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**Environment  
and Energy**

Sea-wave energy converter  
designed to produce electricity



3B Fibreglass



Partners: Fred Olsen Ltd (Norway),  
Gent University (Belgium), et Spinomatic (Belgium)

The device consists of a floating platform with oscillating buoys on the water surface. Fred Olsen Ltd. decided to work as much as possible with composite materials for the structural parts and for the energy extractors and power take-off system's moving parts.

The main challenges for the lifetime and cost/performance properties of this applications are:

- corrosion resistance (marine environment).
- cyclic load fatigue/agering (blades, moving parts, turbines, etc.).
- robustness, impact resistance,
- resistance to survival load conditions (storms and possible climate changes).
- maintenance,
- cost effectiveness of final components, modules and systems.

The natural properties of Advantex™ and Hyperlex™ fiberglass enable and enhance the level of required performance.

3B is reinforcement supplier and adviser within the development team. The next step is to finish defining the materials for the structural parts. The device is a component of the Wave Hub project, which aims to create the UK's first offshore facility to demonstrate and validate the operation of arrays of wave-energy generation devices. Launch is planned for 2010.

[www.3b-fibreglass.com](http://www.3b-fibreglass.com)



E.C. / 3B

Other finalists in the  
Environment and Energy category

- A ready to use sandwich panel for windmill nacelle (leaf and root) presented by Chomarit (France) with partners Nipalpoli (France) and Compoval de Composites (France)
- Continuous pyrolysis process for the recovery of carbon fibre from carbon-fibre reinforced composites presented by Recycled Carbon Fibre Ltd - A Member of the Mixed Carbon Group, UK3 in partnership with Rovinor (UK)

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**Category: Environment & Energy**

**Winner: 3B Fibreglass**

**Partner: Gent University**