



Rotech Subsea were contracted to assist with cable de-burial, cut and recovery operations on an offshore wind farm. Rotech provided the RS2-3 hybrid Controlled Flow Excavator (CFE) equipment spread to carry out cable de-burial and the RSG-C Spread of equipment to complete the cable cut and recovery operations. An additional RS2 tool was provided to give the option of using the tool in TRS2 configuration to give maximum flow if required to displace the very hard soils that had been jetted with the RS3 tool.

Rotech were to carry out approx. 500m of cable de-burial, cut cable at both ends and recover the cable to deck.

Project Information:

- Water Depth - 12- 15m
- Scope - Cable de-burial, cable cut and recovery
- Total excavation depth required - 2m
- Soils - Boulder Clay

The RS2-3 was launched on the port side using the vessel crane. The RS2-3 remained suspended above the cable to complete burial operations. The vessel then then moved along the areas of the cable route that required burial. Trench depth was monitored real time using a sonar imager mounted to the CFE tool to confirm when the 2m trench depth had been achieved and the cable had been exposed.

The RS2-3 CFE tool has a maximum outlet pressure of 300kPa and a max jet flow of 4000L/s. Rotech provided an additional RS2 CFE tool which enabled Rotech to run the tool in TRS2 configuration which is capable of 8000L/s of flow. The soils in the area were very hard and sticky clay. The de-burial was completed in 2 passes, 1 pass with RS2-3 and the 2nd pass with TRS2.

The RSG-C spread of equipment was launched on the stern of the vessel, both the onshore and offshore end of the cable was grabbed, cut and recovered to deck successfully and safely.

Rotech Crew and the vessel deck crew worked very well together with good communication which lead to very efficient tool launch and recovery operations and overall project success. The RS2-3 and RSG-C performed as expected and achieved the excavation / cut works required by the client.