

**RINA confirms participation in renewable energy initiative**

GENOA-based classification society RINA has confirmed its participation in the European offshore renewable energy initiative ORECCA (Offshore Renewable Energy Conversion platforms Co-ordination Action), which came into operation on March 1, 2010.

ORECCA is a project developed under the EU's 7th Framework Programme for research and development, and brings together 28 partners comprising individual companies, technology centres and universities from twelve EU countries in a scheme to develop deep-water structures which can exploit wind, wave, tidal and ocean current energy sources. It will last eighteen months and will receive a financial contribution from the EU of 1.59m Euros

ORECCA aims to create a framework for knowledge sharing by developing a research roadmap for activities in the context of offshore renewable energy. This will help define strategic investment opportunities, R&D priorities and the regulatory and socio-economic factors which need to be addressed in order to achieve a strategy for a European policy on development of the offshore renewable energy sector. ORECCA is also designed to overcome the knowledge fragmentation which exists in Europe in connection with offshore renewable energy, and to stimulate key experts into providing useful input to industry. In this way it is hoped to foster the development of the ocean energy sector in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.

RINA's role in ORECCA is to lead the workgroup in charge of reviewing and benchmarking the available and proposed technologies, aiming at defining the state of the art and the applicable rules to each type of structure, in the fields of offshore wind energy, wave and tidal energy and oil&gas.

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RINA is one of the oldest classification societies and certification companies in the world. Established in Genoa in 1861 to serve the marine industry, today it spans the globe as a multinational and multi-faceted company, sharing its knowledge and experience through a wide range of services which help industries and the community to improve their businesses and quality of life. RINA's services cover the environment, energy, transportation, logistics, safety, quality and social responsibility

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