Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

Table of Contents

- Introduction
- Array Cables
- Blades
- Export Cables
- Monopiles
- Nacelles
- Towers
- Transition Pieces
- References
- Publication Information

By Caitlyn Clark, Brinn McDowell, Bailey Pons, Jeremy Stefek at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office

Introduction

The job opportunity for component manufacturing facilities and their suppliers could be a significant portion of the offshore wind energy workforce (see the U.S. Department of Energy's wind energy career map). Average annual employment levels (full-time equivalent [FTE]/year) from 2024 to 2030 are estimated at 12,300 and 49,000 based on 25% and 100% domestic content scenarios, respectively, to fabricate and assemble components to reach 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy by 2030.^[1] The extent to which domestic jobs are realized depends on the building of U.S. manufacturing facilities and those facilities leveraging a U.S. supply chain to source subassemblies, parts, and materials.

In recent years, researchers at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory have conducted a research effort, supported by the Wind Energy Technologies Office, to better understand the job needs for major component manufacturing facilities (e.g., Tier 1 facilities). Many useful insights have been shared in different reports, including:

- Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Assessment (Stefek, 2022) [2]
- The Demand for a Domestic Offshore Wind Energy Supply Chain (Shields, 2022) [3]
- A Supply Chain Road Map for Offshore Wind Energy in the United States (Shields, 2023) <a>[4]

This resource compiles insights from these reports to estimate the number of workers within facilities, list roles and certifications, and show the magnitude of supplier job opportunities for each major component, including:

- Array Cables
- Blades
- Export Cables
- Monopiles
- Nacelles
- Towers
- Transition Pieces

Return to top

Array Cables

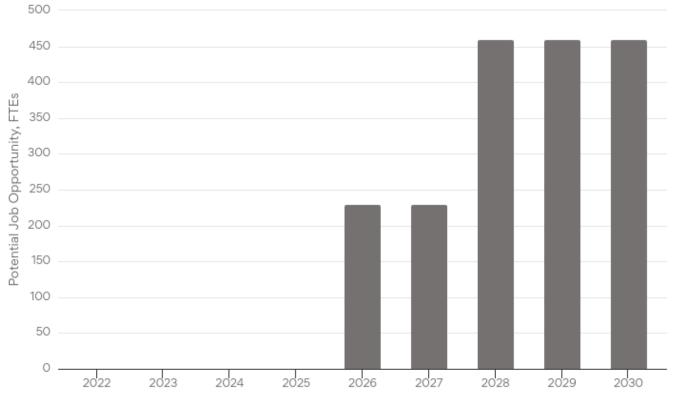
Workforce Needs

The figure below shows the estimated number of direct jobs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a target of 30 GW of offshore wind by 2030. The jobs count below represents any person working in a facility who produces or oversees the fabrication and assembly of the component, including tradespeople, managers, engineers, and professional service performers.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Array Cables (100% DC)

Number of direct FTE per facility: 230



The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Array Cable Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Cable production manager
Design and Engineering	 Composite materials engineer Cable design drafter/engineer Coil worker/coil design engineer Crane operator/crane engineer
Quality and Safety	Cable design drafter/engineer
Factory-Level Work	 Composite materials engineer Cable splicer Electrical technician Metal cutters Milling machinist Production supervisor/manager Rolling machine setters

Table 2. Array Cable Job Certifications

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/QE)	10-15 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/manager-of-quality
Certified Quality Improvement Associate (CQIA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-improvement- associate
Certified Quality Process Analyst (CQPA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-process-analyst
Certified Reliability Engineer (CRE)	11 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/reliability-engineer
Certified Quality Technician (CQT)	4 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-technician
Certified Quality Technician (CQT)	4 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-technician
Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)	2-8 weeks	https://www.aws.org/certification/inspectorprogram
Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Lathe Operations	37 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Lathe Programming Setup and Operations	Varies by program	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Computer numerical control (CNC)Mill Operation	38 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic-safety-training-standard
ICS: 29.020 Electrical Engineering	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/ics/29.020/x/
ISO 9001: 2015 Certified Lead Auditor	2 weeks	https://asq.org/training/iso-9001-2015-certified- lead-auditor-viso90012015cla
Lean Certification	8–16 weeks	https://www.sme.org/training/lean-certification/
Milling I	Less than a year	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower- crane-operator/certification-overview
Nondestructive Testing (NDT)	8 months	https://www.trainingndt.com/complete-ndt-training/

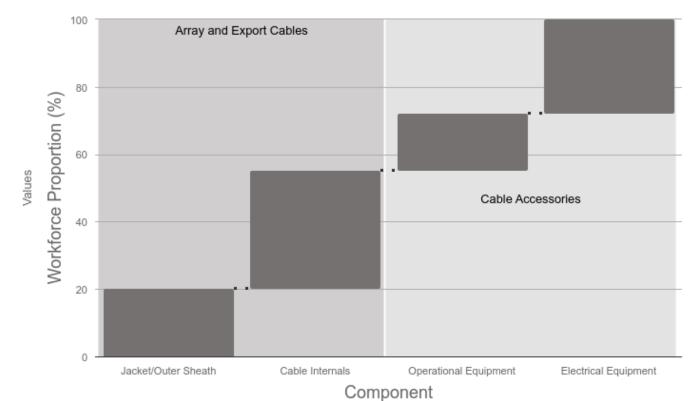
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10- hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30-hour-training/
Six Sigma Green Belt Certification	10 weeks	https://www.sixsigmacouncil.org/six-sigma-green-belt-certification/

Jobs within the supply chain could be the largest contributor of employment in the offshore wind industry across all job sectors. For every job created in major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, workers with relevant skills and capabilities at existing businesses across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Array Cables

Total Job Range: 220-900

No workforce magnitude could be calculated



U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

Blades

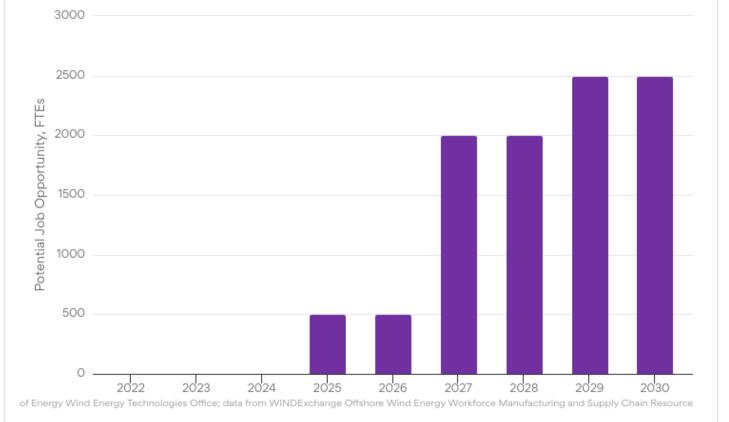
Workforce Needs

The figure below estimates the direct job needs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a 30 GW by 2030 target. The jobs count below represent any person working in the facility to produce or oversee the fabrication and assembly, including tradespeople, managers, engineers, and professional services.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Blades (100% DC)





The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Blade Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Manufacturing manager
Design and Engineering	 Drafter Software developer for wind turbine control systems Turbine load and validation engineer Thermoplastics engineer
Quality and Safety	 Blade core engineer Nondestructive test and inspection technician Quality assurance/control inspector Quality control manager

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Work	 Aerospace engineer and operations technologists and technicians Assemblers Blasting technician (applier) Computer numerical control (CNC)machinist Composite materials engineer Crane operator/engineer Driller Fiberglass technician/mold worker Laser operator Mechanical support Metal grinder Milling machinist Plater Production supervisor/manager Specialist coating technician (applier) Surface engineer

Table 2. Blade Job Certifications

Certification	Length of Time	Resource

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
API 577: Welding Inspection and Metallurgy	1-5 years	https://www.api.org/products-and-services/individual-certification-programs/certifications/api577#tab-qualification
ASME Practical Welding Technology	8 Days	https://www.asme.org/learning-development/find- course/practical-welding-technology-(2)/onlinefeb-05-15th- -2024
Certified Calibration Technician (CCT)	5 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/calibration-technician
Certified Coating Applicator (CCA)	4 years	https://www.ampp.org/education/education- resources/courses-by-program/general-coatings/certified- coating-applicator
Certified Quality Inspector (CQI)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-inspector
Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)	2-8 weeks	https://www.aws.org/certification/inspectorprogram
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Operations	37 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Programming Setup and Operations	Varies by program	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Computer numerical control (CNC)Mill Operation	38 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Drill Rig Operator National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operator	4–10 years	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/drill-rig-operator
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic-safety- training-standard
ISO/AWI 15513: Cranes	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/standard/84553.html

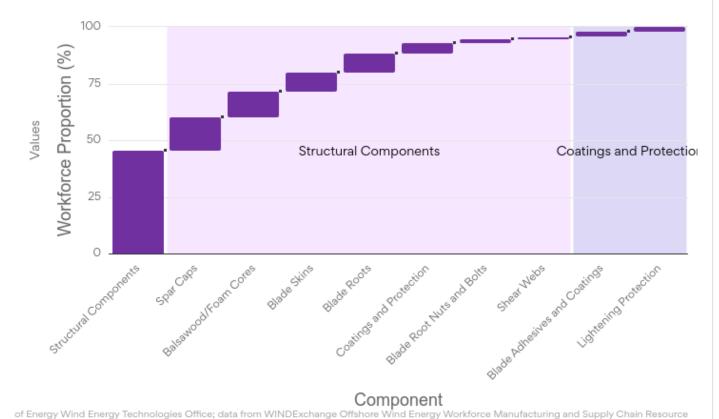
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Milling I	Less than a year	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
National Association of Manufacturers	Varies by program	https://www.nam.org/legal-expertise/manufacturing-institute/
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower-crane- operator/certification-overview
National Institute for Metalworking Skills	Varies by program	https://www.nims-skills.org/index.php/training
National Occupational Competency Testing Institute	Varies by program	https://www.nocti.org/credentials/blueprints
Nondestructive Testing (NDT)	8 months	https://www.trainingndt.com/complete-ndt-training/
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10-hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30-hour-training/

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
OSMRE Blaster Certification	3 years	https://www.osmre.gov/sites/default/files/inline-files/OSM%2074%20exp%202024%20update%206.17.21.pdf
Surface Mount Technology Association (SMTA)	1.5 days	https://smta.org/page/certification

Supplier jobs represent the greater job market opportunity in the offshore wind workforce across all sectors. For every job created in these major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, existing businesses with relevant skills and capabilities across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Blades





Export Cables

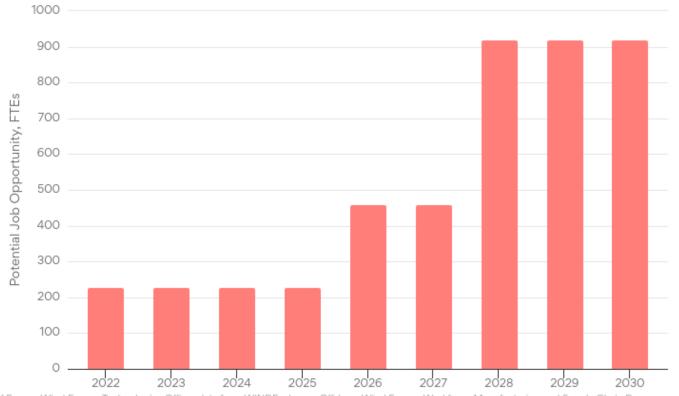
Workforce Needs

The figure below estimates the direct job needs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a 30 GW by 2030 target. The jobs count below represents any person working in the facility to produce or oversee the fabrication and assembly, including tradespeople, managers, engineers, and professional services.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Export Cables (100% DC)

Number of direct FTE per facility: 230



of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Export Cable Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Cable production manager
Design and Engineering	 Cable design drafter/enginee Coil worker/ Coil design engineer Crane operator/crane engineer
Quality and Safety	 Cable testing inspector Nondestructive test and inspection tester Quality control manager
Factory-Level Work	 Cable machine operator Cable splicer Electrical technician Insulating machine operator Metal cutters Milling machinist Production supervisor/manager Rolling machine setters

Table 2. Export Cable Job Certifications

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/QE)	10-15 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/manager-of-quality
Certified Reliability Engineer (CRE)	11 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/reliability-engineer
Certified Quality Improvement Associate (CQIA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-improvement- associate
Certified Quality Process Analyst (CQPA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-process-analyst
Certified Quality Technician (CQT)	4 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-technician
Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)	2-8 weeks	https://www.aws.org/certification/inspectorprogram
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Operations	37 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Programming Setup and Operations	Varies by program	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Computer numerical control (CNC)Mill Operation	38 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic-safety-training-standard
ICS: 29.020 Electrical Engineering	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/ics/29.020/x/
ISO 9001: 2015 Certified Lead Auditor	2 weeks	https://asq.org/training/iso-9001-2015-certified- lead-auditor-viso90012015cla
ISO/AWI 15513: Cranes	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/standard/84553.html
Lean Certification	8–16 weeks	https://www.sme.org/training/lean-certification/
Milling I	Less than a year	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower-crane-operator/certification-overview

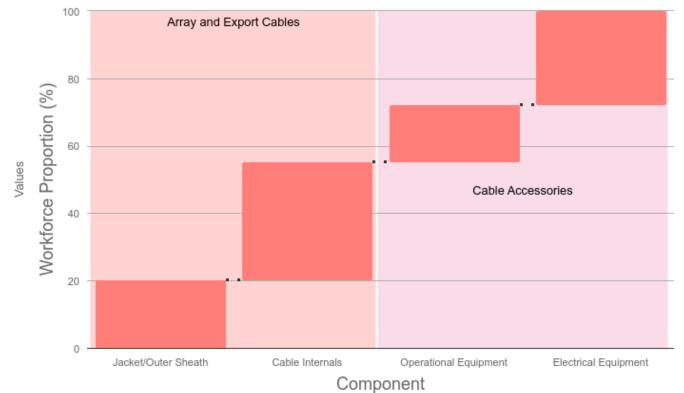
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Nondestructive Testing (NDT)	8 months	https://www.trainingndt.com/complete-ndt-training/
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10- hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30-hour-training/
Six Sigma Green Belt Certification	10 weeks	https://www.sixsigmacouncil.org/six-sigma-green-belt-certification/

Supplier jobs represent the greater job market opportunity in offshore wind workforce across all job sectors. For every job created in these major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to 5 five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, existing businesses with relevant skills and capabilities across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Export Cables

Total Job Range: 480-1,900

No workforce magnitude could be calculated



U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

Monopiles

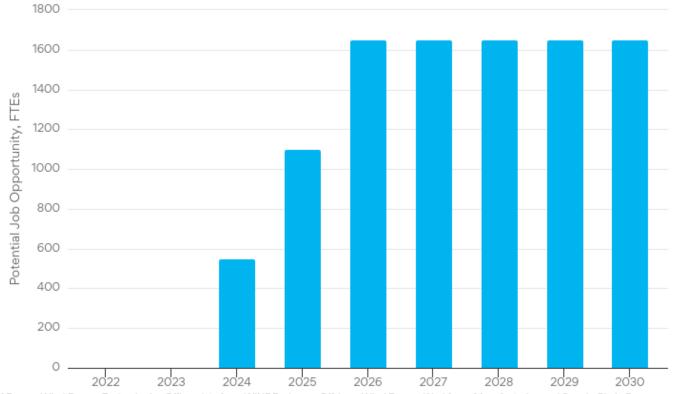
Workforce Needs

The figure below estimates the direct job needs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a 30 GW by 2030 target. The jobs count below represent any person working in the facility to produce or oversee the fabrication and assembly, including tradespeople, mangers, engineers, and professional services.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Monopiles (100% DC)





of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Monopile Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Manufacturing manager
Design and Engineering	• Drafter
Quality and Safety	Ultrasonic welding tester

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Work	 Blasting technician (applier) Composite materials engineer Concrete pourer Crane engineer Crane operator Heavy lift specialist Metal cutter Milling machinist Production supervisor/manager Rolling machine setter Senior lifting engineer Specialist coating technician (applier) Steel worker Structural metal fabricator Welder Welding machinist/engineer

Table 2. Monopile Job Certifications

Length of Time	Resource
1–5 years	https://www.api.org/products-and-
	services/individual-certification-
	programs/certifications/api577#tab-qualification
	Time

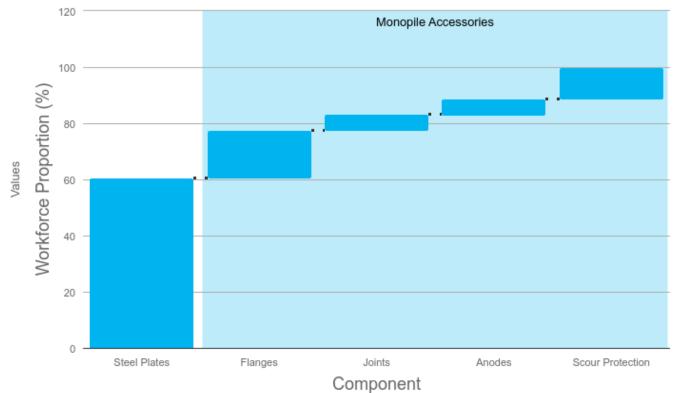
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
ASME Practical Welding Technology	8 days	https://www.asme.org/learning-development/find- course/practical-welding-technology-(2)/online feb-05-15th2024
Certified Construction Manager (CCM)	4–8 years	https://www.cmaanet.org/certification/ccm
Certified Quality Auditor (CQA)	6–11 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-auditor
Certified Quality Engineer (CQE)	5–10 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-engineer
Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)	2-8 weeks	https://www.aws.org/certification/inspectorprogram
Certified Welder Program	1–4 years	https://www.aws.org/certification/page/certified- welder-program
Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/QE)	10–15 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/manager-of-quality
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic-safety-training-standard
ISO/AWI 15513: Cranes	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/standard/84553.html

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower-crane-operator/certification-overview
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10-hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30-hour-training/
Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)	10–60 days	https://www.tsa.gov/for-industry/twic

Supplier jobs represent the greater job market opportunity in offshore wind workforce across all job sectors. For every job created in these major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to 5 five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, existing businesses with relevant skills and capabilities across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Monopiles

Total Job Range: 880-3,550



U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

Nacelles

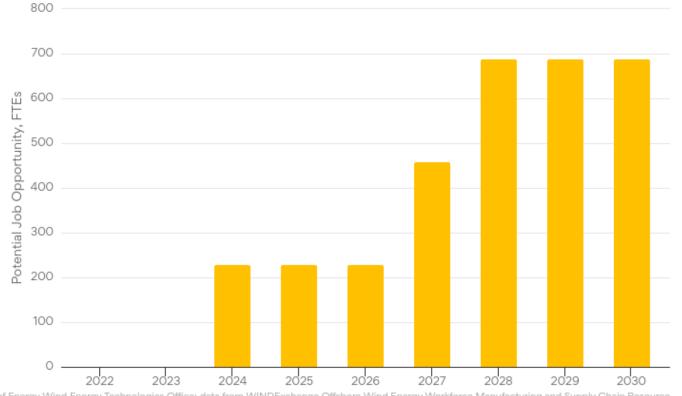
Workforce Needs

The figure below estimates the direct job needs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a 30 GW by 2030 target. The jobs count below represent any person working in the facility to produce or oversee the fabrication and assembly, including tradespeople, mangers, engineers, and professional services.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Nacelles (100% DC)





of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Nacelle Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Nacelle production manager
Design and Engineering	 Nacelle structure engineer Rotor design engineer Hydraulics engineer Direct-drive generator specialist/turbine generator engineer Poles design engineer Nacelle design engineer Electrical engineer Mechanical engineer Rotor design assistant Structural engineer Bearing engineer
Quality and Safety	 Nondestructive test and inspection technician Nacelle quality inspector Hub test engineer/hub inspector Quality control manager Quality control assistant

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Work	Blasting technician (applier)
	 Casting machinist Civil engineer technician Crane operator/crane engineer Computer numerical control (CNC)machinist Computer numerical control (CNC)machinist Direct-drive generator assembler Driller Electrical assemblers Electrical control system engineering assistant Electrical and electronics repairers, commercial and industrial equipment Electrical technician Gear machinist Generator assembler Heavy lift specialist/senior lifting engineer Hydraulic system assembler/mechanical filter Metal grinder Milling machinist Metal refiners Production supervisor/manager Surface engineer Steel worker Specialist coating technician (applier) Steel workers/casting engineer

Table 2. Nacelle Job Certifications

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
API 577: Welding Inspection and Metallurgy	1–5 years	https://www.api.org/products-and- services/individual-certification- programs/certifications/api577#tab-qualification
ASME Practical Welding Technology	8 days	https://www.asme.org/learning-development/find- course/practical-welding-technology-(2)/onlinefeb- 05-15th2024
Certified Calibration Technician (CCT)	5 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/calibration-technician
Certified Coating Applicator (CCA)	4 years	https://www.ampp.org/education/education- resources/courses-by-program/general- coatings/certified-coating-applicator
Certified Control Systems Technician (CCST)	5–13 years	https://www.isa.org/certification/ccst
Certified Electronics System Associate	6 months	https://certifiedelectronicstechnician.org/electronics- system-associate-exams-esa/
Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/QE)	10-15 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/manager-of-quality

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Certified Electronics System Associate	6 months	https://certifiedelectronicstechnician.org/electronics- system-associate-exams-esa/
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Programming Setup and Operations	Varies by program	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Computer numerical control (CNC)Mill Operation	38 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Certified Reliability Engineer (CRE)	11 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/reliability-engineer
Certified Quality Improvement Associate (CQIA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-improvement- associate
Certified Quality Inspector (CQI)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-inspector
Certified Quality Process Analyst (CQPA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-process-analyst
Certified Quality Technician (CQT)	4 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-technician
Drill Rig Operator National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operator	4-10 years	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/drill-rig- operator

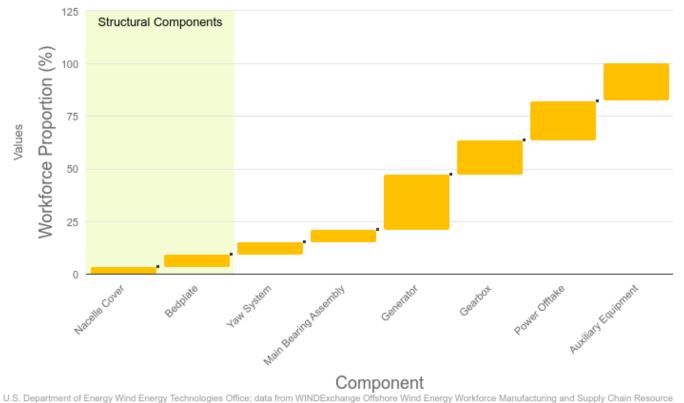
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic- safety-training-standard
ICS: 29.020 Electrical Engineering	Varies by program	https://https://www.iso.org/ics/29.020/x/
ISO 9001: 2015 Certified Lead Auditor	2 weeks	https://www.iso.org/standard/84553.html
ISO/AWI 15513: Cranes	Varies by program	https://asq.org/training/iso-9001-2015-certified-lead-auditor-viso90012015cla
Lean Certification	8-16 weeks	https://www.sme.org/training/lean-certification/
Milling I	Less than a year	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Mobile Crane Operations	55 hours	https://www.nccer.org/craft-catalog/mobile-crane- operations/
National Association of Manufacturers	Varies by program	https://www.nam.org/legal-expertise/manufacturing-institute/
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower- crane-operator/certification-overview

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
National Occupational Competency Testing Institute	Varies by program	https://www.nocti.org/credentials/blueprints
National Institute for Metalworking Skills	Varies by program	https://www.nims-skills.org/index.php/training
Nondestructive Testing (NDT)	8 months	https://www.trainingndt.com/complete-ndt-training/
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10-hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30-hour-training/
OSHA Forklift Certification Course	1 hour	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/forklift- certification/
Six Sigma Green Belt Certification	10 weeks	https://www.sixsigmacouncil.org/six-sigma-green- belt-certification/
Surface Mount Technology Association (SMTA)	1.5 days	https://smta.org/page/certification

Supplier jobs represent the greater job market opportunity in offshore wind workforce across all job sectors. For every job created in these major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to 5 five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, existing businesses with relevant skills and capabilities across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Nacelles

Total Job Range: 5,500-22,000



Towers

Workforce Needs

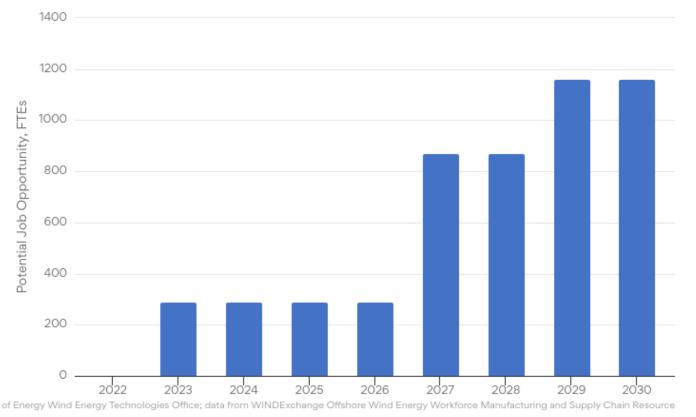
The figure below estimates the direct job needs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a 30 GW by 2030 target. The jobs count below represent any person working in the facility to produce or oversee the fabrication and assembly, including tradespeople, mangers, engineers, and professional services.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Towers (100% DC)

Number of direct FTE per facility: 290



Roles and Certifications

The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Tower Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Manufacturing manager
Design and Engineering	Cable engineerStructural engineerTower design engineer
Quality and Safety	 Nondestructive test and inspection technician Platform structure inspection Quality control assistant Quality control manager

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Work	 Blasting technician (applier) Computer numerical control (CNC)machinist Crane operator and crane engineer Driller Electrical control system engineering assistant Electrical support Heavy lift specialist/senior lifting engineer Metal grinder Metal refiners Milling machinist Millwrights Specialist coating technician (applier) Steel worker Surface engineer

The employees fabricating a component may have to complete a workforce certification based on the scope of work. Certification needs specific to the component are listed in the table below in alphabetical order by name. Additional research is needed to align the certifications with a specific occupation and understand the training needs for certifications.

Table 2. Tower Job Certifications

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
---------------	----------------	----------

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Certified Coating Applicator (CCA)	4 years	https://www.ampp.org/education/education- resources/courses-by-program/general-coatings/certified- coating-applicator
Certified Control Systems Technician (CCST)	5–13 years	https://www.isa.org/certification/ccst
Certified Construction Manager (CCM)	4–8 years	https://www.cmaanet.org/certification/ccm
Certified Quality Inspector (CQI)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-inspector
Certified Quality Technician (CQT)	4 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-technician
Certified Quality Inspector (CQI)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-inspector
Certified Quality Process Analyst (CQPA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-process-analyst
Certified Quality Improvement Associate (CQIA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-improvement-associate
Certified Quality Improvement Associate (CQIA)	2 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-improvement-associate

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)	2-8 weeks	https://www.aws.org/certification/inspectorprogram
Certified Welder Program	1-4 years	https://www.aws.org/certification/page/certified-welder- program
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Operations	37 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Computer numerical control (CNC)Lathe Programming Setup and Operations	Varies by program	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Computer numerical control (CNC)Mill Operation	38 hours	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/QE)	10-15 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/manager-of-quality
Certified Reliability Engineer (CRE)	11 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/reliability-engineer
Drill Rig Operator National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operator	4-10 years	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/drill-rig-operator

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic-safety-training-standard
ISO 9001: 2015 Certified Lead Auditor	2 weeks	https://asq.org/training/iso-9001-2015-certified-lead-auditor-viso90012015cla
ISO/AWI 15513: Cranes	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/standard/84553.html
Lean Certification	8-16 weeks	https://www.sme.org/training/lean-certification/
Milling I	Less than a year	https://www2.nims-skills.org/#
National Association of Manufacturers	Varies by program	https://www.nam.org/legal-expertise/manufacturing-institute/
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower-crane- operator/certification-overview
National Occupational Competency Testing Institute	Varies by program	https://www.nocti.org/credentials/blueprints

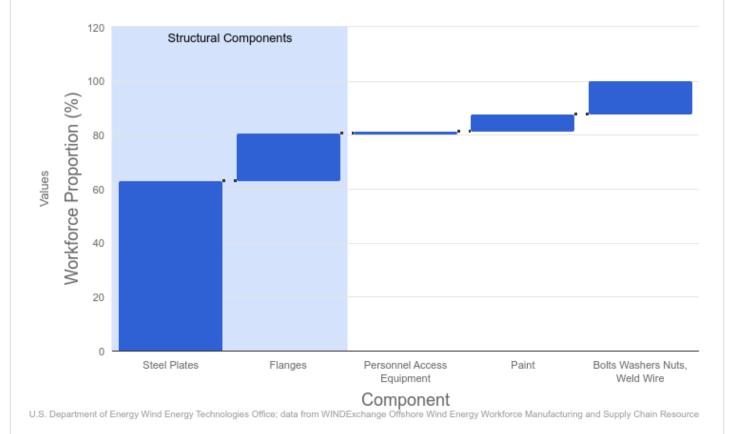
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
National Institute for Metalworking Skills	Varies by program	https://www.nims-skills.org/index.php/training
Nondestructive Testing (NDT)	8 months	https://www.trainingndt.com/complete-ndt-training/
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10-hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30-hour-training/
OSMRE Blaster Certification	3 years	https://www.osmre.gov/sites/default/files/inline-files/OSM%2074%20exp%202024%20update%206.17.21.pdf
Six Sigma Green Belt Certification	10 weeks	https://www.sixsigmacouncil.org/six-sigma-green-belt-certification/
Surface Mount Technology Association (SMTA)	1.5 days	https://smta.org/page/certification

Supplier Opportunity

Supplier jobs represent the greater job market opportunity in the offshore wind workforce across all job sectors. For every job created in these major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to 5 five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, existing businesses with relevant skills and capabilities across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Towers

Total Job Range: 400-1,600



Return to top

Transition Pieces

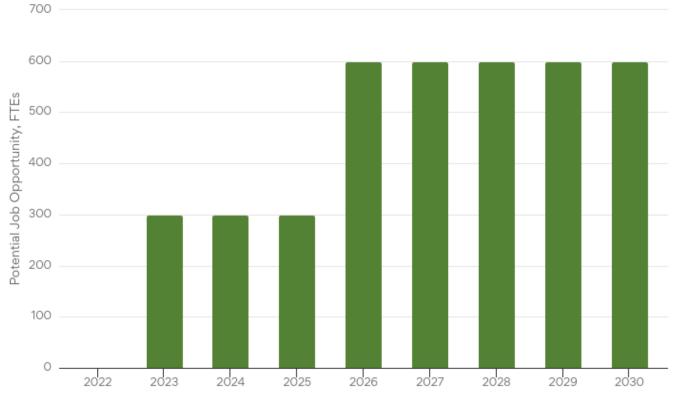
Workforce Needs

The figure below estimates the direct job needs in the major component manufacturing facility based on the number of workers needed, and facilities opening over time to fabricate components to reach a 30 GW by 2030 target. The jobs count below represent any person working in the facility to produce or oversee the fabrication and assembly, including tradespeople, mangers, engineers, and professional services.

The number of FTEs available is based on the number of direct FTE per facility multiplied by the number of facilities to produce supply 4–6 GW of projects per year. Direct FTEs are estimated from interviews and surveys of facility operators.

Transition Pieces (100% DC)

Number of direct FTE per facility: 300



of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

Roles and Certifications

The workers in each major component facility include different types of roles with various levels of education and experience requirements. The table below shows four different workforce categories and lists the types of occupations that exist to fabricate and assemble the major component, listed in alphabetical order by name.

Table 1. Transition Piece Roles

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Management	Manufacturing manager
Design and Engineering	• Drafter
Quality and Safety	Ultrasonic welding tester

Responsibility Level	Job Positions
Factory-Level Work	 Blasting technician (applier) Composite materials engineer Concrete pourer Crane operator Crane engineer Heavy lift specialist Metal cutter Milling machinist Production supervisor/manager Rolling machine setter Senior lifting engineer Specialist coating technician (applier) Steel worker Structural metal fabricator Welder Welding machinist/engineer

The employees fabricating a component may have to complete a workforce certification based on the scope of work. Certification needs specific to the component are listed in the table below in alphabetical order by name. Additional research is needed to align the certifications with a specific occupation and understand the training needs for certifications.

Table 2. Transition Piece Certifications

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
API 577: Welding	1-5 years	https://www.api.org/products-and-
Inspection and		services/individual-certification-
Metallurgy		programs/certifications/api577#tab-qualification

Certification	Length of Time	Resource
ASME Practical Welding Technology	8 Days	https://www.asme.org/learning-development/find- course/practical-welding-technology-(2)/online feb-05-15th2024
Certified Construction Manager (CCM)	4–8 years	https://www.cmaanet.org/certification/ccm
Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/QE)	10-15 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/manager-of-quality
Certified Quality Engineer (CQE)	5–10 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-engineer
Certified Quality Auditor (CQA)	6–11 years	https://www.asq.org/cert/quality-auditor
Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)	2-8 weeks	https://www.aws.org/certification/inspectorprogram
Certified Welder Program	1–4 years	https://www.aws.org/certification/page/certified- welder-program
Global Wind Organization Basic Safety Training (GWO BST)	2 days	https://www.globalwindsafety.org/standards/basic-safety-training-standard
ISO/AWI 15513: Cranes	Varies by program	https://www.iso.org/standard/84553.html

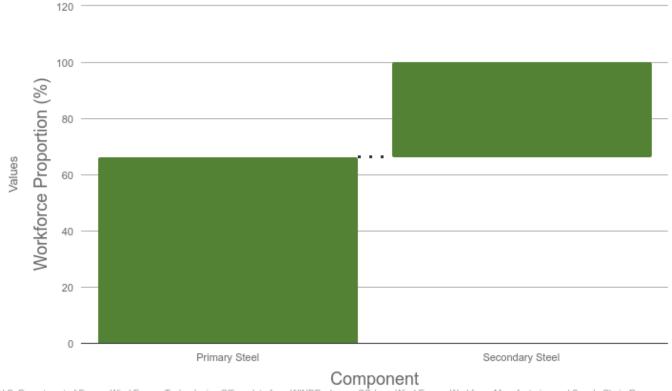
Certification	Length of Time	Resource
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)	1 year	https://www.nccco.org/nccco/certifications/tower-crane-operator/certification-overview
OSHA 10	2 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-10-hour-training/
OSHA 30	4 days	https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/osha-30- hour-training/
Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)	10–60 days	https://www.tsa.gov/for-industry/twic

Supplier Opportunity

Supplier jobs represent the greater job market opportunity in offshore wind workforce across all job sectors. For every job created in these major component manufacturing facilities, there is an opportunity space to train and hire up to 5 five supplier jobs to produce subassemblies, parts, and materials. In addition, existing businesses with relevant skills and capabilities across the country participate in the offshore wind supply chain. The number of supplier jobs will depend on the level of domestic content in the supporting supply chain, with the numbers below assuming 25% to 100% domestic content (i.e., how many of these products are made in the United States instead of being imported). The figure below maps component-by-component flowcharts with a breakdown of workforce magnitude for each subassembly or subcomponent.

Workforce Magnitude for Transition Pieces

Total Job Range: 500-2,000



U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office; data from WINDExchange Offshore Wind Energy Workforce Manufacturing and Supply Chain Resource

Return to top

References

- [1] Stefek, Jeremy, Chloe Constant, Caitlyn Clark, Heidi Tinnesand, Corrie Christol, Ruth Baranowski. 2022. U.S. Offshore Wind Workforce Assessment. Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory. NREL/TP-5000-81798https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy23osti/81798.pdf ...
- [2] Same as above.
- [3] Shields, Matt, Ruth Marsh, Jeremy Stefek, Frank Oteri, Ross Gould, Noé Rouxel, Katherine Diaz, Javier Molinero, Abigayle Moser, Courtney Malvik, and Sam Tirone. 2022. The Demand for a Domestic Offshore Wind Energy Supply Chain. Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory. NREL/TP-5000-81602. https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy22osti/81602.pdf.
- [4] Shields, Matt, Jeremy Stefek, Frank Oteri, Sabina Maniak, Matilda Kreider, Elizabeth Gill, Ross Gould, Courtney Malvik, Sam Tirone, Eric Hines. 2023. A Supply Chain Road Map for Offshore Wind Energy in the United States. Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory. NREL/TP-5000-84710. https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy23osti/84710.pdf ...

Publication Information

This factsheet was sponsored by DOE Wind Energy Technologies Office and created by NREL to compile data and insights on manufacturing and supply chain opportunities within offshore wind energy industry.

If you would like to get involved in the Offshore Wind Workforce Network or feel your organization is misrepresented or not included in this factsheet, please contact us at WindWorkforce@nrel.gov.

This work was authored by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, operated by Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC, for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract No. DE-AC36-08GO28308. Funding provided by U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office. The views expressed in the article do not necessarily represent the views of the DOE or the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government retains and the publisher, by accepting the article for publication, acknowledges that the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, paid-up, irrevocable, worldwide license to publish or reproduce the published form of this work, or allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes.

Return to top

WINDExchange is a resource of the U.S. Department of Energy's Wind Energy Technologies Office.

Contact Us(/contact-us/) | Wind Energy Technologies Office

(https://energy.gov/eere/wind/wind-energy-technologies-office) | Office of Energy Efficiency &

Renewable Energy(https://energy.gov/eere) | Privacy

(https://energy.gov/about-us/web-policies/privacy)