

# OIL AND GAS CAPABILITIES

Orkney



Highlands and Islands Enterprise  
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean



Kirkwall, Orkney

## ORKNEY OIL AND GAS CAPABILITIES

Orkney has strong links to the energy industry and has utilised its geographical positioning to build up an advanced supply chain. Since the arrival of the first North Sea crude oil in December 1976, Flotta oil terminal has operated as the second largest major oil terminal serving the UK North Sea and has provided a landing for the Piper and Claymore fields pipe line system.

Furthermore, Orkney is host to the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) which provides world-class testing facilities to the marine renewable energy industry. As a result of recent marine energy developments, large investment has been made in the three ports of Kirkwall, Stromness and Lyness. This infrastructure is supported by Orkney Islands Council Marine Services Division which provides an integrated portfolio of harbour authority, towage and pilotage services.

Although emphasis is currently placed upon the marine renewable energy industry, Orkney has developed a system of harbour facilities and a supply chain which would prove an excellent resource for the oil and gas industry.

### ORKNEY AT A GLANCE

2011 (ESTIMATE) POPULATION  
**21,530 +**

AREA  
**99,000 hectares**

DISTANCE FROM ABERDEEN  
**253 miles**

MAJOR SETTLEMENT  
**Kirkwall**

KEY PORTS  
**Hatston, Stromness, Lyness and Flotta**

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### Demographics

In 2011, Orkney had a population of around 21,530 people; with the majority of the population living in Kirkwall. This represents an increase of 9.3% since 2001 and compares to a 7.8% increase overall in the Highlands and Islands and 4.6% increase in Scotland.

### Education

Orkney has had a long standing history of its workforce engaging with the oil and gas industry. As a result there is a large pool of potential talent with significant experience working internationally within the oil and gas industry.

The University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) is a partnership of colleges, learning and research centres, working together to provide university-level education, with over 800 students studying engineering courses across its different locations, including BSc Mechanical Engineering among others. The UHI network is committed to providing courses that present relevant content by working closely with local employers.

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The International Centre for Island Technology (ICIT), based in Orkney, is an academic partnership between Heriot-Watt University, UHI and Total. This resource provides a local post-graduate level education specific to the energy industry.

The prospect of the Orkney Campus Project is likely to result in a hub which brings together a range of training facilities providing industry specific education to meet the requirements of market players.

### Transport Links

Ferries operate from Aberdeen (6hrs) and Scrabster (90mins), Gills Bay (1hr) or John O'Groats in Caithness (40mins).

Orkney is easily accessed by air with flights, from Glasgow (1hr 20min), Aberdeen (50mins), Edinburgh (1hr 20mins), Inverness (45mins) and Sumburgh (35mins). All of these Scottish airports have excellent UK and overseas flight connections to choose from.

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### Craneage

Local contractors provide maximum lifting capacity of 220T.

### Supply Chain

Orkney's supply chain offers a wide range of oil and gas related services including; environmental services, commercial diving and workboats and engineering consultancy.

A comprehensive supply chain can be found at [www.hi-energy.org.uk](http://www.hi-energy.org.uk) and [www.energynorth.co.uk/documents/fabrication-doc-2013-final-version.aspx](http://www.energynorth.co.uk/documents/fabrication-doc-2013-final-version.aspx)



Hatston Pier

## HATSTON PIER

Hatston Pier is located in Kirkwall, Orkney. Since 2003 deep-water facilities have been in place. A 160m extension to the existing 225m pier was officially opened at the end of April 2013, making Hatston pier the longest commercial deep-water berth in Scotland with an overall length of 385 metres. The ordnance and maintenance of renewable energy machinery has resulted in significant investment in the supply chain for heavy industry and the presence of development land in the close vicinity make Hatston a viable site for oil and gas support vessel operators.

### Craneage

Craneage is available locally.

### Utilities and Facilities

- Waste removal
- Towage and tug services available locally
- Fresh water available
- Cranes available from local contractors
- High speed broadband connections

### Transport Links

Located just to the west of Kirkwall harbour with good road access to town.

### Contact

Kirkwall, Hatston Pier  
 T 01856 873636  
 E [harbours@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:harbours@orkney.gov.uk)

### HATSTON PIER AT A GLANCE

#### OWNERSHIP

**Orkney Islands Council Marine Services**

#### WATER DEPTH AT QUAYSIDE

**Ro-Ro Berth: 8m LAT,  
 Central Berth: 10.5m LAT,  
 two further at 4.5m LAT**

#### VESSEL ACCESS

**Vessels up to 225m length**

#### PLANNING STATUS

**Orkney Harbour Authority has permitted development powers for port-related facilities**

#### QUAYSIDE LENGTH

**Berth: 385m  
 Total quay side edge: 814m**



Lyness Harbour

## LYNESS HARBOUR

The former naval base of Lyness on the Orkney Island of Hoy was established as a major base for the British grand fleet towards the end of World War 1. The waters of Scapa Flow provide 50 square miles of deep water, sheltered anchorage and its direct access to the Pentland Firth made Lyness one of the most strategically important naval bases in Europe at that time.

Today, Lyness is a hive of activity. The site is currently utilised by the marine renewable energy industry but has the potential to provide a base for oil and gas operators due to its good access routes by sea via Scapa Flow and the unutilised ground surrounding it.

### LYNESS HARBOUR AT A GLANCE

#### OWNERSHIP

**Orkney Islands Council**

#### WATER DEPTH AT QUAYSIDE

**5-8m at Golden Wharf, 9m at Lyness Wharf**

#### VESSEL ACCESS

**Unrestricted and with convenient access to Pentland Firth**

#### PLANNING STATUS

**Planning approved: identified as an area to support renewables**

#### QUAYSIDE LENGTH/WEIGHT BEARING

**Lyness Wharf: 123m  
Golden Wharf: 190m  
Heavy lift of 1,000 tonnes**



MultiCat vessels, Stromness, Orkney

## STROMNESS HARBOUR AND COPLAND'S DOCK

Stromness Harbour is a busy commercial port which handles daily inter-island and mainland ferry services, cargo vessels, fishing fleets, diving vessels and leisure marina. This facility will be supported for commercial purposes upon completion of Copland's Dock which will service the marine renewable energy industry. Port services such as stevedoring, craneage, hauling and tugs are all available.

### Utilities (available at all piers)

- Waste removal
- Towing and tug services available locally
- Fresh water available
- Cranes available from local contractors
- High speed broadband connections
- Large industrial sheds in development phase

### STROMNESS HARBOUR AT A GLANCE

OWNERSHIP  
**Orkney Islands Council**

WATER DEPTH AT QUAYSIDE  
**North Pier: 6m**  
**Pier: 4.5m**

VESSEL ACCESS  
**Excellent sea access- entry channel is 100m wide and 7.3m deep**

PLANNING STATUS  
**Orkney Harbour Authority has permitted development powers for port-related facilities**

QUAYSIDE LENGTH  
**North Pier: 2 x 120m berths**  
**South Pier: 130m**



Flotta oil terminal

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## FLOTTA OIL TERMINAL

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Orkney's involvement with the oil and gas industry commenced in December 1976 with the arrival of the first North Sea crude at a terminal newly built on the island of Flotta. This site was dictated by the surrounding waters of Scapa Flow. The area had proved itself as a safe deep-water anchorage during the first and second world wars and it was decided it would provide a similar service for the tankers that would ship oil and gas processed at the terminal to customers around the world. The facility has functioned as a site for over 180 STS transfers, including the World's first commercial transfer of LNG.

For more information please contact:

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