechanical engineer who has been working in the wind industry for 20+ years. He got a taste for the wind industry in the Vestas repair department, then became Centrica's Senior Wind Turbine Engineer, leading the end of warranty campaign for the (at that point) largest offshore operation. Tom moved to Scottish Power where he initially helped with the installation of both the Wikinger and EA1 offshore wind farms. As lead O&M engineer for asset integrity, he is now looking after the long term health of wind farms. He brings many years of experience with particular knowledge of the complexities of offshore wind turbines, and of the issues and failures that have happened in the past.



## Monica Crosa, Grid Ancillary Services Lead; RES

Monica holds a PhD degree in Electrical Engineering and has extensive research and professional experience in renewable energy integration, control and operation. Monica is currently the Grid Ancillary Services Lead at RES Ltd, looking at the available opportunities to provide flexibility services to the electric grid to support a secure electricity system in the UK. She joined the Asset Management team to enhance the operation of the renewable power plants managed by the organisation, through the provision of grid ancillary services, focusing on technical requirements, grid compliance, performance, as well as operational and commercial benefits.



## Kevin Harrington, Associate Director, Asset Management; NTR

Kevin has 16 years' experience in the energy industry. He heads up NTR's Operations team, with responsibility for the operational performance and lifetime asset management of wind, solar and storage assets around Europe. Based in Dublin, he leads a team of experienced renewable Asset Managers focused on asset performance, optimisation and risk management. Prior to joining NTR, Kevin had a variety of engineering, project management and managerial roles in ESB, the Irish semi-state utility, e. g. managing the refurbishment of a 1920s 22MW Francis Turbine, and delivering key environmental and operational safety improvements at Moneypoint Power Station. Kevin holds a Bachelors Degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters in Business Administration.



## Tony Cromble, Nadara Asset Management Area Manager Scotland; Infinis/Ventient Energy

Tony joined the wind industry in 2007 as part of the asset management team at Natural Power, primarily dealing with E.on at a number of their wind assets. In 2016, he moved to Infinis/Ventient taking the regional asset manager role for all of Scotland. Following the merger of Ventient and Renantis earlier this year, he is now focused on the larger assets within the Nadara UK portfolio.



## Martin Stanyon, Senior Technical Wind Asset Manager; Octopus Energy Generation

Martin has 15 years experience in managing wind assets both onshore and offshore. After working for 9 years at a large UK utility company, he joined Octopus 6 years ago to manage the fledgling onshore wind portfolio. There he has overseen a rapid growth in the portfolio. Martin has overall responsibility for the operational performance of the whole fleet and is driving asset improvement.



## Stuart Naylor, Operations Manager; Fred.Olsen

After 22 years as an RAF Engineering Technician and Engineer Officer, Stuart became the manager of Rothes, at 50.4MW UK's largest windfarm in 2005 (a title held for a brief period). This was the second site constructed wholly by Fred. Olsen, and Stuart subsequently helped to grow the portfolio to 9 UK sites, with 1 more in construction and 2 further sites about to enter construction. Always known for pressing for efficiency at site, he is passionate about all things related to wind achieving an optimum performance, and this continues in his spare time as an RYA Yachtmaster and the lead coach for the British Gliding Association where he is also a Part 66 licenced engineer with a specialisation in composite repair.



## Sara Sancho Peris, Dickson Leung, Asset Managers; Schroders Greencoat

Sara joined Schroders Greencoat in 2021 with almost 20 years' experience working within the renewable industry in both operational and technical roles. She is responsible for the operation and management of UK wind farms. Sara is an IMechE Chartered Engineer, she holds a BEng and a MEng in Mechanical Engineering from the Universidad Polit cnica de Madrid. Dickson joined Schroders Greencoat in 2020 and is operating and managing UK wind farms. He started work in the energy sector in 2011, with a focus in renewables asset management, technical performance analysis and reporting management. Dickson holds a Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cambridge.



## Keir Harman, Director of Renewables; DNV

Keir Harman is a Director at DNV with 25 years of experience of strategic development in the renewables industry. He is directing teams delivering asset optimisation services, digitalisation, inspections, performance monitoring, and energy forecasting. He has led global teams that to date have assessed over 100GW of operating wind and solar farms worldwide, both on and offshore. He now helps energy sector leaders with ESG strategy aiming for net zero emissions. His career highlights include establishing wind farm optimisation services at Garrad Hassan, pioneering and publishing techniques now adopted by the wider wind industry, and delivering strategic optimisation programmes for DNV customers. A Chartered Engineer, Keir holds an MSc in Renewable Energy Systems from Loughborough University, UK and Risoe, DK.

# Agenda

## 09.00h Welcome and preliminaries

Sigrid Donovan  
(Host and Organiser)

## 09.10h A spark of battery genius

Tom Kent, Scottish Power Renewables  
Batteries, simple parts that have been causing many headaches, failures and hazardous events. What have we seen, and what do the OEMs do about it?

## 09.35h The role of renewable generation in the provision of flexibility services to the grid

Monica Crosa, RES  
The increasing penetration of renewable energy has introduced operational challenges due to the intermittent and volatile nature of renewable generation. Grid operators are procuring different grid services from a range of flexibility providers, based on the local requirements and grid constraints they need to tackle. Renewable energy sources can play an important role in the provision of grid ancillary services to meet the increasing need for flexibility solutions. This presentation will look at the support that renewable power plants can provide by modifying their generation patterns to help maintaining a stable electricity system and meet the decarbonisation targets.

## 10.00h Break for coffee, exhibition, networking

## 11.00h Experiencing the Vestas EnVentus Platform

Kevin Harrington, NTR  
Having recently commissioned the Pajuperankangus WF in Finland with 14x V162 turbines, NTR is extremely excited about it's latest investment in "new" onshore wind turbine technology. Every new turbine platform brings its own unique challenges for owners/operators and the Vestas 'modular design' EnVentus is no different. NTR will share its learning and experiences during the first year of operations at Pajuperankangus.

## 11.25h Windscope AI at Farr wind farm

Tony Crombie, Ventient Energy  
Windscope is a single platform to integrate turbine data, automatically identify underperformance, predict failure, and direct preventative action. It aims to be the foundation of an optimal O&M strategy, enabling operators to easily identify and conduct fleet-wide maintenance at the right time to maximise turbine availability, minimise cost and increase workforce safety. It provides seamless data integration with no additional hardware.

## 11.50h Quo Vadis Hall of Fame

Sigrid Donovan

## 12.00h Lunch break

## 13.30h Digitisation of Asset Management

Martin Stanyon, Octopus Energy Generation  
As Octopus Energy Generation scales up investments, the engineers strive to operate the portfolio as efficiently as possible. They will deliver this through digitalisation of Asset Management. This presentation will cover the history of the project and the roadmap to full delivery.

## 13.55h Tip Boosting

Stuart Naylor, Fred.Olsen  
When a well respected industry professional teams up with an aerodynamicist with an equally respected F1 pedigree to follow on from a project that has already been started with the OEM (albeit struggles to be financially viable), then achieving almost the same outcome at a fraction of the cost is always going to be attractive. Fred. Olsen has commenced a major upgrade programme to its blades with Anakata's Tip Booster and Blade Enhancements, and is optimistic about the initial results.

## 14.20h Break for coffee, exhibition, networking

## 15.00h Another perspective on HS&E management

Sara Peris & Dickson Leung, Schroders Greencoat  
The focus is on Greencoat's approach towards Health, Safety & Environment (HS&E) management across an extensive and heterogeneous collection of wind farms. The assets differ in geography, OEMs, operational duration, and asset management strategies – each employing different metrics. The presentation will broadly cover how Greencoat navigates this complexity, thereby deriving meaningful insights.

## 15.25h Wind farm afterlife: repowering and life extension optioneering

Keir Harman, DNV  
With 65% of operating wind turbines in the UK over 10 years old and 15% expired 20-year design certificates, it is time to plan for the afterlife. For many reasons full decommissioning will be rare. There will be an optimal time to repower with larger more efficient wind turbines. In this talk we will look at wind capacity growth and how to tackle the practical challenges of managing risks of running wind turbines to 30 years and beyond. Keir will explore how life extension and repowering strategies are likely to evolve as the electricity system approaches Net Zero with grid constraint, partial load operation, hybridisation and dynamic wind farm control.

## 15.50h Summary

Kevin Donovan

## 16.00h Official closing of Quo Vadis Conference 2024

## A hearty welcome to Vienna from your host



### Sigrig Donovan

Sigi has been involved in marketing almost all her work life. For nearly 20 years she worked as Marketing Manager EMEA for a big US manufacturer of motors, gearboxes and power transmission products. After her move to England, she and her husband Kevin got involved in the wind industry. They have been serving customers in Europe and beyond ever since, first with their company windpower renewable solutions Limited and, since their return to Germany, with WRS GmbH windpower renewable solutions.

Sigi had the idea to hold a wind conference exclusively for owners and operators. Thus Kevin and Sigi hosted the first Quo Vadis Conference in 2007. It was named after Kevin's presentation "Quo Vadis, wind energy?" (Latin for "Where are you going, wind energy?") The conference is now in its fifteenth year and is recognised by wind farm owners and operators as one of the most important and valuable events in the wind industry.

## The history of Quo Vadis Conference



## A big "Thank You" to our co-host, sponsors and exhibitors

It would not be possible for us to offer our Quo Vadis Conference free of charge without the support of our Co-Host HAWE and our Platinum Sponsors DNV and RES who contribute towards the costs.



The following companies have booked exhibition space and are showing their portfolio: Liebherr, Morgan, Renewable FS, SkySpecs, System Seals, UFI Filters, and Winergy.

