



# Interoperability in Offshore Wind and Offshore Grid Projects – the Legal/Regulatory Side

UiO Webinar

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# Introduction: GCELS / Ceciel

- > Groningen – Energy Law Research
- > Research Focus Points:
  - Smart Grids / Built Environment
  - Public Participation in energy projects
  - Hydrogen
  - OFFSHORE ENERGY!

Myself: PhD on the legal sides of offshore electricity grids and offshore wind  
Assistant Professor focusing on offshore (renewable) energy issues

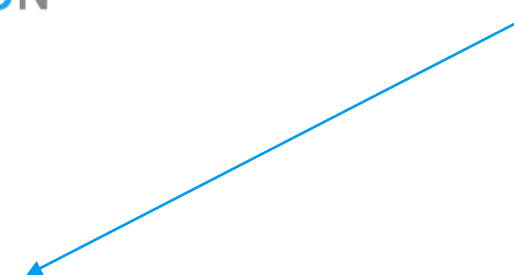


# Project Introduction



## PROMOTioN

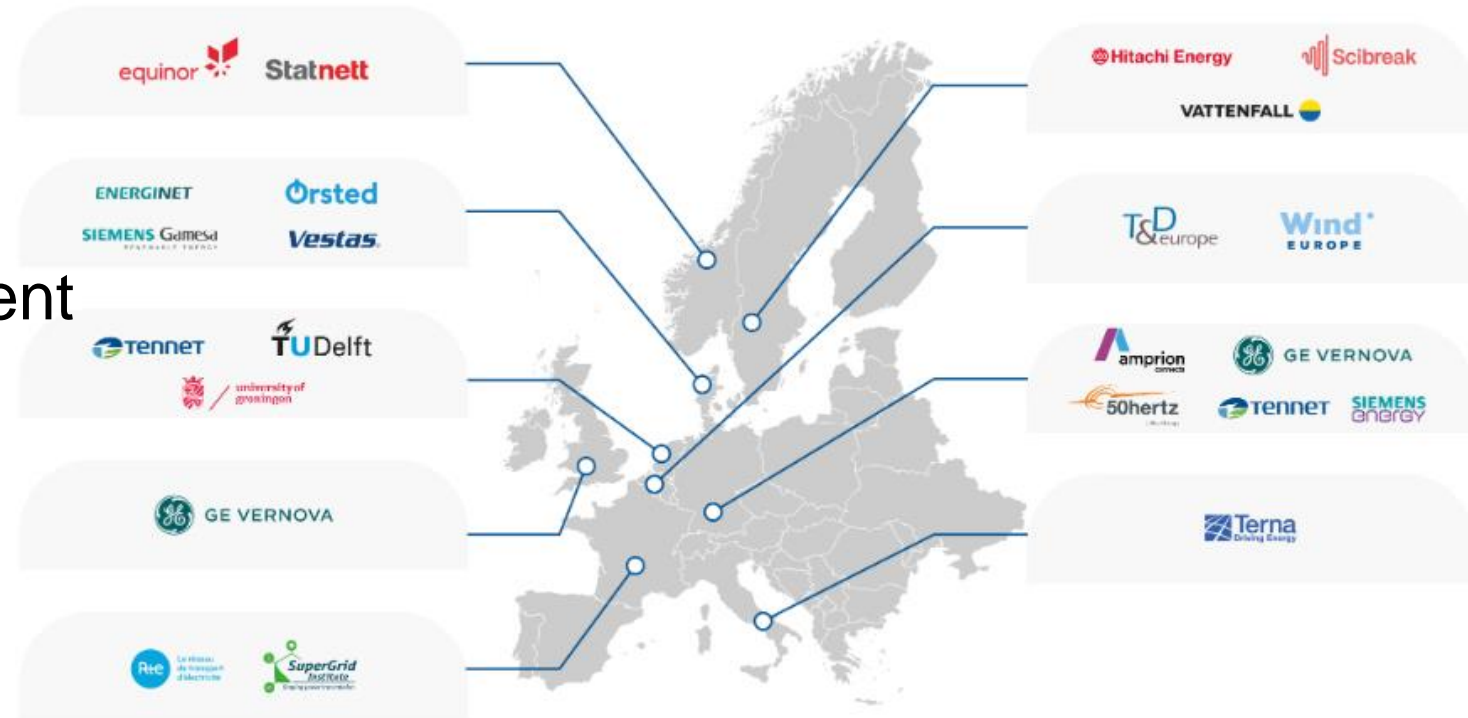
PROGRESS ON MESHED HVDC  
 OFFSHORE TRANSMISSION  
 NETWORKS





# Focus of InterOpera

- > HVDC-based networks
- > Offshore Wind Industry
- > Vendors of HVDC Equipment
- > TSOs
- > Umbrella Organisations
- > And a few universities 😊
- > Time: next 10 years





# The Legal Framework for Interoperability

## Public

- EU Directive & Regulation
- EU Network Codes
- National Law

## Private

- Umbrella Agreement: MPCF
- Procurement Contracts (Bilateral)

## Standardisation

- Private process with public consequences
- International / regional standardisation orgs



# Public Law

- > EU network drafted with AC in mind
- > HVDC Grid code added
- > Is EU law ready for HVDC networks?
- > Definitions
- > Functions / responsibilities
- > Network Codes:
  - Characteristics of HVDC interoperability
  - Functional Requirements

Ready4DC Whitepaper



# Private Law

Umbrella (MPCF)

Procurement Contracts

Subcontracting



# MPCF – work in progress!

## Article 3 – Definitions

1. “Clean team”: A clean team generally refers to individuals within a Party who are not involved in the Party’s commercial operations and are bound by strict confidentiality protocols with regard to the commercially sensitive information.
2. “Confidential Information”: See article 8.1.
3. “Disclosing Party”: A Party that is disclosing, or has disclosed, Confidential Information.
4. “Hosting Party”: The Party that hosts the annual meeting on a rotational basis and in the order set forth in the names of Parties in article 2 (Parties).
5. “New Party”: A legal person that submits a duly executed Certificate of Accession to the depositary after the Cooperation Framework has entered into force. After a New Party has submitted its Certificate, it shall henceforth be referred to simply as a “Party”. For the convenience of the reader and to distinguish between Parties that submit their Certificates before and after entry into force, a Party that submits its certificate after entry into force may sometimes be referred to herein as a “New Party”.



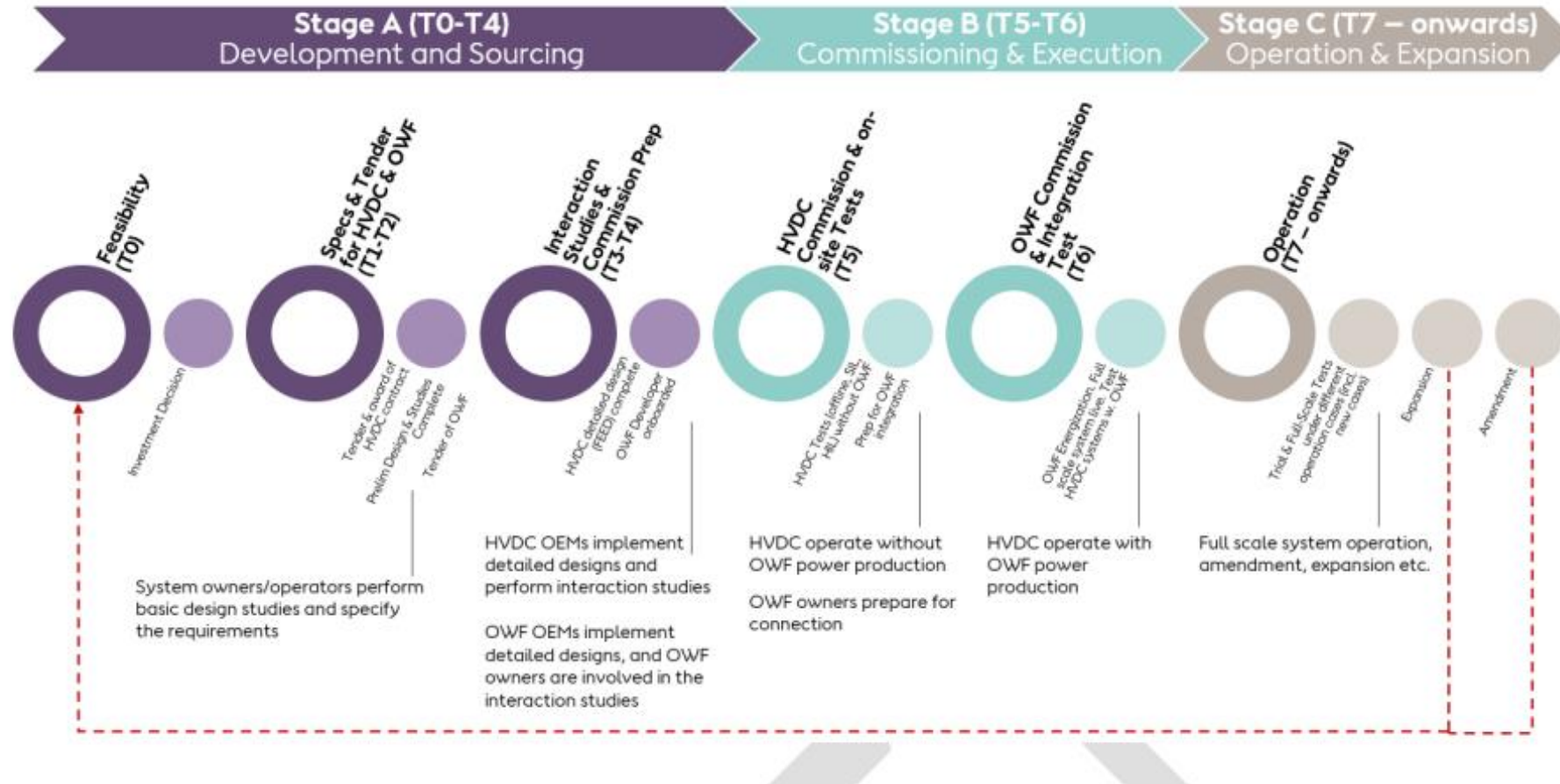


# Legal Hot Topics:

- > Horizontal / Vertical Cooperation vs EU Competition Law
- > IP law & IP strategy
- > Safe framework for data/model sharing: to what extent do they need to be shared to ensure interoperability?
- > Risks, responsibilities and rewards
- > Hyperlink: Draft MPCF



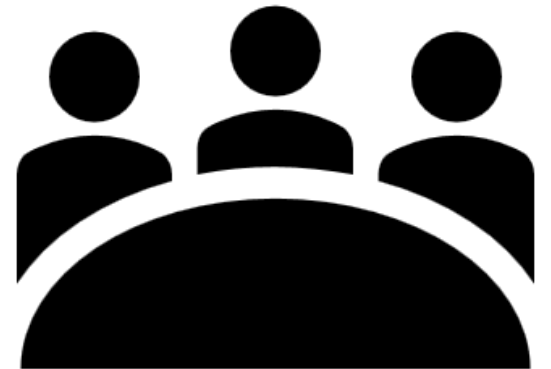
# Integration of Wind Energy





# Standardisation Process

- > Private law process – standard is in principle not binding
- > But de-facto binding if...
  
- > Who is part of the process?
- > What is the voting procedure? Voting weights?
- > EU Competition law: Open, transparent procedure





# Conclusion

- > Legal framework needs to stimulate interoperability on multiple levels
- > Public Law framework needs to be updated from HVDC perspective
- > Private Law framework needs to incorporate different players
- > Take into account competition law
- > Make DC as easy as AC!



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# Questions? Remarks?

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