

# Solar at Sea II



**Nationaal Consortium Zon op Water**

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- Introduction
- Solar@Sea II
  - Concept
  - Demo Oostvoorne
  - Tests
  - Lessons learned
- Next phase
- Q&A

Please feel free to interact





# Solar@Sea Project Overview



## Solar@sea I

Thin film P/V on  
Foam structure

On floater in Weperpolder

## Solar@sea II

Thin film P/V on  
Inflatable floaters

2 floaters in Oostvoornse meer  
Brackish water

Basin tests 1:1  
Mechanical tests  
Manufacturing analysis  
Fouling tests  
Material aging tests

## Solar@sea III

Thin film P/V on  
Inflatable floaters

4 floaters in NSF Offshore Test Site

Basin test scaled  
Monitoring system linked to digital  
twin.  
Offshore installation and removal  
procedure.

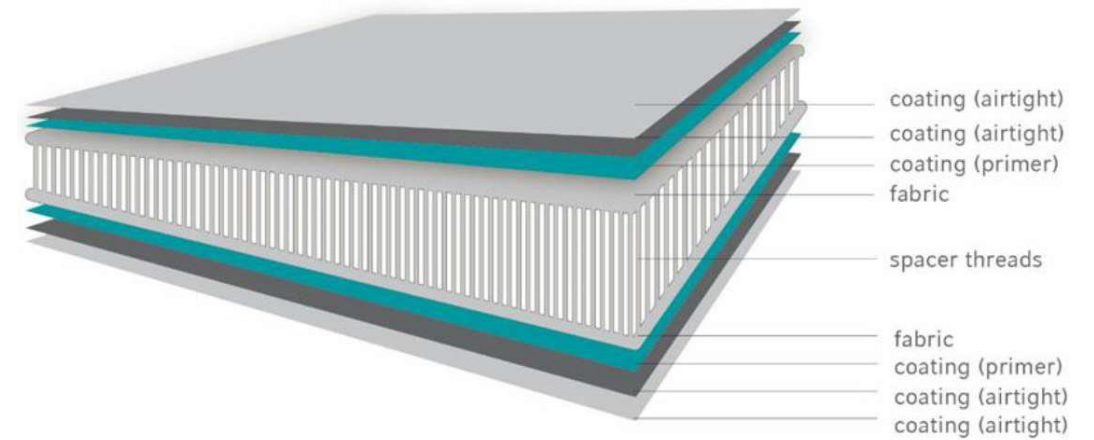


Design from start with commercial application in mind

- Materials
- Fabrication
- Transport
- Installation
- Operation

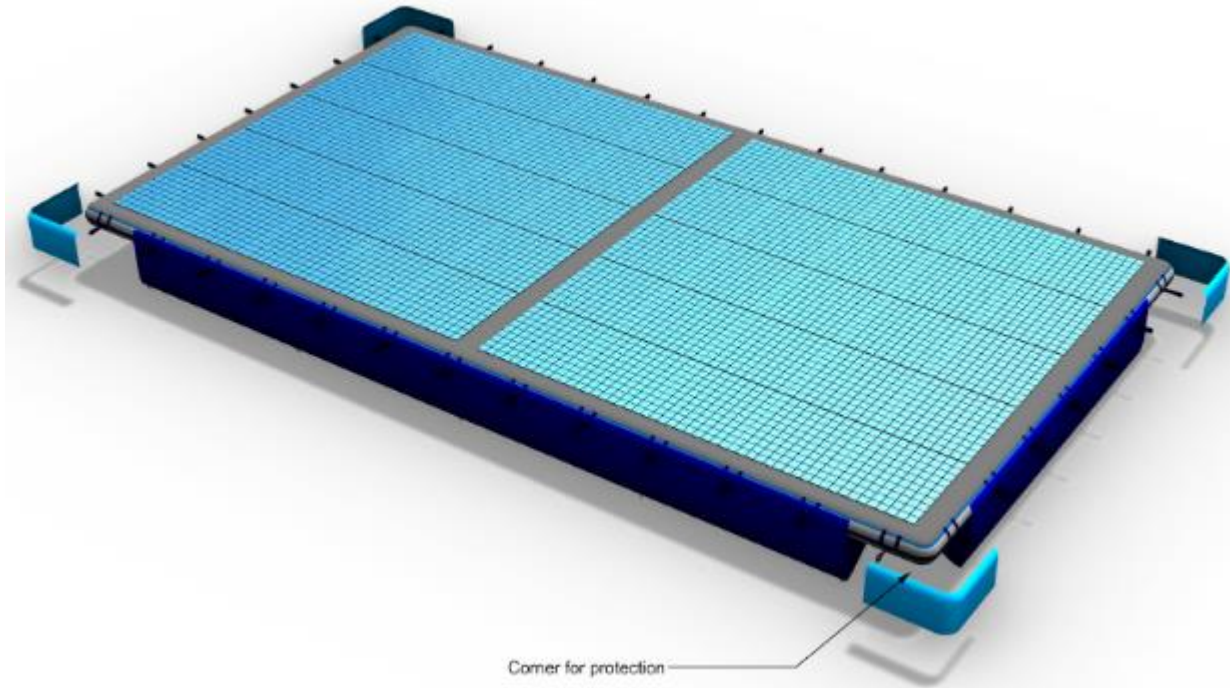
# Solar@Sea Concept - Floater

Double walled fabric drop stitch floaters  
Thin film P/V panels on top  
Flexible system, moving with the waves



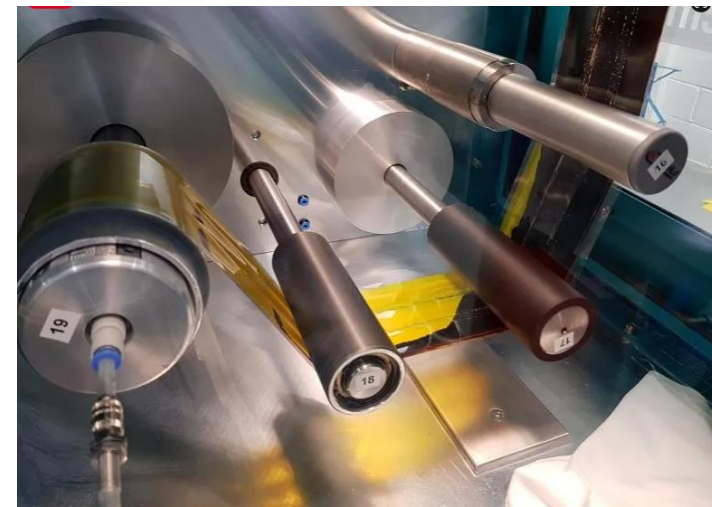
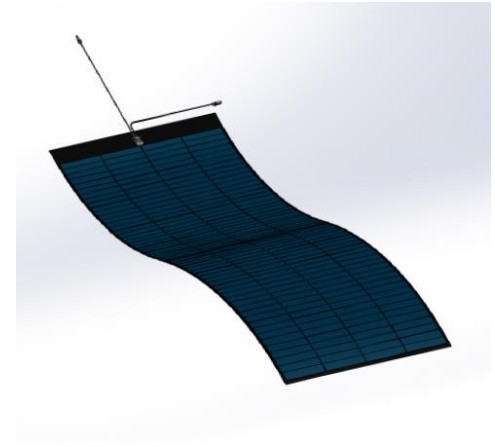
# Solar@Sea Concept - Floater

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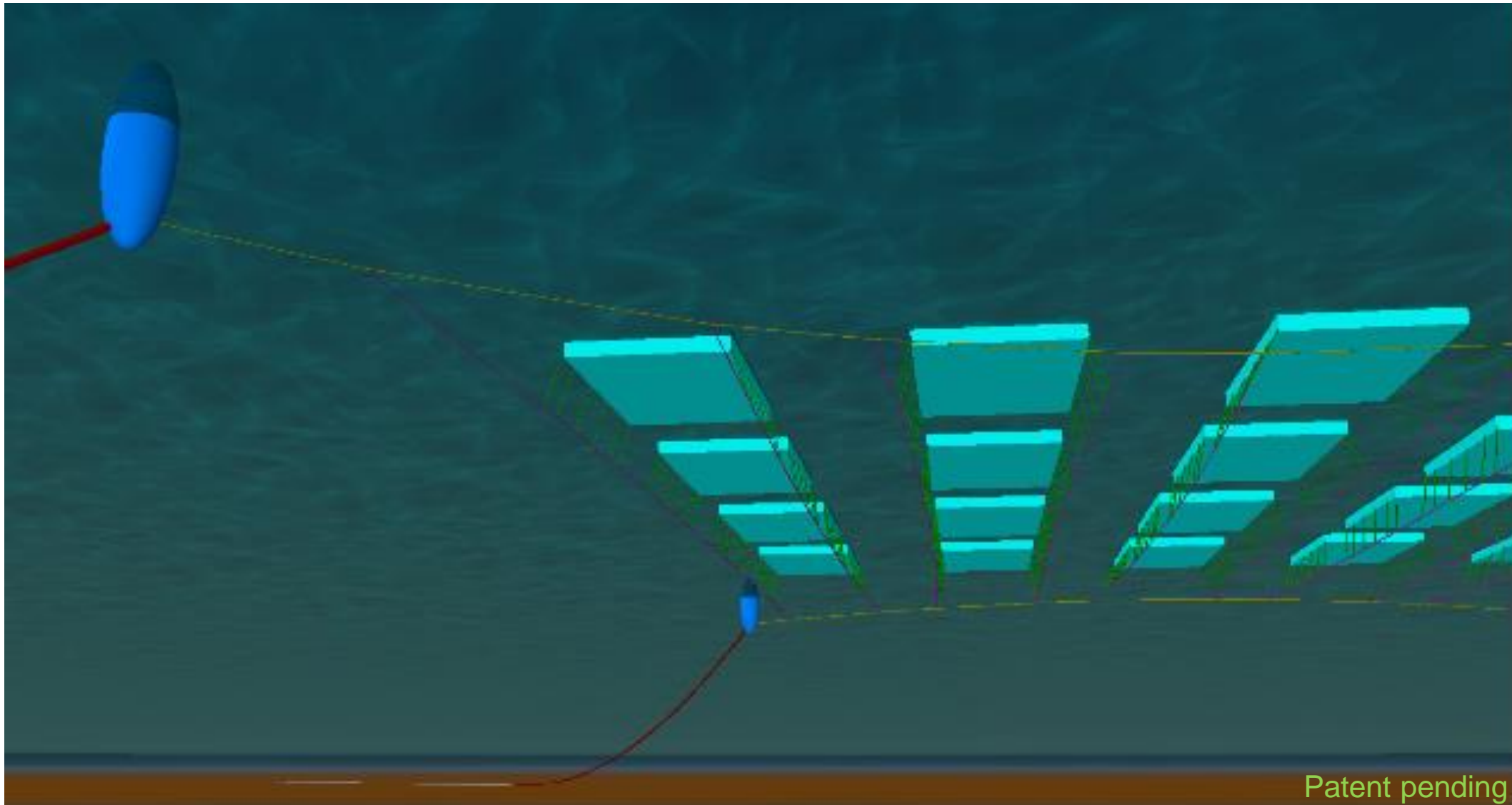


## Flexible PV modules (CIGS tested)

- Light weight
- No significant degradations under frequent small deformations
- Commercially available in lengths up to 6 m
- Certified for salt spray
- Efficiency increasing every year
- Costs will drop significantly by ‘economy of scale’. Production techniques maturing.



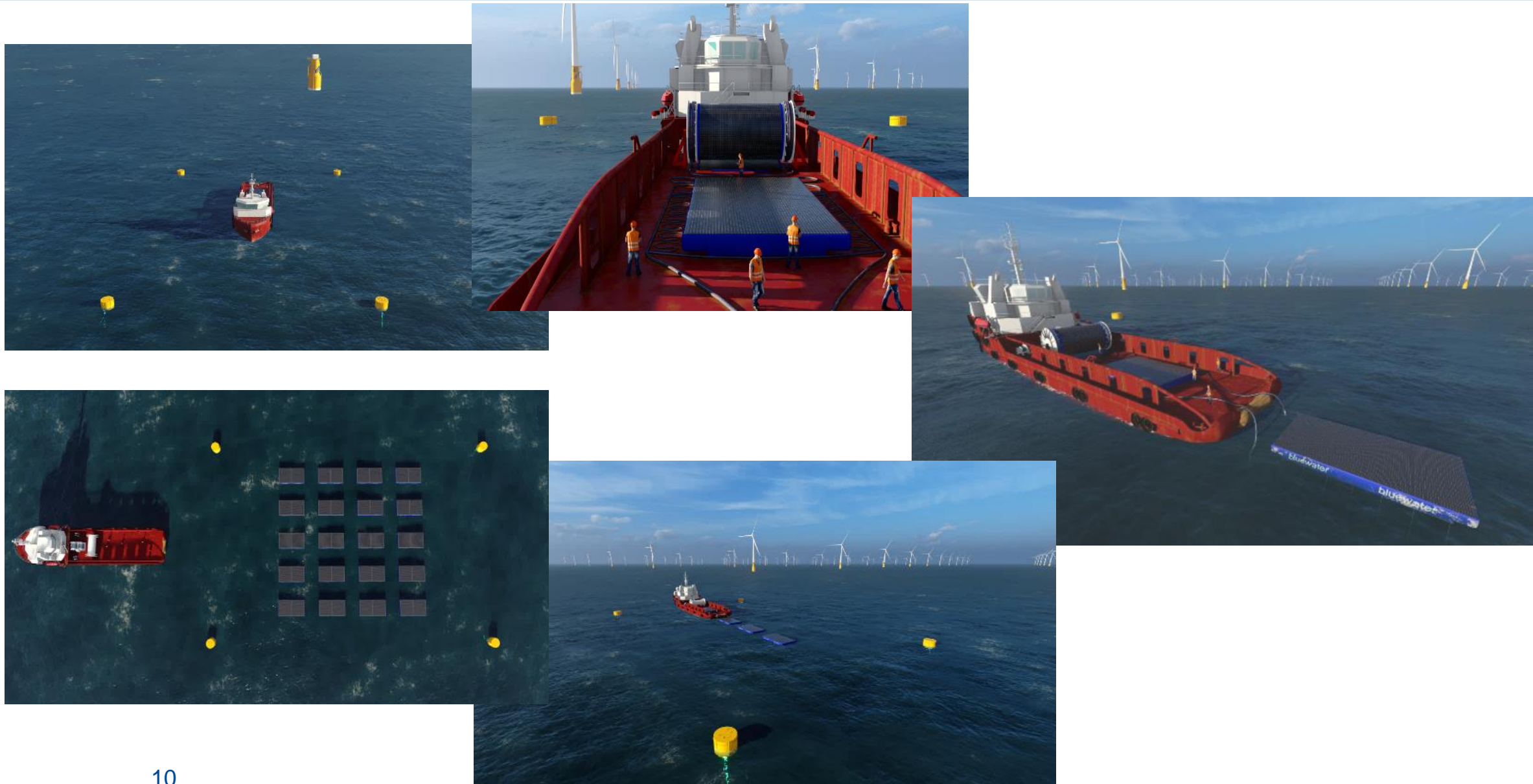


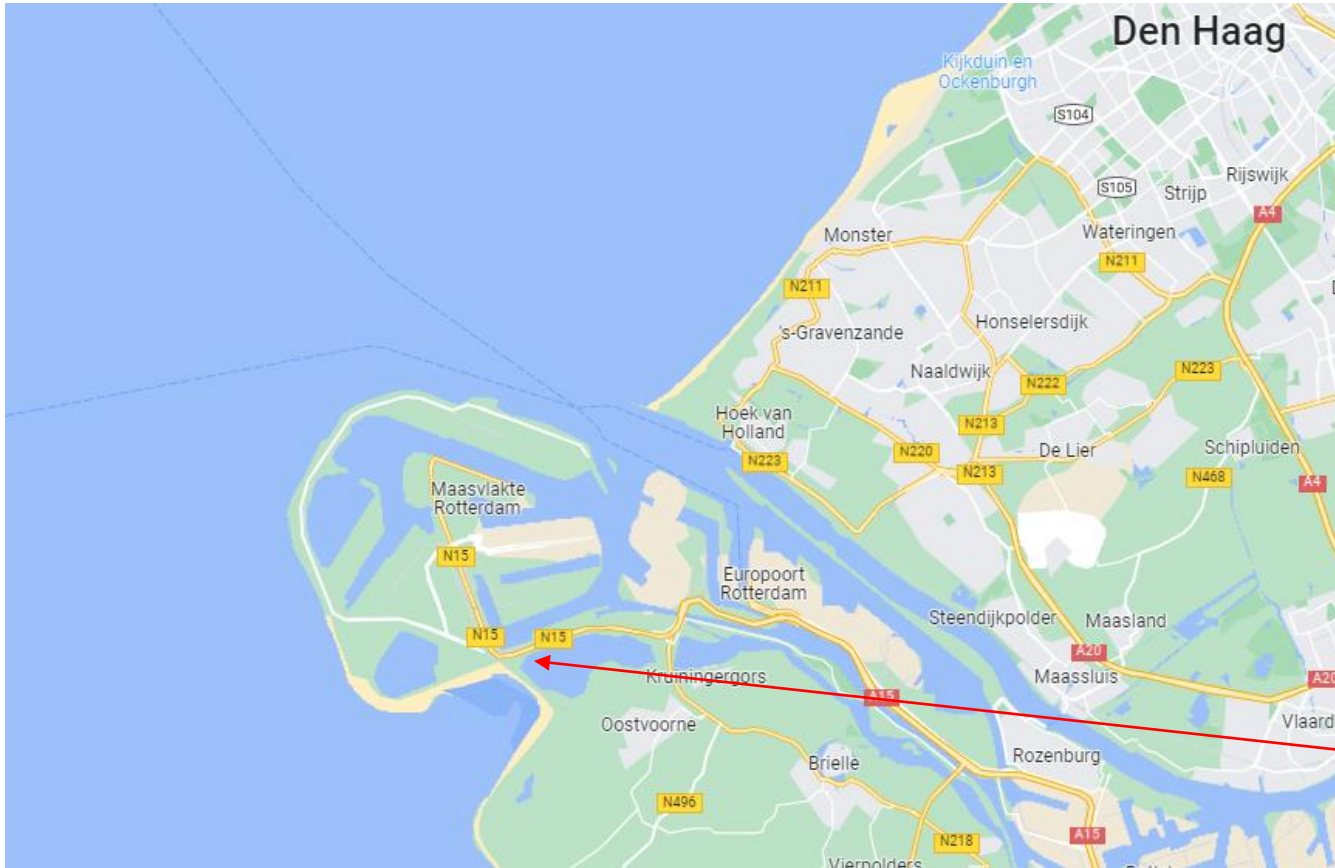


Patent pending

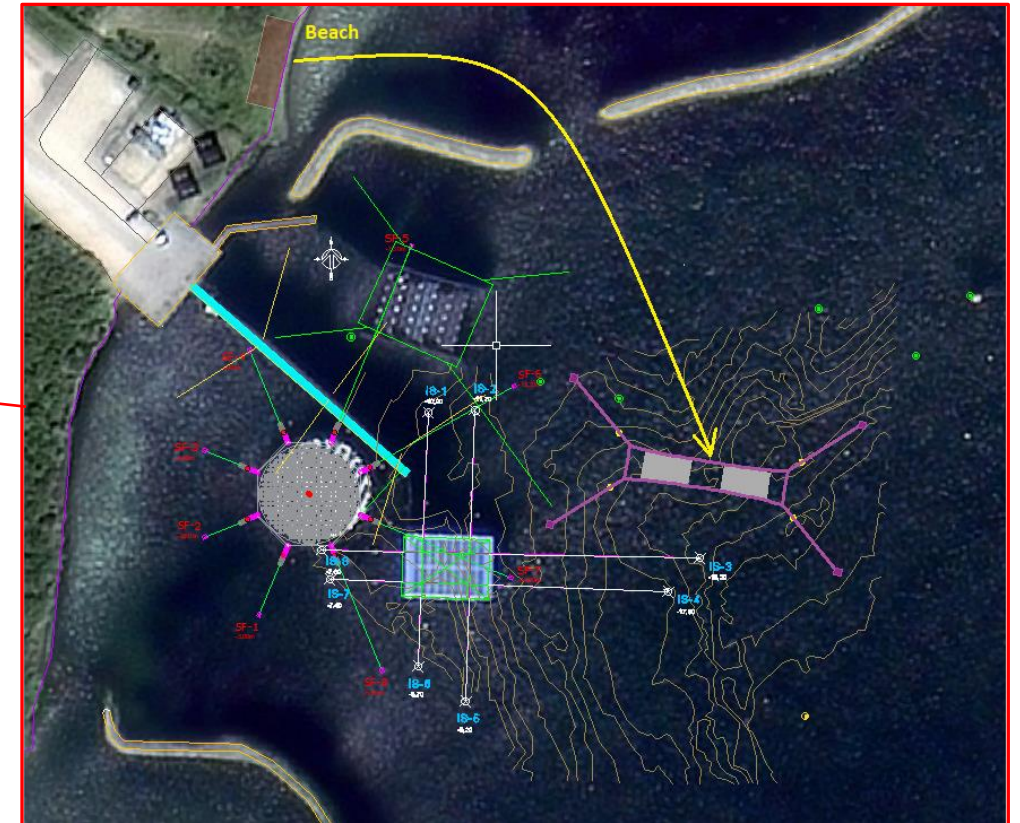
# Solar@Sea Concept - Installation

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- Full scale Oostvoornse Meer
- November 2021 – November 2022



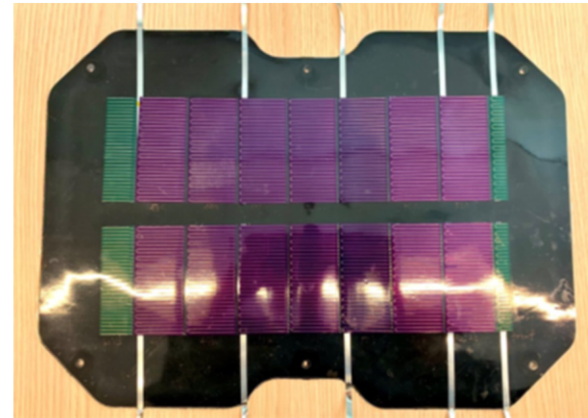






Dancing Beetle

## Experiment



Test module (50x40 cm<sup>2</sup>) with flexible CIGS cells in vertical orientation.

Wave type	Period (s)	Length (m)	Wave height (m)	Maximum bending height (mm)	Maximum theoretical strain (%)
1	4.5	31	0.8	0.96	1.24
2	5.2	43	0.9	0.61	0.79
3	5.4	44	1.2	0.76	0.98
4	5.3	44	2.4	1.55	2.00

Dominant wave types at the North Sea (columns 1-4), and the resulting bending and strain on a 50x40 cm<sup>2</sup> test module (columns 5 &6)

# Tests – Basin, uplift

A

No ballast



B

Triangular water ballast + 5 kg/m lead



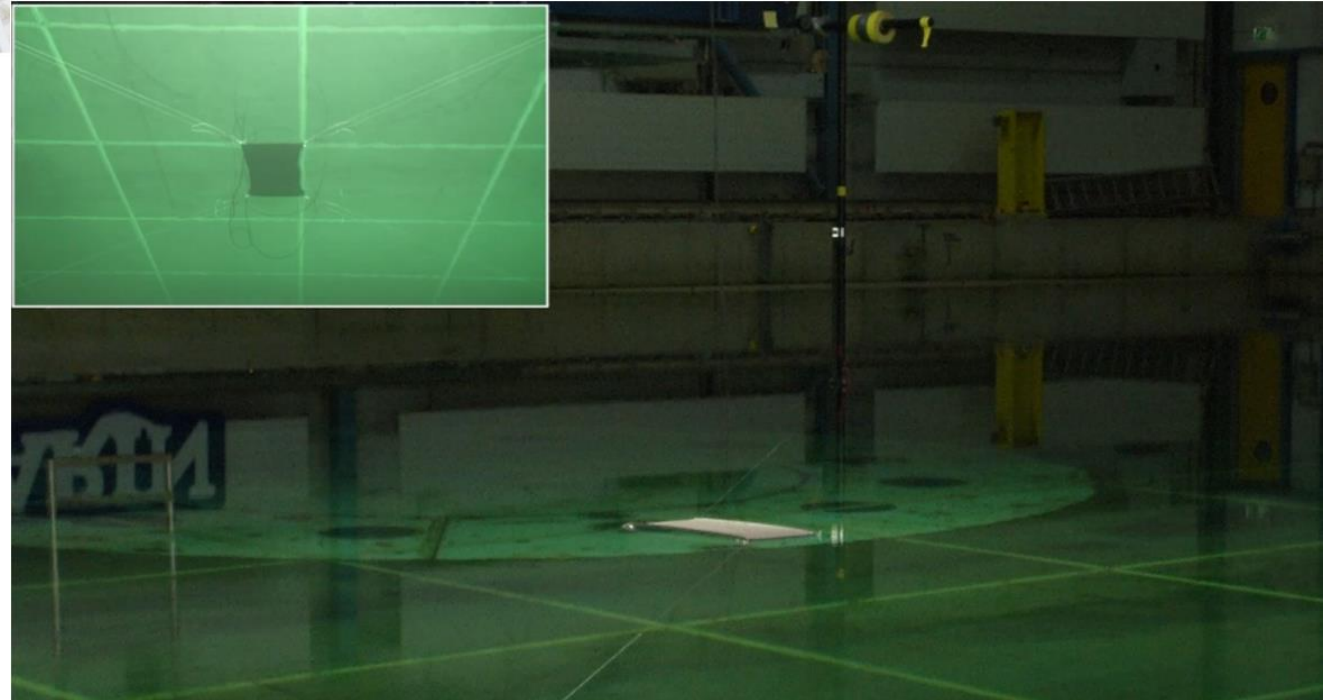
C

Skirt with 5 kg/m lead



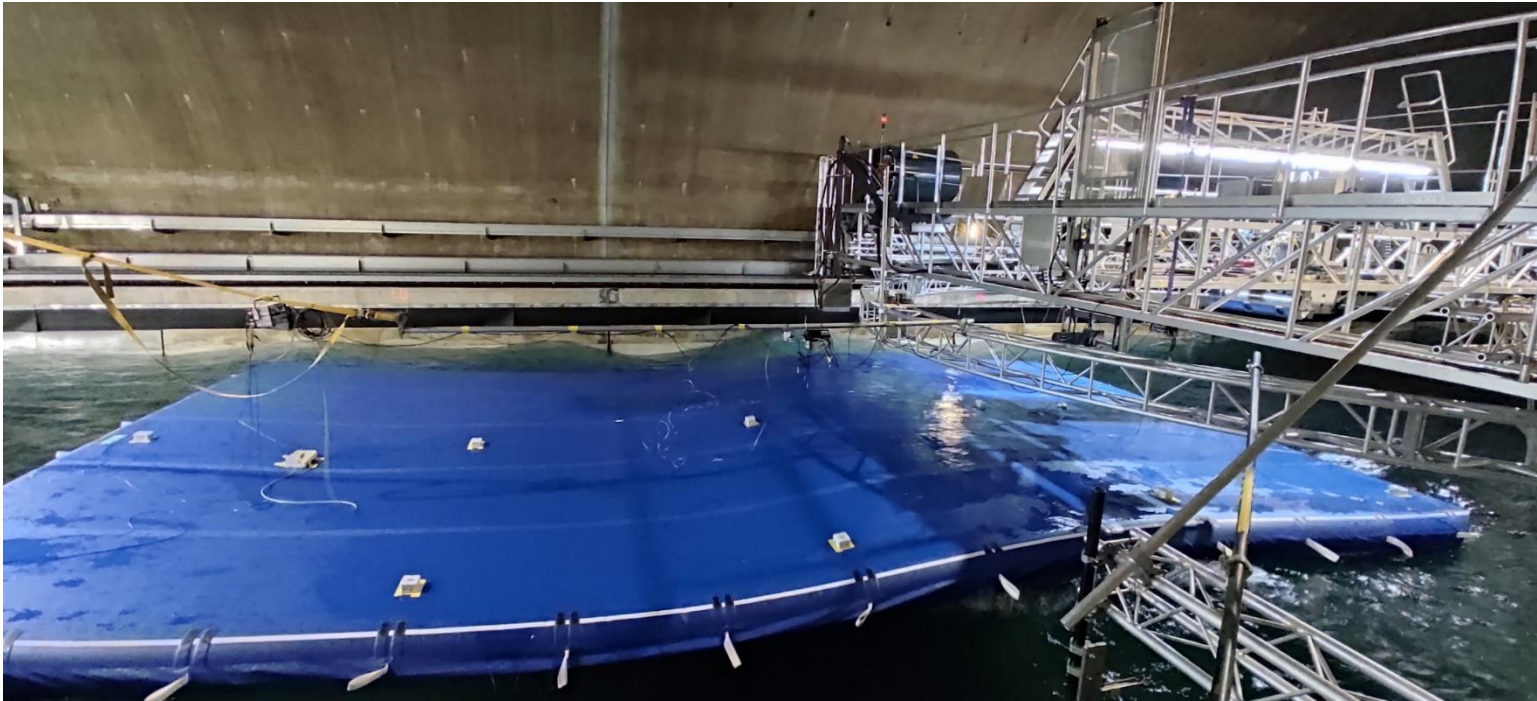
D

Sleeve in droplet shape ballast

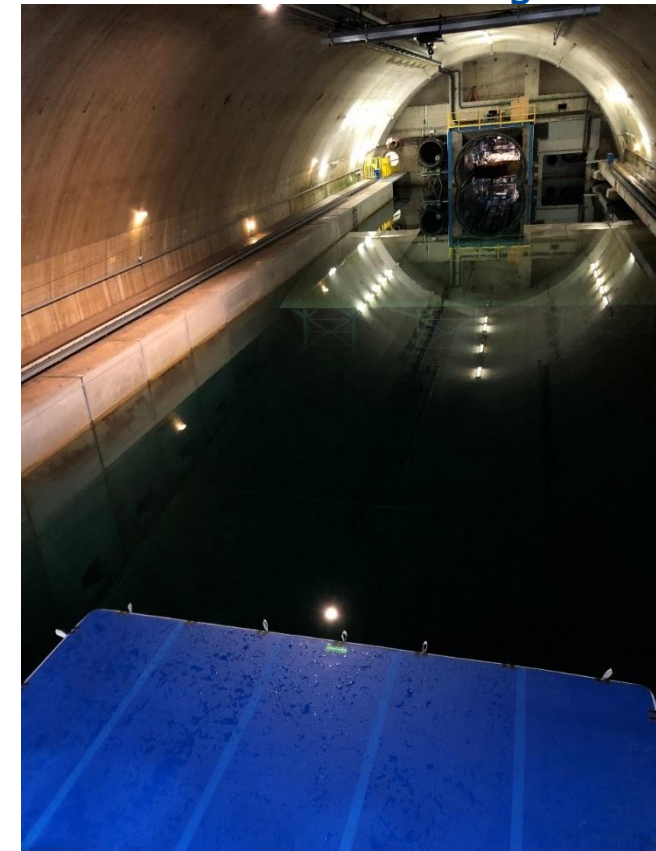


# Tests – Basin, full scale

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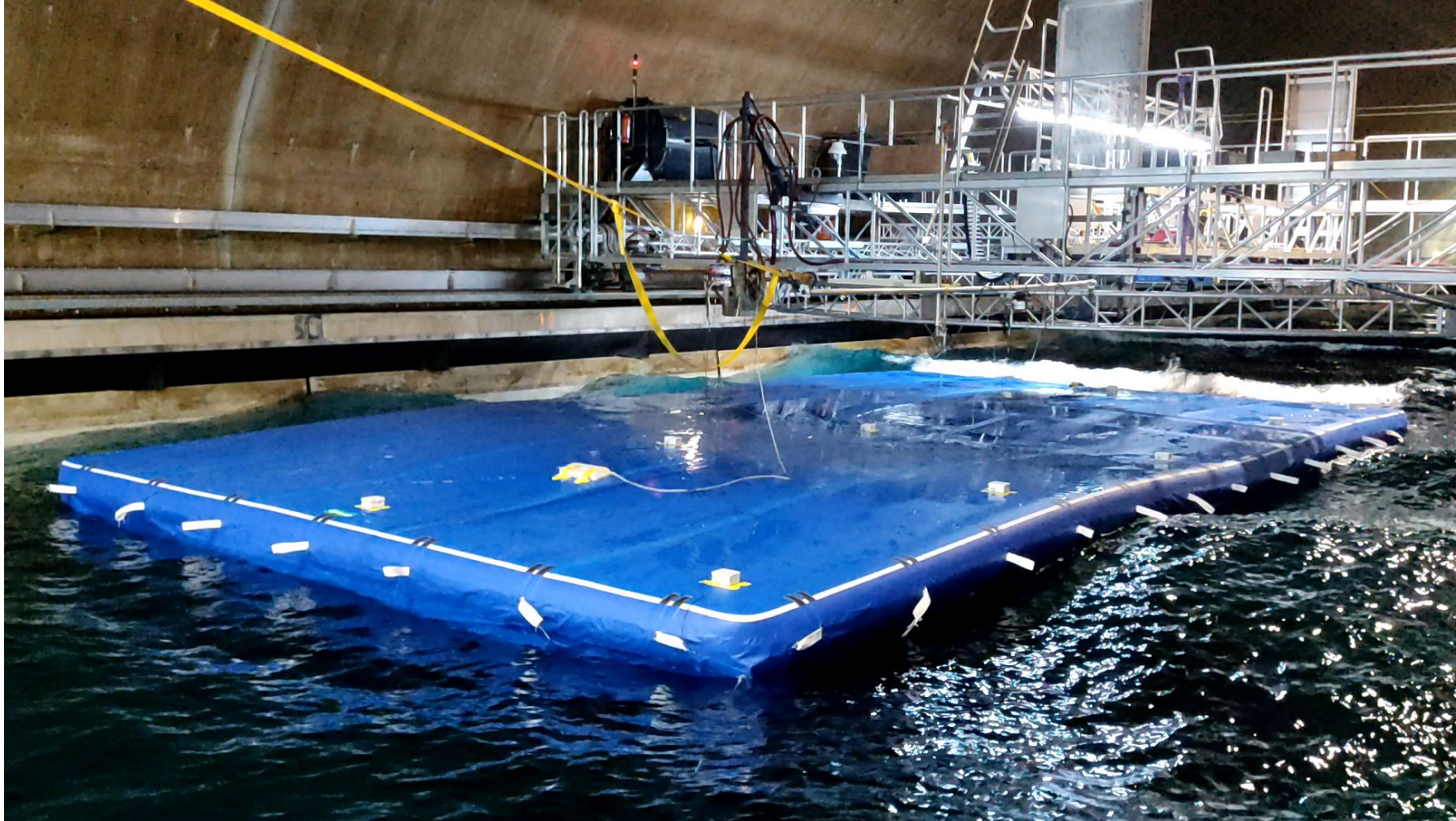
- Performed at Marin, May 2021
- Wave and drag tests
- Full scale floater
  - Limits on wave height



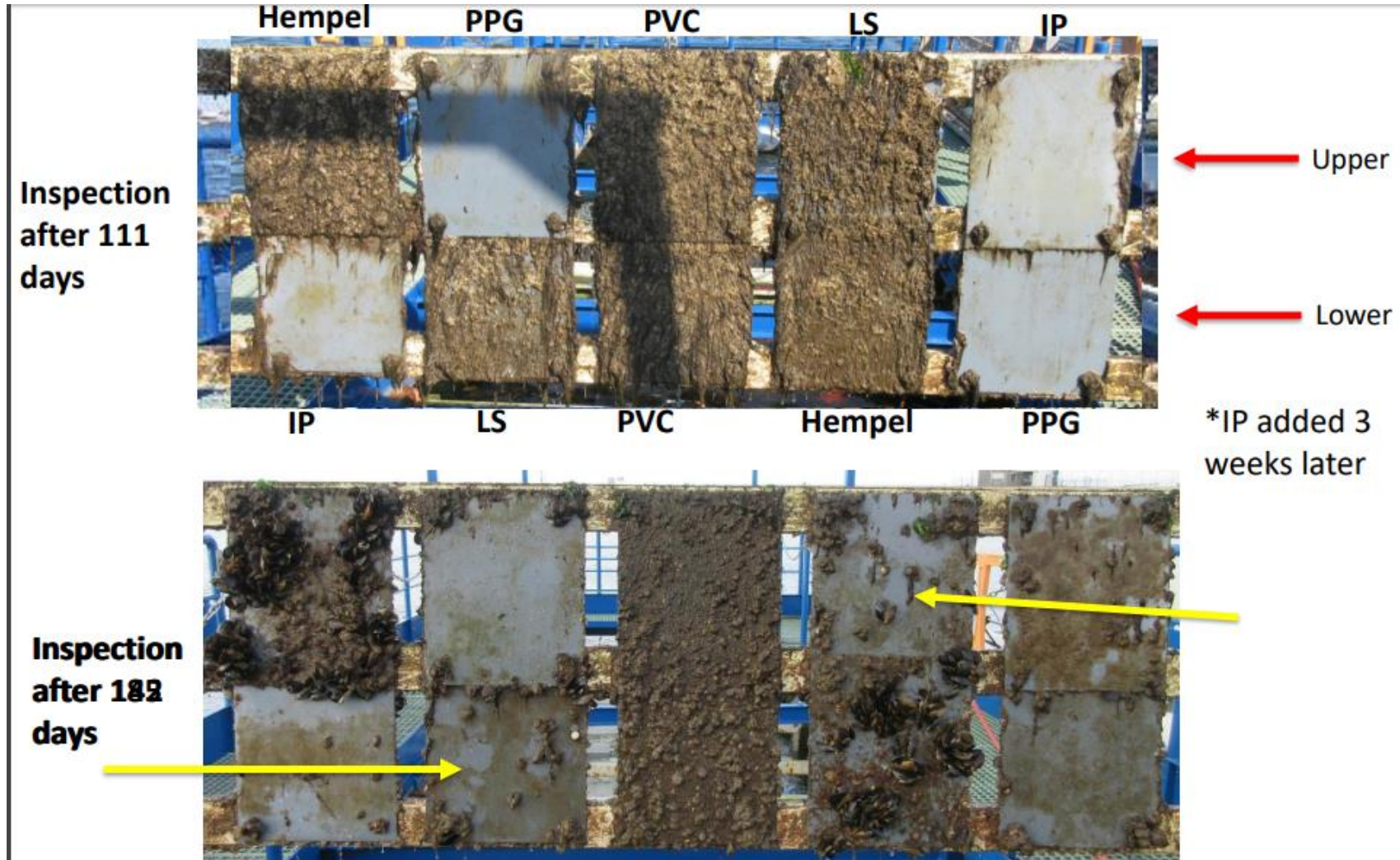


# Tests – Basin, full scale

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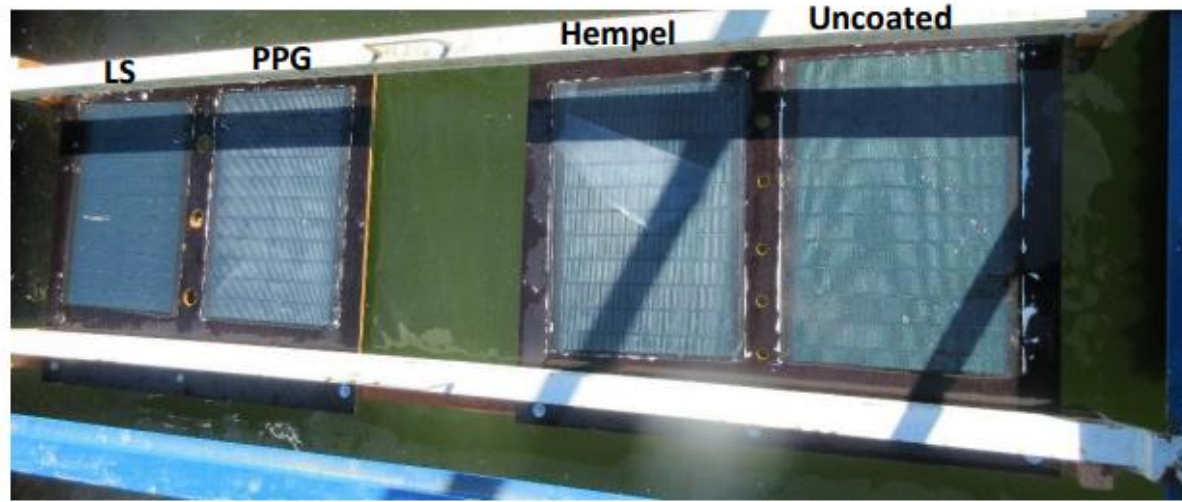
# Tests - Fouling



# Tests - Fouling

Coated and uncoated  
PV panel

March



July

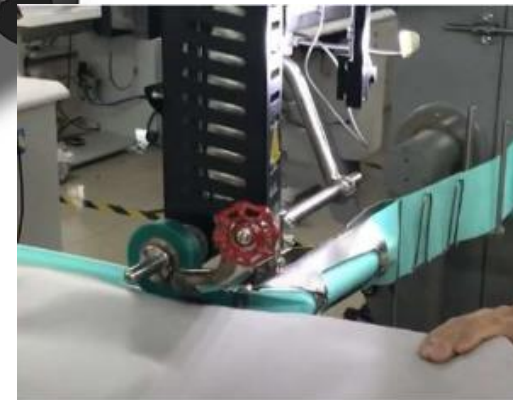
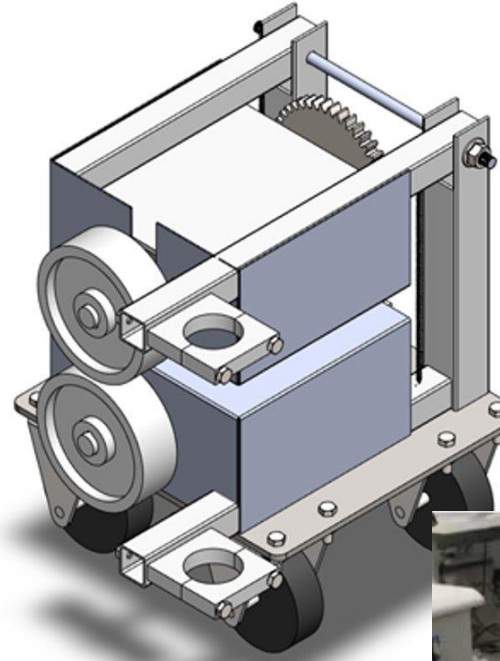
LS



Uncoated



- Analysed peel strength of different joining methods for double wall fabrics (DWFs)
- Explored concepts for mass production of floaters



- Analysed the effects of material aging on tensile strength and tear resistance of DWFs



- Pressure impressively well kept
- Structural behaviour non-linear
- Floater moves well with waves
- Fouling only on perimeter
- During dry summer period built-up of bird deposits
- Adhesion of panels to floater not in line with results from lab conditions

## New technologies - High potential

- Material – Limited use
- Fabrication – Onshore, mass production
- Transport – Limited logistics, low volumes
- Installation – Normal workboats. Mooring can be pre-laid.
- Operation – Easy accessible

Jan 2023: Project kick-off Solar@Seall

- Offshore environment
- Electrical export cable
- Modelling & testing

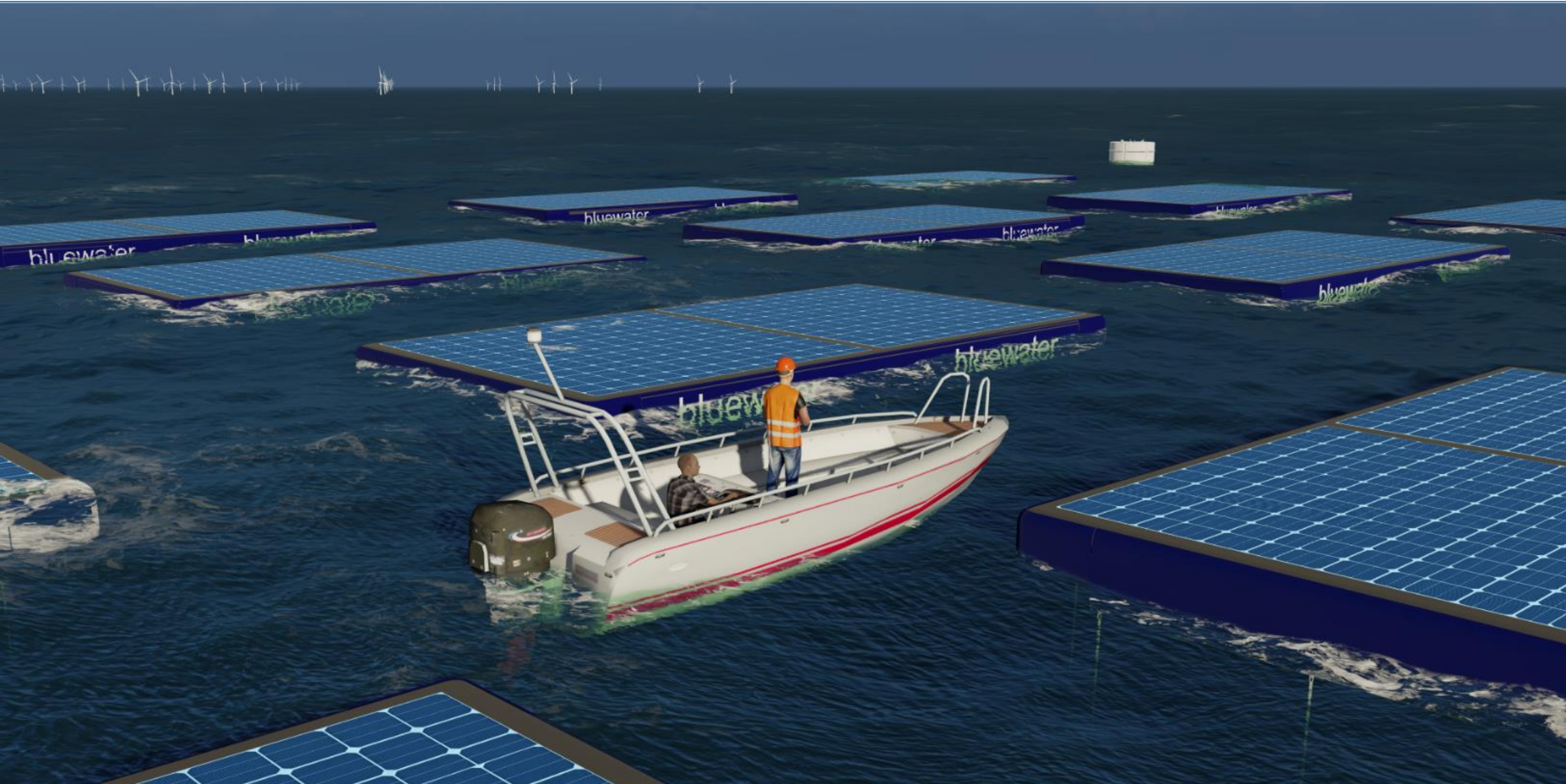


**Thank you**



# Solar@Sea Concept - Maintenance

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# Solar@Sea Concept – Utility scale



Clustered floaters, flexibly connected  
Combined mooring and power export per cluster.