

## Cable De-burial Operations - Offshore France



### Project Overview

In 2022, Rotech Subsea was contracted by Prysmian to support cable de-burial operations on an offshore wind farm project in Saint-Nazaire, France. The scope of work involved the de-burial of approximately 650 metres of subsea cable, which included two joint areas and four cut points. Once repairs were completed by the client, Rotech was tasked with re-burying the cable and joints to a depth of 1.5 to 2 metres Depth of Lowering (DOL). Water depths across the site ranged from 20 to 30 metres, and the seabed consisted of heavy, dense sands. While Rotech initially proposed the use of its RSGC tool for the cut and recovery scope, the client elected to carry out that part of the work independently.

### The Rotech Solution

Rotech deployed its RS2 CFE tool for the operation. The RS2 was launched from the port side of the vessel using a crane, with forward and aft tugger winches used to control tool orientation. The RS2 remained suspended above the seabed throughout, completing both de-burial and subsequent re-burial in a non-contact manner. The de-burial phase was completed in a single pass over the full 650 metre cable route. However, due to rapid backfill in the area, Rotech was required to re-de-bury the cable at the four client-designated cut points to allow divers access for slinging and cutting operations. Real-time trench depth monitoring was carried out using a sonar imager mounted to the CFE tool to ensure accurate cable and joint exposure.

### Results

The RS2 system performed as expected, meeting the excavation specifications set by the client. The final burial phase was completed in a single pass, with only two small remedial sections required. Operations were conducted efficiently due to excellent communication and coordination between Rotech's personnel and the vessel deck crew. Feedback from the client's onboard team noted that significant time could have been saved if Rotech's Grab Cutter system (RSGC) had been utilised for the cut and recovery portion of the scope. Overall, the project was completed successfully, with Rotech's RS2 demonstrating strong performance in challenging seabed conditions.



### Project Information

**Client:** Prysmian

**Scope:** Cable/Joint De-burial & Re-burial

**Water Depth:** 20m - 30m

**Soils:** Heavy/Dense Sands

**Currents:** Up to 3.2 knts

**Sea State:** 0m - 2m

**Vessel:** Normand Cutter