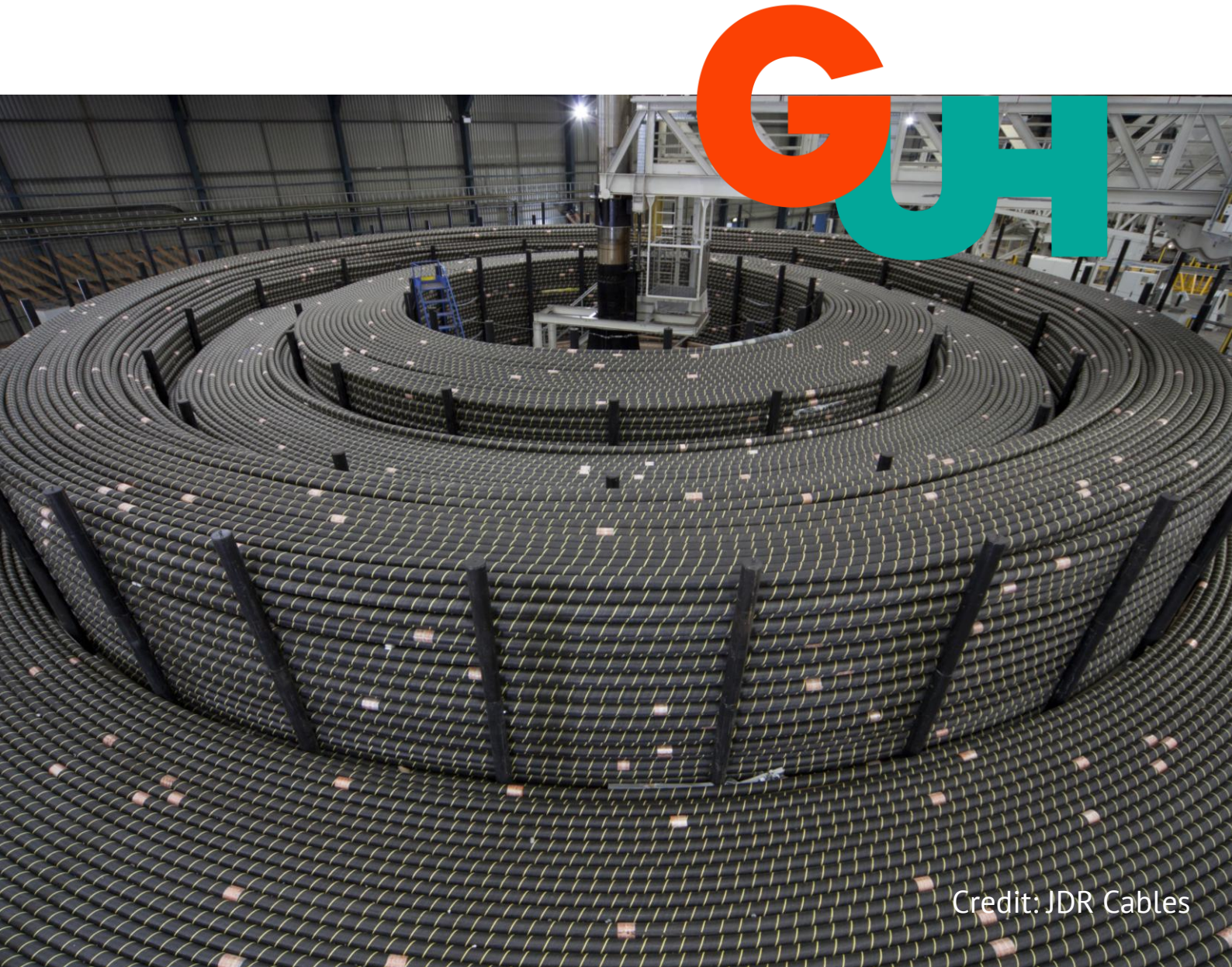
Global Underwater Hub

Cables Conference 2026

Wednesday, 9 September 2026

Energy Central Campus, Blyth



Credit: JDR Cables

Global Underwater Hub is the leading trade and industry development body for the UK's underwater sectors.

Owned and governed by industry, Global Underwater Hub represents, promotes and supports all sectors of the underwater industry. As the UK's underwater industry organisation, we support our member companies by enabling access to market opportunities, expertise, contacts and specialist support to accelerate market growth and build value.

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Conference overview

Global Underwater Hub's annual Cables conference returns for its 2026 edition in **September** and will once again drive discussion on one of the core aspects of offshor renewable energy development and in building energy security worldwide.

Cables 2026 will take place at the **Energy Central Campus in Blyth** on **Wednesday, 9 September**, bringing together key stakeholders from across the cable and energy industries. Attend the leading subsea cable conference and learn about the latest developments in cables and interconnectors manufacturing and protection, and join the discussion around manufacture, operations and maintenance discover more about planned projects and the size of the market opportunity.

This year's conference programme will focus on four key themes, with sessions centered around the following areas:

- **HVDC/Dynamic Cables**
- **Cost & Risk Challenges**
- **Operations Maintenance/Repair**
- **Future Innovations**

The day offers an opportunity for you to:

- **Expand your knowledge:** Learn about the latest market trends, new technologies and best practices in the offshore wind and subsea cables industry.
- **Gain market insights:** Receive an update on planned offshore wind projects globally and where market opportunities lie.
- **Enhance your skills:** Discover what challenges and opportunities are currently facing different stakeholders within the industry and participate in discussions that can help to advance current thinking.
- **Build you network:** Meet and network with contacts from across the subsea cables industry and energy sector.
- **Stay competitive:** Gain market insight, build knowledge and understanding, and make new connections within the offshore energy and subsea cables industries.

Drinks Reception & Supporting Sponsor

Harlyn Solutions

A global Engineering Transportation company. We support our customers in solving complex transportation challenges. With our six product lines of: Subsea Power Cable and Umbilical transportation and storage Unusual Cargo Movement End-to-end transportation Bridging Inco-terms Mobilisation Services and Engineering Consultancy we are a leader in delivering engineered transportation solutions. Whether it is a heavy lift or the movement of something unusual we can support you. You make incredible. We move incredible.

To find out more visit the Harlyn Solutions website here.

Innovation Partner

Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult

ORE Catapult was established in 2013 by the UK Government and is part of a network of Catapults set up by Innovate UK in high growth industries. It is the UK's leading innovation centre for offshore renewable energy.

Independent and trusted, with a unique combination of world-leading test and demonstration facilities and engineering and research expertise, ORE Catapult convenes the sector and delivers applied research, accelerating technology development, reducing risk and cost and enhancing UK-wide economic growth.

Active throughout the UK, ORE Catapult has operations in Glasgow, Blyth, Levenmouth, Aberdeen, Hull, the South West and Wales and operates a collaborative research partnership in China.

To find out more visit the ORE Catapult website here.

Supporting Sponsor

Tadek Ocean Engineering

Tadek are a dynamic UK offshore engineering consultancy, established in 2010, delivering front-end advisory, through-project delivery solutions and complex naval architecture analysis to support subsea, pipelay, cable and floating systems projects.

Our advice utilises expertise supporting a range of high value and prototype projects as both delivery and design support on over 300 projects worldwide. As delivery experts we act as project managers, project and field engineers. As designers, we deliver Mooring Design, Installation Analysis, Structural Design and Naval architecture solutions. Our clients are a range of Tier 1 to Tier 3 client types in the UK and Globally, including Site Developers, Legal, Insurance & Investors, Installation Contractors, Engineering companies, Technology Developers, Cable, CPS & Other Manufacturers.

To find out more visit the Tadek website here.

Supporting Sponsor

N-Sea Group

N-Sea is an end-to-end subsea services provider. With a fleet of 14 multipurpose vessels and a range of in-house systems and equipment, N-Sea delivers smart, fit-for-purpose solutions for subsea infrastructure projects in every stage of the offshore asset life cycle for customers in the international offshore energy industry.

Our bespoke solutions focus on specific subsea capabilities, such as survey, UXO ID & clearance, cable repair & installation, or IRM, construction & decommissioning. With the support of an experienced, multidiscipline offshore operations team, we integrate these bespoke capabilities into a single project, delivering a smart, fit-for-purpose, safe and sustainable solution that improves the efficiency of subsea projects and reduces projects risks for our customers.

To find out more visit the N-Sea Group website here

Lunch & Networking Sponsor

Business Northumberland

Business Northumberland is the business support service for Northumberland County Council. Helping to deliver more and better jobs and a strong competitive economy. Our team has the knowledge and experience to guide you and your business. Whether its support and funding for new and developing businesses, remediation of challenging brownfield sites, building large scale manufacturing units or purpose-built offices. Our highly experienced team provides a single point of contact for business support enquiries and will design bespoke support packages.

To find out more visit the Business Northumberland website here

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Pre-Event Programme

Ahead of the conference, a number of pre-event activities will be held a day prior to the conference on **Tuesday September 8th in Blyth**. Spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Details of how to reserve your place will be provided once you have booked your conference ticket. The session forms part of your conference delegate registration fee.

Site Visits

All delegates to Cables 2026 have the opportunity to attend **site visits** taking place on the morning of **Tuesday, 8 September**. We are delighted to offer the opportunity to tour the fantastic facilities at **JDR Cables and ORE Catapult** as part of this package.

1:1 Networking Session

All delegates to Cables 2026 will have the opportunity to take part in our **Curated 1:1 Networking Sessions**, taking place in the afternoon at Energy Central Campus.

These quickfire 10-minute meetings will provide delegates with the opportunity to connect directly with a selection of end users and key industry players.

Drinks Reception

On the evening prior to the conference, **Tuesday, 8 September**, a **welcome drinks reception** will be held at our Drinks Reception & Supporting Sponsor **Harlyn Solution's** premises, offering an excellent opportunity to network with delegates, speakers and sponsors.

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Confirmed speakers

Delegates to the **Cables Conference** on **Wednesday, 9 September** will hear from representatives of the following organisations:

AHS
Business Northumberland
CRP SUBSEA An AIS company
Great British ENERGY
Harlyn
HIGH VOLT
INDEXIMATE
James Fisher and Sons plc Pioneering Sustainably
CARBON TRUST
TFK.Group
Lux Nova Partners
SEA
CATAPULT Offshore Renewable Energy
SBIT
Polytech Wind for life™
seaway7
SIEMENS energy
TADEK Ocean Engineering
Unique Group

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Conference Programme

08:30 – 09:00	**Registration, breakfast and networking**
09:00 – 09:10	**Opening remarks** – Global Underwater Hub
09:10 – 09:20	**Guest Speaker – GB Energy**
09:20 – 10:30	**Session 1 – Operations & Maintenance / Repairs** Seaway7 Harlyn Solutions James Fisher Energy Osbit
10:30 – 11:00	**Coffee & networking**
11:00 – 12:15	**Session 2 –Cable Challenges – Cost & Risk** Lux Nova Partners Siemens Energy Workshop Session
12:15 – 13:15	**Lunch & networking**
13:15 – 13:25	**Sponsor Spotlight – Business Northumberland**
13:25 – 14:45	**Session 3 – HVDC / Dynamic Cables** JDR Cables HIGHVOLT ORE Catapult Tadek Ocean Engineering N-Sea Group
14:45 – 15:15	**Coffee & networking**
15:15 – 16:15	**Session 4 – Innovations** Almek Hydraulic Services Unique Group CRP Subsea Polytech AS Indeximate
16:15 – 16:30	**Closing Remarks –** Global Underwater Hub
16:30	**Event Close**

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Exhibiting companies

Delegates to the **Cables Conference** will have the opportunity to meet our exhibiting companies and network throughout the day.

Guest Speaker

Christina Malcolm

Supply Chain – Design Lead

Great British Energy

Christina works in the Supply Chain team at Great British Energy, supporting the growth of the Energy Engineered in the UK (EEUK) programme, with a current focus on offshore wind and electricity networks.

Her work spans GBE's funding mechanisms, supporting investment in UK-based manufacturing and strengthening the domestic supply chains needed to deliver the energy transition. She also works on GBE's Deepwater Commercialisation Programme, where she leads a workstream focused on unlocking the industrialisation and serialisation of floating offshore wind.

Before joining GBE, Christina worked at McKinsey, supporting major organisations to improve performance and build new analytical and technology capabilities. Prior to this, she spent several years in New York leading teams and working with major global brands on digital transformation. Having also lived in Orkney, where the opportunities presented by abundant renewable energy are hard to miss, her career has helped shape both her approach to the energy transition and her enthusiasm for windy days.

Across her career, Christina has focused on turning ambitious strategies into practical delivery, with her current work centred on building the industrial capability needed to support the UK's clean energy transition.

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Session 1 : Operations & Maintenance / Repairs

Exploring the challenges of subsea cable operations, maintenance and repair, with a focus on improving reliability, reducing downtime and delivering effective fault response. **This session will be chaired by Steve Fernie, Global Underwater Hub.**

Ross Piercey

Product Manager - Cables

James Fisher Energy

Andrew Anderson

Engineering Manager

Seaway7

William Stephenson

Director

Harlyn Solutions

Neil Harrison

Director

Osbit

Session 2 : Cable Challenges – Cost & Risk

Exploring the key cost and risk challenges facing cable projects, with a practical workshop focused on developing and sharing solutions.

Robert Blundell

Consulting Partner

Lux Nova Partners

Michael Mitchell

Business Development Manager

Siemens Energy

Workshop Session

A collaborative workshop to identify the cable system cost issues we can realistically influence, and explore practical actions to reduce costs and help accelerate the deployment of floating offshore wind.

Session 3 : HVDC / Dynamic Cables

Exploring the opportunities and challenges of HVDC and dynamic cable technologies, with a focus on their role in enabling the next generation of large-scale and floating wind projects. **This session will be chaired by Alex MacPhie, Offshore Wind Growth Partnership.**

Samuel Clarke

Lead Engineer – Power Cables (HV)

JDR Cables

Alex Neumann

Chief Engineer, High Voltage (FIET)

Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult

Bijesh Chenna-Kandathil

Senior Marine Analysis Engineer

Tadek Ocean Engineering

Dan Keller

Head of Monitoring Solutions

HIGHVOLT

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Session 4 : Innovations

Exploring emerging cable technologies, materials and approaches that could drive innovation, improve performance and unlock the next generation of offshore and floating wind projects. **This session will be chaired by Innovation Partners, Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult.**

Chris Nelson

Senior Data Scientist

Indeximate

Martyn Conroy

Vice President - Subsea Mechanical Solutions

Unique Group

Ben Wait

Business Development Manager

CRP Subsea: an AIS company

Bård Andre Solberg

VP Sales & Marketing

Almek Hydraulic Services AS

Steven Bray

Business Development Manager

Polytech AS

Sponsor Spotlights

A series of short sponsor spotlights throughout the day, giving our sponsors the opportunity to showcase their business, projects and expertise to the conference audience.

Maria Antoniou

Head of Economic Development

Business Northumberland

Halil Koncak

Commercial Director | Subsea Cables

N-Sea Group

Future events from Global Underwater Hub

Global Underwater Hub organises a series of events throughout the year, bringing together businesses to discuss key industry topics. Full event information, including booking details and calls for abstracts can be found on our website at www.globalunderwaterhub.com, where you can also sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Conference

Thursday, 01 October | **The Catalyst, Newcastle**

Conference focused on the critical area of unexploded ordnance in the marine environment. Exploring current practices to raise awareness and identify improvement areas for data collection, knowledge sharing mechanisms and the prioritisation of environmentally sustainable methods of disposal.

Umbillicals Conference

Tuesday, 10 November | **GUH, Westhill**

Taking the theme Umbilicals – Shaping the Future Through Collaboration, the conference will explore a wide range of topics shaping the umbilical industry and the wider offshore energy sector. As the sector evolves, with new markets, technologies and challenges emerging, this is your opportunity to join the conversation, share knowledge and experience, and help drive progress across the industry.

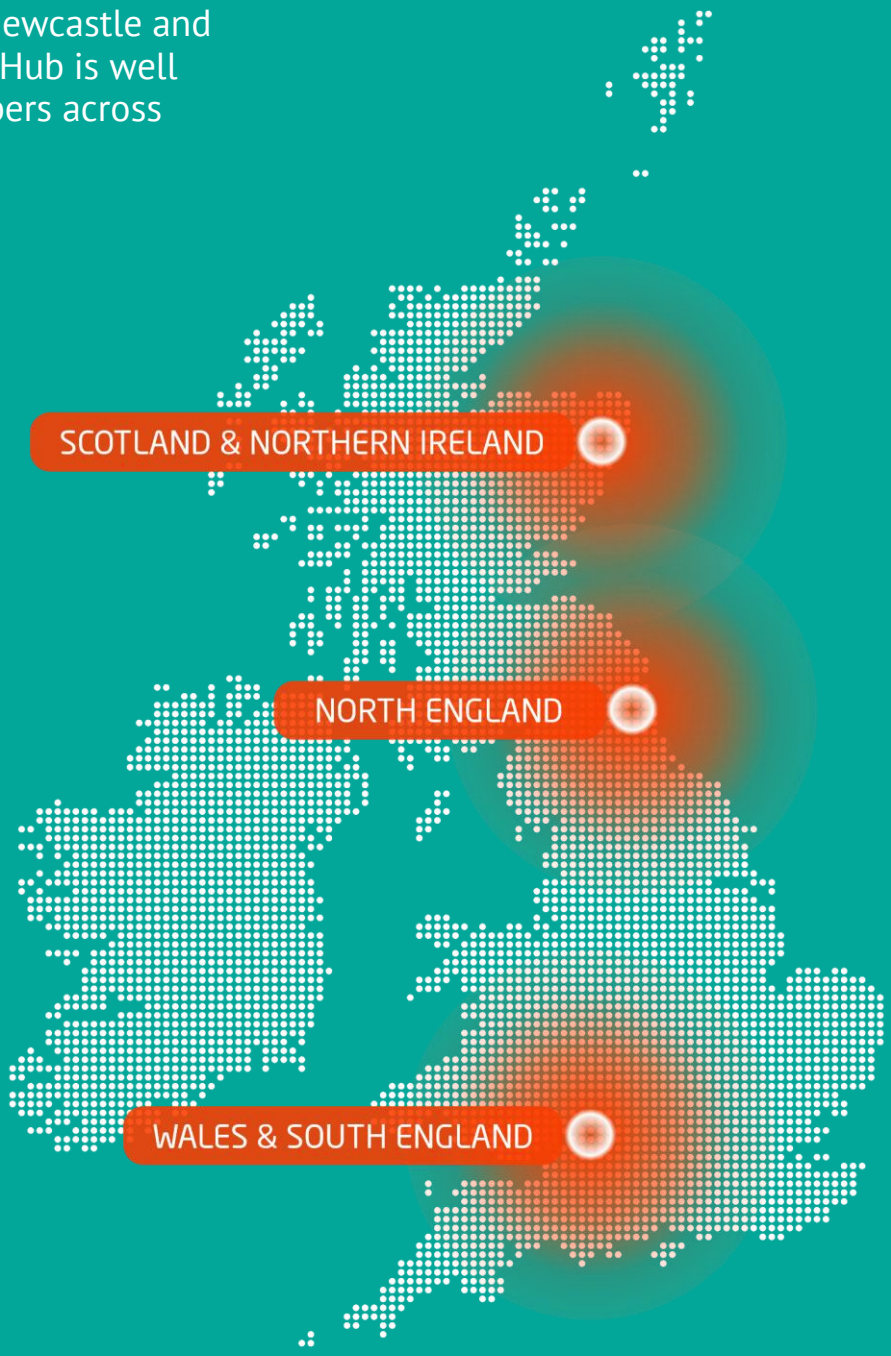
Deepwater Wind Symposium

Tuesday, 17 November | **P&J Live, Aberdeen**

This event brings together the expertise needed to address the challenges facing deepwater wind, exploring the critical role of subsea engineering, geotechnics, installation methodologies, marine operations and enabling technologies in making deepwater fixed wind commercially viable.

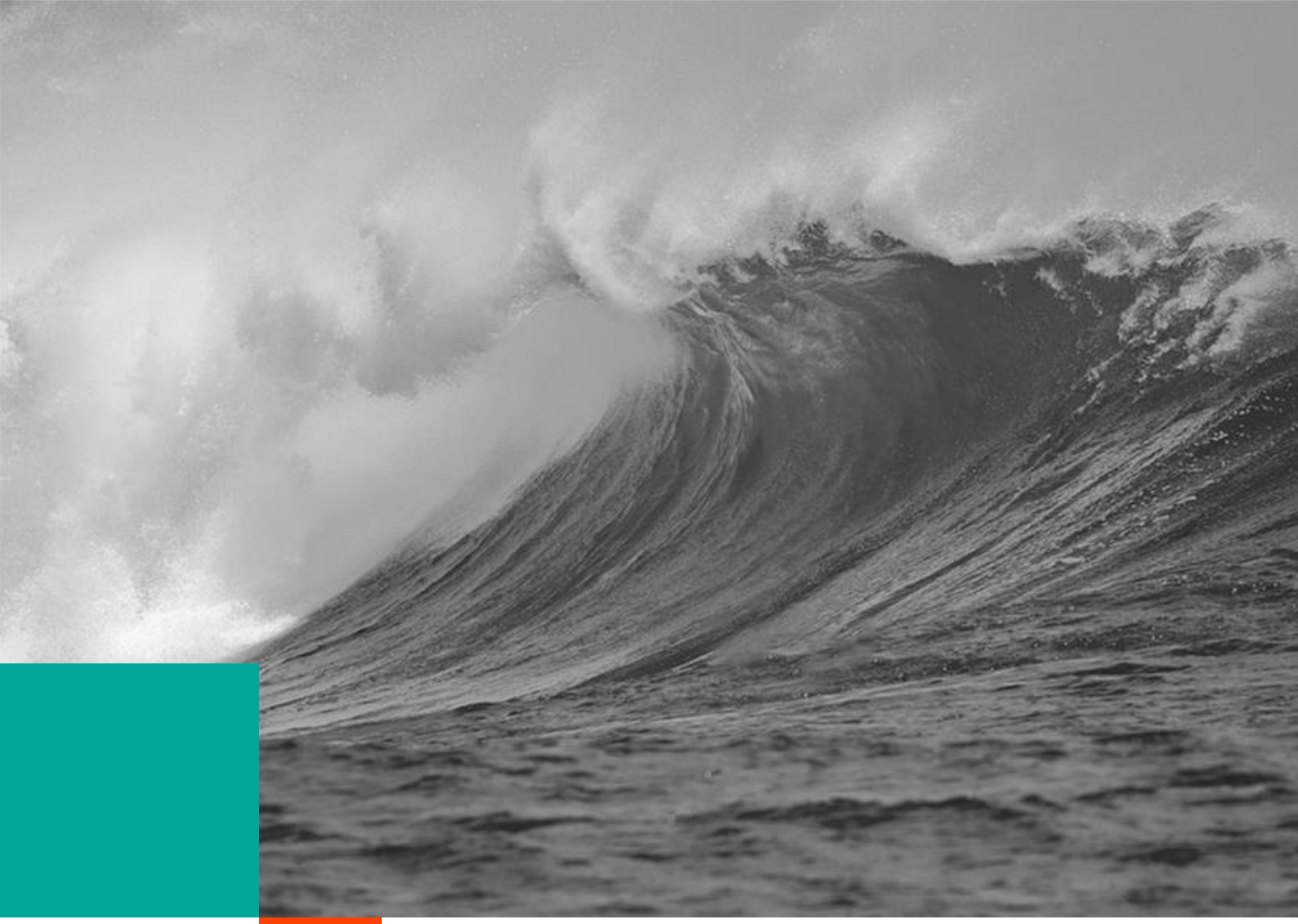
Led and governed by industry, Global Underwater Hub is helping to transform the UK's underwater industry into one of the largest and fastest-growing industries in the country, accelerating the drive to net-zero and creating high value jobs and exports.

With offices in Aberdeen, Newcastle and Bristol, Global Underwater Hub is well placed to support its members across the United Kingdom.



Access. Connect. Grow.

Global Underwater Hub



Global Underwater Hub

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