

Non-executive board member

1 EMEC overview

EMEC is an innovation catalyst pioneering the transition to a low carbon future.

EMEC is the world's leading centre for demonstrating wave and tidal energy converters in the sea. Based in Orkney, the centre is also working on R&D projects looking at green hydrogen and e-fuels, floating wind, island decarbonisation and energy systems.

As a plug-and-play facility EMEC helps reduce the time, cost and risk of testing innovative sustainable technologies.

EMEC operates to relevant test laboratory standards (ISO/IEC 17025) providing independently-verified performance assessments on marine energy converters and sub-systems. The centre provides pre-consented grid-connected test sites in harsh wave and tidal regimes as well as scale test sites in gentler conditions for testing smaller scale technologies, subsystems and components. To date, EMEC has hosted more ocean energy devices than at any other site, providing operational, technical and business support to help clients commercialise.

Building on our experience in developing the ocean energy sector, EMEC is exploring options for establishing a national floating offshore wind test site to the west of Orkney. The site aims to offer floating wind developers representative metocean conditions to those in ScotWind, Celtic Seas and future leasing rounds.

EMEC is also leading innovation projects exploring the integration of renewables with green hydrogen and hydrogen-derivatives. The centre has established an R&D hydrogen ecosystem, featuring electrolyzers, fuel cells, storage and refuelling, for first-of-a-kind and pilot scale projects aiming to decarbonise power, heat and transport applications, with particular emphasis on maritime and aviation sectors.

EMEC's infrastructure and experience are increasingly being used in wider energy systems and decarbonisation innovation. For example, Microsoft demonstrated a subsea data centre at EMEC's offshore test site and EMEC is leading the Islands Centre for Net Zero to support Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides on their path to net zero emissions.

EMEC was set up in 2003 as a not-for-profit organisation to kick start an ocean energy sector in the UK and boost economic development in the Highlands and Islands. Over the years EMEC has grown and diversified, with over 70 people working for the test centre today. The unprecedented activity that has taken place in Orkney due to the presence of EMEC has been a catalyst for economic development, creating jobs and a world-leading supply chain now exporting skills and knowledge around the globe. An economic impact assessment commissioned in 2023 showed that, as a result of EMEC's operations over the last two decades, £370 million GVA has been added to the UK economy.

EMEC's pioneering work in clean energy innovation has been recognised across the sector. In 2021, EMEC was named Blue Economy Enterprise of the Year at the Scottish Highlands and Islands Rural Economy Awards and Champion of Renewables at the Scottish Green Energy Awards. In 2023, EMEC received the Outstanding Service Award at the Scottish Green Energy Awards.

2 Job description

2.1 EMEC Board aims

The EMEC Board is focused on capitalising on EMEC's world-leading position, expanding its influence and maximising the economic opportunities for Scotland and the rest of the UK, whilst driving innovation in sustainable technology to accelerate the transition to a low carbon future. EMEC has strong links with industry, government and academic organisations and aims to grow these links both in the UK and overseas.

2.2 Non-Executive Director role:

We are looking to appoint a new non-executive director to the EMEC Board. The Non-Executive Director role is a critical position, which will offer strategic guidance and governance to the company and strong leadership during our next period of planned growth.

Key responsibilities include:

- determining the strategic direction of EMEC focusing on delivering its growth plans, expanding the company's range of services (UK and overseas) and increasing EMEC's influence;
- providing strong governance through robust and constructive challenge to the executive team whilst supporting the chairperson and other members of the board on all business matters;
- ensuring that EMEC continues to be world leading in the testing and deployment of marine renewable devices and delivers sustainable economic benefit that meets the aspirations of the Scottish and UK governments;
- monitoring the financial position of the company against budgets and key financial and performance targets, and challenge and advise the board to act where required;
- helping accelerate the growth and viability of marine renewable energy (wave and tidal), green hydrogen and smart energy systems.
- Join and chair subcommittees as required

2.3 Skills and experience

You will have proven experience working at a senior level and be qualified to degree level, or equivalent.

EMEC is looking to appoint a non-executive director with experience in finance and / or audit to strengthen the board.

An understanding of research, development and innovation (RD&I) funding or public sector finance would also be of advantage.

2.4 Time commitment

It is anticipated that around 30 days per annum, which will vary on a month-by-month basis to suit business needs, will be required to fulfil this role.

The time commitment will involve attendance at EMEC Board meetings (4 per annum) at its base in Stromness, Orkney or elsewhere as determined by the chairperson. Other usual duties as a board member may be expected to be undertaken from time to time.

2.5 Remuneration

Remuneration will be paid as specified in the job advert. You will be paid all reasonable expenses.

2.6 Length of term of appointment

The appointment will last for a period of up to three years.

2.7 Standards of conduct

In carrying out this role, you will be expected to adhere to 'the Nolan Principles of Public Life' and the seven principles of conduct which underpin public life. These are: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership and acting at all times in good faith and in the best interests of EMEC Ltd.