

Prysmian Barbarossa I - Mobilisation of Deck Equipment and Trenching Spreads



MJR Power & Automation provided turnkey electrical installation for the Prysmian Barbarossa I, mobilising various spreads and deck equipment to assist in the vessel's trenching operations

Renowned for its advanced cable-laying operations, Prysmian Group has a fleet of specialised vessels to meet the growing demand for submarine cable installations, particularly in offshore wind and interconnection projects.

Barbarossa I is Prysmian's shallow water trenching barge, a 67-metre-long vessel designed to operate in ultra shallow areas. Barbarossa I is fitted with various cable installation equipment, including linear engines, winches, cable tanks, and monitoring and control systems.

MJR Power & Automation provided turnkey electrical installation on the Barbarossa I, as well as the mobilisation of deck equipment including generators, accommodation containers and various spreads to assist with trenching operations.

MJR Power & Automation

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Mobilisation was conducted in stages from ports in Middlesbrough, Falmouth and Brest, France. This included:

- Mobilisation of the SeaREX, a trenching tractor capable of simultaneous cable lay and burial. This required installation of PDUs and medium voltage cables (3.3kV) to provide the spread with power
- Installation of a new power distribution system on the vessel, which featured two on-deck generators (500 and 100 kVA) and a 2.5kA distribution board
- Electrical mobilisation for 16 accommodation and recreation containers to host the vessel's 30-person crew. This helped remove the need for Barbarossa I to have an accommodation barge alongside, reducing the vessel's environmental footprint
- Electrical mobilisation of additional spreads. This included HPUs for the winches, a Van Heck pump to help remove debris from cable laying operations, and the Otter, a seadrone used for surveillance and environment monitoring
- Additional electrical installation, including hooking up fire alarm systems, lighting and PAGA systems

Scope of Work

- Power Distribution Installation & Termination of 440V, 230V Vessel Networks
- Main Switchboard Modifications
- Installation of Temporary Containerised Generator & Power Distribution Systems
- Electrical Load Analysis
- Installation & Termination of PA System, Lighting & Fire Detection Systems
- Design of Cable Management Systems, Cable Penetrations & Cable Schedules
- Installation of Deck Equipment including ROVs, Winches and Cable Lay Spreads

