DRACCAR

1st French offshore research platform dedicated to offshore wind energy and coupled with an innovative R&D programme

FIELD RESEARCH CONDUCTED OVER THE LONG TERM

The Channel seafront is particularly concerned by the deployment of offshore wind farms. Qualifying the effects of commercial wind farms on a local scale, and the cumulative impacts of the various uses of the sea on the environment on a coastline scale, remains a major research challenge.

This requires the long-term acquisition of field data made possible by the use of a mast located off Fécamp. A genuine multi-instrumented research platform at sea, it allows the development of innovative monitoring protocols.

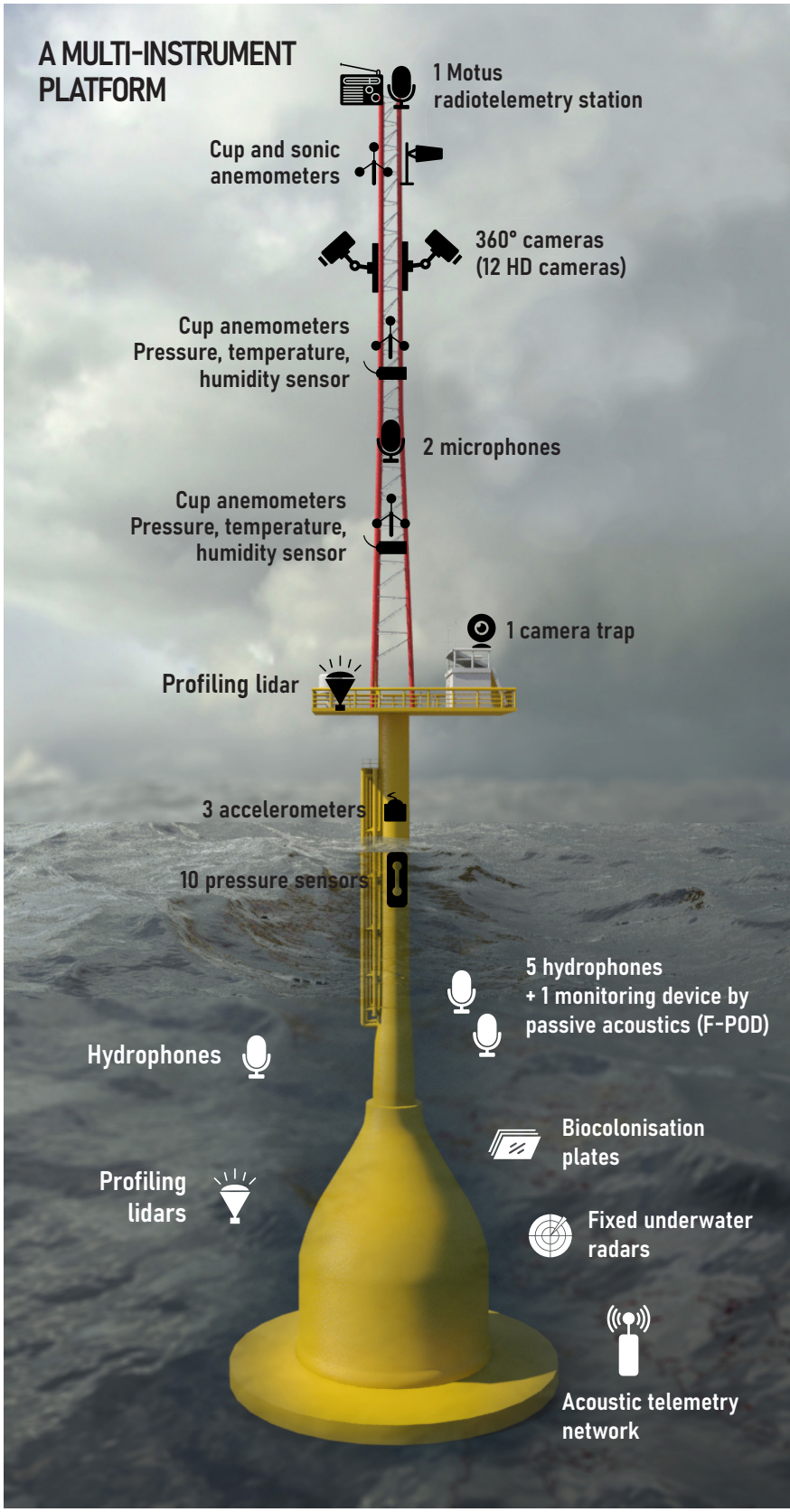
This is a first on the French territory to accompany the industry of the sector and the State with field studies, while encouraging their collaboration with the various players of research.

A MAJOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY R&D PROGRAMME

This offshore research platform is coupled with a large-scale multidisciplinary R&D programme with an initial budget of €8.2m. The whole is called DRACCAR. Tt aims **to improve understanding of the interactions between offshore wind energy and the environment, to optimise the design of wind turbines and associated structures, and to co-construct a permanent observation network of the seafronts.**

Six topics are studied:

- the marine ecosystem as a whole,
- the marine megafauna, in particular birds, mammals and fish,
- the fishery resources, biofouling and benthic species,
- the wind,
- the structure behaviour,
- the hydrosedimentary processes.



1 COMPLEMENTARY SCIENTIFIC PARTNERSHIP

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