

Making waves in marine

"The breadth and depth of Plymouth's marine sector is something we draw upon daily to help us stay at the top of our game as the UK's leading support services company, trusted by customers around the world."

Archie Bethel, Divisional Chief Executive, Babcock - Marine, Plymouth



Positively Plymouth



Making waves in marine

Plymouth is a global centre of excellence for marine industry and marine renewables research, with one of the largest clusters of experience in marine sciences, education, engineering and technology in Europe. Accelerating growth in this sector is a top priority for Plymouth City Council, backed by a city-wide strategy that brings together unique assets with world-class expertise.

Five reasons to partner with us

1 Expertise

There are more than 500 professional staff employed through the Plymouth Marine Sciences Partnership (PMSP), including Plymouth Marine Labs, which has a global reputation.

PMSP's work includes turning world-class marine science and technology into solutions for UK and international markets, with potential applications across all marine sectors

Renewables research focuses on construction, deployment, operation, performance and impact of all types of marine energy systems, from wave and tidal stream to offshore wind.

And Plymouth University is part of PRIMaRE, the Peninsula Research Institute for Marine Renewable Energy, which boasts one of the greatest concentrations of marine academics in the world.

www.pmsp.org.uk www.primare.org

2 Supply chain

Plymouth is home to more than 300 marine-related businesses and the sector employs around 13,600 people, making up 11.3% of all employment in the city.

Particular strengths include science and technology professionals, skilled metal working and electronics. These businesses embrace a wide range of skills from advanced manufacturing, composites and engineering, to consultancy and offshore support services.

Companies already in Plymouth include Babcock Marine, the UK's leading engineering support services company with 4,400 staff at Devonport Dockyard, and Princess Yachts International with almost 2,000 employees.

Princess Yachts International is planning a £35 million expansion in the city and is at the cutting-edge of large-scale composites manufacture.

For the offshore renewables sector, a supply chain directory for South West England is available from: www.regensw.co.uk



3 Unique assets

Plymouth has extensive port infrastructure and the largest naval base in Western Europe, with key transferable skills relevant to the development of emerging marine renewables.

Assets include the 22-acre South Yard site within Devonport Dockyard which has been earmarked as a potential research and development hub for wave and tidal marine energy.

Opening in 2012, the Plymouth University's Marine Building will house two wave and tidal tanks to model coastal and deep ocean conditions. The ocean tank is one of the deepest, and most sophisticated, in Europe with multi-directional waves and variable direction currents to model complex deep water environments.

The facility will also feature a state-of-the-art bridge simulator that can mimic a wide range of vessels, ports and weather conditions to train mariners from around the world in a variety of scenarios.

Plymouth also serves the cross-Channel ferry and cruise markets, has a wide range of marinas and is ideally located in some of the UK's best sailing waters.

4 Regional strengths:

Working closely with partners in Cornwall, Plymouth is leading the drive to create a South West Marine Energy Park (MEP). The park will provide strategic leadership for marine energy in the South West bringing together resources and assets from across the region to attract investment, and accelerate the commercialisation of marine energy technologies.

The MEP will combine assets in Plymouth, large scale manufacturing and advanced marine engineering capability with those of Cornwall including unique test facilities such as the Wave Hub, which is the world's largest grid-connected marine energy test site, and the new FabTest site in Falmouth Bay.

5 Priority focus

Stimulating growth in marine and renewables is the most important of six priority sectors identified by Plymouth City Council, the unitary local government authority for the city.

Companies and investors can therefore be assured of a warm welcome including potential support from a dedicated Plymouth Growth Fund geared towards supporting priority sectors, and a nationally recognised business-friendly planning policy.



What now?

Plymouth is a globally important player in marine industries. It stands at the cusp of becoming a major player in the commercialisation of marine renewable energy.

If you would like more information about what Plymouth offers the marine and renewables sector or to discuss the exciting opportunities available, please contact:

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“Plymouth has been home to Princess Yachts for over 45 years. We have found it to be very supportive of us and our growth plans which is why we want to invest over £35m in developing our Superyacht facilities here.”

Chris Gates, Managing Director of Princess Yachts International, Plymouth