



### Elia Group and Ørsted launch a joint paper on making hybrids happen

During the WindEurope conference in Bilbao, Elia Group and Ørsted launched a joint paper which aims to help Europe overcome the barriers that are impeding the development of 'hybrid projects'. The paper proposes novel approaches to offshore development, including the adoption of regional planning at sea basin level - e.g. the North Sea or the Baltic Sea - and the establishment of Offshore Investment Banks for Europe's sea basins. The launch was attended by Tinne Van der Straeten, the Belgian Minister of Energy; Lars Aagaard, the Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities; and Ditte Juul Jørgensen, Director General for Energy at the EU Commission.

[Watch the video](#)

[Read the press release](#)

### Elia Transmission Belgium wins Offshore Development Award



The award was presented to ETB at the Belgian Offshore Days 2024 conference. The conference brought together Belgian experts which recognised globally as pioneers in their field. ETB received the award in recognition of its work on Princess Elisabeth Island, the world's first energy island, which it is building 45 km off the Belgian coast. The island will serve as an energy hub, linking new wind farms and further interconnectors to Belgium's onshore electricity grid. The award was a great triumph for the teams involved!

### 72% of electricity consumption across 50Hertz grid area covered by renewable energy in 2023



50Hertz has reported excellent results for 2023. 72% of electricity consumption from across its grid area was met by renewables in 2023 - the highest level ever. However, more and more transmission lines need to be reinforced or built in order to relieve grid congestion. One of the greatest challenges in this regard is financing. Over the next five years, 50Hertz wants to increase investments in its grid infrastructure to €20.7 billion, which is four times as much as in the previous five-year period.

[Read the press release](#)

### 50Hertz commissions a new extra-high-voltage line



The new line, known as the Nordring, will make a contribute significantly to the secure supply of (mainly renewable) electricity to the larger Berlin-Brandenburg area, so cementing the region as an attractive economic area. The inauguration was attended by Jörg Steinbach, the Minister for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy of the state of Brandenburg; Franziska Giffey, Senator for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises and Mayor of Berlin; and Catherine Vandendorpe, the interim CEO of Elia Group.

[Read the press release](#)

### 50Hertz reorganises its management structure to meet the challenges of the energy transition



50Hertz has modified its organisational structure so that it can deliver its ambitious investment and construction programme for years to come on schedule. The changes involve both expanded and new responsibilities for its management team. The top management team now comprises four members: Stefan Kapferer, Chief Executive Officer (CEO); Marco Nix, Chief Finance and Investment Officer (CFO); Dr Dirk Biermann, Chief Operations Officer (COO); and Sylvia Borcherding, Chief Corporate Officer and Labour Director. Dr Frank Golletz retired at the end of March after 34 years of service.

[Read the press release](#)

## INNOVATION NEWS



### Elaxide wins Elia Group's third hackathon

Between 26 and 28 March, over 100 participants took part in the Elia Group Hackathon in Brussels. Their goal: working on unlocking consumer flexibility from across the electricity system.

Participants explored how flexible assets - such as electric vehicles and heat pumps - can be remotely controlled in response to real-time system needs, reflected by real-time electricity prices. The winning team, Elaxide, impressed our judges with their innovative, scalable and customer-oriented solution. Their project demonstrated the role e-mobility can play in the energy transition.

[Watch the video](#)

[Read the press release](#)



### ETB's stand a great success at the Flanders Technology and Innovation Expo

During the weekend of 23 and 24 March, the Antwerp Sportpaleis welcomed as many as 30,000 visitors during the final festival of Flanders Technology & Innovation (FTI). Elia Transmission Belgium was also present as a partner with two large domes and one booth.

There was a lot of interest in our stand. Visitors were able to admire the model of Princess Elisabeth Island, discover our National Control Centre and meet our robot dog Sparky and have their photo taken with him.

[Watch the video](#)