New wave energy device sets sail from Leith

Following its manufacture and testing in Leith, ScottishPower Renewables' new P2 <u>Pelamis</u> wave power device sets sail for the European Marine Energy Centre in Orkney today where it will undergo further trials.

Commenting, SNP Energy Spokesperson Mike Weir MP described this as a milestone in Pelamis' development which underlined the continued progress Scotland is making attracting international corporations with renewables innovations.

International corporations Gamesa, Mitsubishi, Respol, Doosan and Masdar have all recently announced plans to invest in Scotland. A recent report by Altium Securities, the investment bank, concluded that this investment is set to continue with Scotland uniquely placed to lead the renewables revolution.

Commenting, Mr Weir said:-

"This is a milestone in the development of Pelamis. It is down to the hard work and innovation of all involved who should be congratulated on their success.

"It comes as no surprise that global companies see the real, tangible, profitable appeal investing in Scotland brings. We have an abundance of natural resources perfectly suited to grasp a renewable energy revolution with both hands.

"With an already enviable portfolio of renewable investors who have been attracted to Scotland, I have absolute confidence that more will be drawn to our shores.

"We know that the international market believe investment in Scotland will continue, regardless of our constitutional future, and anyone who supposes otherwise needs to look at the facts.

"In the current economic circumstances, capital investment must be a priority in both the public and private sector — but let's not forget that renewables will not only help us tackle climate change, a low carbon economy will create 130,000 jobs by 2020."

Pelamis Wave Power is one of two wave energy companies in Edinburgh. Aquamarine Power's wave energy device, Oyster 800, was delivered to EMEC in Orkney a short time ago and has been secured to the sea-bed. The device is now being connected to the onshore hydroelectric plant before trials commence.