

## PRESS RELEASE

# NHV Introduces SAF for Offshore Operations in Cooperation with Vestas

Esbjerg, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025

**Helicopter operator NHV Group and wind turbine manufacturer Vestas are collaborating with the aim of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from helicopter operations. Starting in April, flights from NHV group departing from Esbjerg Airport will be fully integrating Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) whenever possible.**

As part of a multi-year contract, NHV will conduct dedicated crew change operations for Vestas' offshore operations in the Northern Sea. This multi-year contract marks a major milestone for the offshore wind industry, as it will be the first time an Airbus super-medium aircraft is used for offshore wind operations in the Northern Sea. NHV will conduct dedicated crew change flights to the He Dreiht offshore wind farm using the Airbus H175 from its base at Esbjerg Airport.

This initiative also marks the introduction of SAF at Esbjerg Airport, which will be supplied by DCC & Shell Aviation DK for Vestas' operations. NHV Flights will be powered with a minimum 40% SAF blend which is produced from biowaste materials like used cooking oil (UCO).

Integrating SAF into offshore operations is a key step toward reducing environmental impact, as SAF can cut lifecycle CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel used for air travel. As wind turbines are built farther offshore, aviation plays an increasingly important role in the offshore wind industry. Helicopters offer efficiency through speed and reliability, which ensure safe transport in challenging sea conditions, and enhanced crew well-being.

Lars-Henrik Thorngreen, CEO at NHV, emphasised the significance of the partnership with Vestas.

*"We are proud to be supporting Vestas with helicopter flights using SAF. Alongside utilising a modern fleet and broader sustainability efforts, this initiative underscores our commitment to grow our international business in an increasingly sustainable way, supporting the environmental objectives of NHV Group, our clients, and our partners."*

Lisa Ekstrand, Vice President and Head of Sustainability at Vestas, commented on the impact of the collaboration:

*"Integrating sustainability into every aspect of our operations remains a high ambition for Vestas. We are further expanding the use of SAF in our offshore wind operations and are pleased with the close collaboration with NHV and the strong commitment of all parties involved in this project."*

**ENDS**

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**About NHV Group:**

NHV Group, headquartered in Ostend Belgium, specialises in B-to-B helicopter services and operates with a strong geographic presence in Europe and Western Africa. The group conducts operations from several bases on two continents with a team of 450+ employees. NHV's main focus is on the energy-producing industry, including the Renewables Sector.

Our scope of work also includes Maritime Services and Harbour Pilot Services, and Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) solutions. In addition to supporting its own fleet, NHV provides extensive third-party maintenance services to a variety of civil and military clients. Aside from the helicopter operations, NHV has set up the NHV Training Academy, which offers ATO pilot training, HHOP training and delivers EASA and CAA certified Part 147 training. The group has a multipurpose high-value fleet of over 30 helicopters. NHV's majority shareholder is Ardian, the world-leading private investment house with assets of US\$150bn managed or advised across Europe, the Americas, Asia, and the Middle East.

NHV Group has no Russian shareholders and is not involved with any Russian affiliated organisations in the delivery of helicopter services or aircraft spare parts.

NHV has been integrating SAF into offshore wind flights from its Ostend headquarters since 2022, recognising it as the most commercially viable step towards transitioning from conventional fossil jet fuel to more sustainable aviation.

**About Esbjerg Airport:**

Esbjerg Airport is an important transportation hub in the south-west of Jutland, Denmark.

With its strategic location close to the city, highway, port, and coastline, the airport is a key part of the region's infrastructure.

It plays a crucial role in the logistics around the North Sea offshore installations, transporting more than 130 passengers to and from the North Sea daily.

In addition, Esbjerg Airport, with its logistical capabilities, has extensive experience in handling large-scale logistical operations.

These operations are not only for commercial purposes, but also for military exercises and operations, making it a reliable hub for NATO's strategic and operational needs.

Esbjerg Airport furthermore offers commercial flights to Stavanger in Norway and Aberdeen in Scotland. These routes are served by AIS Airlines and Loganair.

**About DCC & Shell Aviation A/S:** DCC & Shell Aviation Denmark is a joint venture between DCC Holding Denmark and Shell's global aviation fuel business. The company is responsible for all logistics and supply of Shell Aviation fuel to nine Danish airports and is the largest independent aviation fuel supplier and advisor in Denmark. See more at <https://shellaviation.dk/>