

Bio

Dr Alan Lowdon, Director Director of Strategic Development for the National Offshore Wind Institute (NOWI) over 30 years' experience as a practitioner within the international energy and utilities sectors, having *held senior positions* with international corporations, *Rolls Royce Industrial Power, British Gas, Suez, Shell, Mott MacDonald and Jacobs*. At Mott MacDonald, Alan was involved in wind resource analyses for the Cape Wind and Fishermen's Energy offshore wind projects. He has also acted as an advisor to Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation's offshore wind farm in Cleveland, OH.

Alan has also been *CEO for 3 university start-up companies*, one of which related to onshore wind asset management, and *between 2008 and 2011, was Director of Technology & Innovation at the UK's National Renewable Energy Centre (NaREC)*, now part of the *Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult*, an organization that Alan helped the UK Government to establish in 2012 and for which is currently an periodic advisor. During his NaREC days, Alan led the partnership with the *Wind Technology Testing Center* in Charlestown, Boston which saw an exchange of intellectual property and personnel between each organization focused on blade and drive train testing. In 2009, Alan was instrumental in securing UK Government finance which led to the permitting of the c. 100MW Blyth Offshore Demonstrator project, off the coast of North East England. From January 2013 until December 2020, Alan was non-executive director (offshore energy) at the Port of Blyth, UK where the port experienced a renaissance because of the boom in offshore wind.

Alan's experience also includes *energy technology investment, IP commercialization and new venture creation*, exemplified by the £35M of early-stage energy technology investments under his wing at *ITI Energy in Aberdeen in the mid 2000's*. From 2014-2017 he was heavily involved in shaping the *Greenport Hull economic development project* in the UK which sought to stimulate the offshore wind supply chain in support of the pipeline of offshore wind farms to be constructed off the north east coast of England.

Alan currently operates a portfolio of interests whose main component is as *Director of Strategic Development at the National Offshore Wind Institute, New Bedford, MA*. He also holds the non-tenured position of *Professor in Practice at Durham University Energy Institute, UK* where he also chairs its Advisory Board and contributes periodically to teaching in the *Center for Doctoral Training in Renewable Energy*. He is also a nominated *cleantech ambassador/entrepreneur-in-residence to the UK Government's Global Entrepreneur Programme (GEP)* that seeks to attract and mentor high-growth-potential, overseas start-ups to the UK. Alan also acts as an ad hoc advisor to the US Department of Energy, NREL, in particular, and is a reviewer for the UK Government's innovation agency, Innovate UK that supports pan-sector research, development and innovation projects, in which offshore renewable energy features strongly.

Alan holds **BS, MS and PhD degrees in Engineering Mathematics** plus an **MBA from Durham University** and is a Professional Mechanical Engineer and a Fellow of the UK Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Alan's technical specialization is in fluid-structure interaction, a phenomenon that the offshore wind sector experiences in abundance.

Alan has a strong passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), especially as applied to offshore wind.