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Offshore Europe Lunch Event

North Sea leadership: Where are the women?

Celebrating success, driving progress

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

NATALIE COUPAR

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
OFFSHORE ENERGIES UK

Natalie Coupar is the Communications Director for Offshore Energies UK (OEUK), the leading representative body for the UK's offshore oil and gas industry which has now expanded to include the exciting low-carbon offshore energy technologies. These will include offshore wind, hydrogen production, carbon capture and storage systems, and other emerging low-carbon technologies.

Natalie leads the team responsible for protecting and promoting industry reputation through engagement with media, content and campaigns. She joined OGUK in 2017, leading the sector's Roadmap 2035 campaign and media response to COVID-19 as OEUK's Communications Manager. Prior to this Natalie was head of press for the Scottish Liberal Democrats, playing a key role in the party during its period in coalition government and serving as its strategic communications in the independence referendum. With extensive expertise in campaign communications, Natalie has also worked in the tech and third sectors and is an accredited member of the CIPR.

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DAVID WHITEHOUSE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OFFSHORE ENERGIES UK

David joined Offshore Energies UK on 1 January 2023 as Chief Executive.

David is an established industry leader with 30 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. He has extensive knowledge of the North Sea sector, and most recently spent 7 years as the Managing Director of CNR International. David is respected across the sector for his strategic and hands-on leadership in the North Sea and around the world, including the USA, Netherlands, and Philippines.

His passion for energy, engineering and innovation is built on a PhD in Theoretical Chemistry from Cambridge University and a degree in Chemistry from Manchester University. He is currently studying at the University of Aberdeen for a Masters in Renewable Engineering.

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LEANNE LINACRE

CEO AND CO-FOUNDER

LEAD5050

Leanne Linacre is the CEO and Co-Founder of Lead5050, a tech-for-good company dedicated to auditing and certifying organisations on their journey to closing the gender pay and leadership gap and creating genuinely inclusive workplaces. A recognised voice in gender equity and inclusive leadership, Leanne is passionate about helping businesses align with the values and purpose that today's workforce increasingly demands. She believes that unlocking the full potential of the whole workforce is not only a matter of fairness but also a powerful driver of economic growth and innovation. With a background in education and leadership development, Leanne has trained and coached thousands of international executives to lead inclusively, manage diverse teams, and embed equity into their organisational culture. Through Lead5050, she continues to champion the business case for inclusion, helping organisations transform ambition into measurable, lasting change. Through Lead5050, she continues to champion the business case for inclusion, helping organisations transform ambition into measurable, lasting change.

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DORIS REITER

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT – BP NORTH SEA
BP

Doris Reiter is the Senior Vice President for bp North Sea. The first female to hold this position, she is accountable for all bp oil and gas operations in the North Sea, managing a strong portfolio of five key assets in the central North Sea and west of Shetland.

Doris's 27-year career with bp has taken her across the globe, from the Gulf of Mexico to Angola working in multiple engineering and technical leadership roles. Prior to her current role, she was Vice President for Reservoir Development North Sea and Angola, accountable for driving the safe progression and production delivery of resources from bp assets in these regions.

She is Operator and Developer Chair on the Offshore Energies UK board and serves as a director on the BP Exploration Operating Company Limited and Aker BP boards.

A native of Austria and a reservoir engineer by background, Doris has an MSc. equivalent in chemical and mechanical engineering from the University of Leoben, Austria and holds a PhD in petroleum engineering from Texas A&M University.

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KATY HEIDENREICH

SUPPLY CHAIN & PEOPLE DIRECTOR
OFFSHORE ENERGIES UK

Katy Heidenreich is the Supply Chain & People Director at Offshore Energies UK.

She has responsibility for championing the world-class capabilities of the UK supply chain and the industry's highly skilled workforce.

Katy focuses on helping the sector maximise its opportunity to deliver as much of the UK's energy needs as possible and drive the technology and innovation required to deliver net zero targets.

Katy Heidenreich brings more than 28 years of industry experience to the role, mainly from Schlumberger Oilfield Services where she has worked across a variety of technical, commercial and senior management roles in the UK, Norway and Azerbaijan.

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THE RT HON CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

**SHADOW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY SECURITY
AND NET ZERO & SHADOW MINISTER FOR EQUALITIES**

The Rt Hon Claire Coutinho MP is Shadow Secretary of State for Energy, Shadow Minister for Equalities, and Member of Parliament of East Surrey. First elected in 2019, she was appointed to Cabinet as Energy Secretary in 2023 after serving as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Treasury and Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing.

Claire started her career at Merrill Lynch, before leaving the City to work on poverty and opportunity at the Centre for Social Justice and in Government as a Special Adviser to Rishi Sunak. She is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford, and holds an MA in Mathematics and Philosophy from Exeter College, Oxford. In 2022 she founded a charity, 'The Friendship Project', to tackle loneliness in her constituency.

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HANNAH BARDELL

**BUSINESS & EQUALITIES CONSULTANT, POLITICAL
COMMENTATOR AND SPEAKER
HKB CONSULTING LTD**

Hannah Bardell was a Member of the UK Parliament for nine years (for Livingston 2015-2024) and a Member of the Council of Europe (The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe PACE) for 7 years.

She has 20 years of experience across the spectrum of UK elected office, commercial television, journalism, political communications, the energy industry, and Government: UK, US, Scottish and European.

She remains a frequent commentator and contributor in the media, appearing on programmes such as STV - Scotland Tonight, BBC Newsnight, Question Time, Sky News, and a wide range of radio programmes.

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BOB DRUMMOND

CEO

D2ZERO

Bob has worked in the Energy industry throughout his entire career and prior to joining D2Zero has been CEO / Managing Director in a number of major energy service companies. Bob has extensive experience in strategic and operations management, both in the UK and internationally, and in driving business growth both organically and through acquisition.

In addition to his role as CEO of D2Zero, Bob is Executive Chairman of Hydrasun and Fuel Cell Systems and a board member of Score Group, nexos and Powerstar. Bob is also a Co-Chair and board member of OEUK and a member of the North East of Scotland Hydrogen Ambition Steering Committee.

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GARY FORD

CO-FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
MEN FOR INCLUSION

Gary Ford is a keynote speaker and co-founder of Men for Inclusion, an organisation dedicated to advancing DEI in the corporate world.

With over a decade advocating for gender equality and DEI, and 35 years as a technologist in financial services, including as a Managing Director at JPMorgan, Gary brings expertise and a passion for transformational culture change. He co-founded JPMorgan's global male allies programme for Women in Technology.

Gary is a facilitator, commentator and author. His first book is *The Accidental Sexist: A Handbook for Men on Workplace Diversity and Inclusion*. He has been the male ally advisor to Women On The Wharf, and was a winner of the WeAreTheCity Rising Star award in the Men for Gender Balance category.

A compelling and knowledgeable industry commentator, Gary provides insights and data that will interest those fostering inclusive workplaces through DEI employee engagement and inclusive leadership.

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EMMA BEHJAT

AXIS NETWORK CHAIR

AXIS

Emma is the Chair of the AXIS Network, a volunteer-based organisation focused on creating gender equity within the energy sector. As Chair, Emma helps to define and deliver the AXIS strategy.

Emma holds a PhD in Chemical Biology, but since leaving academia has focused on the commercial aspect of delivering technical digital solutions in various industries from pharmaceuticals to oil and gas. She currently works at Wood as their Technical Sales Manager for their digital solutions.

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