

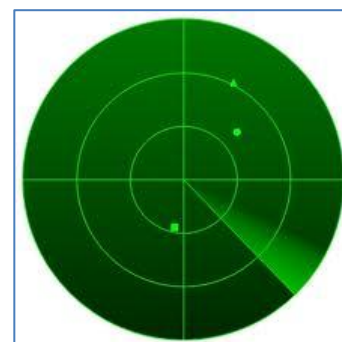
Summary

Wind farms are sprouting up across the UK on land and on sea – and each one of them has the potential to interfere with radar systems used by air traffic controllers. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which is responsible for the safe transit of aircraft through British airspace, advises all wind farm developers to get specialist help in determining the turbines' potential effect before they are built.



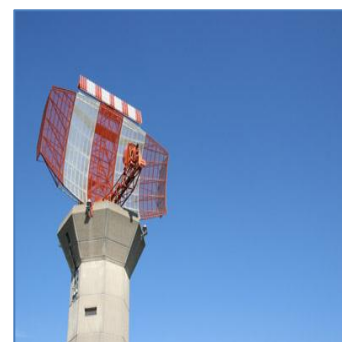
Challenge

The CAA recognises that it takes an expert to plan and model the effect of wind turbines on radiocommunications systems, and in particular radars, accurately, and it falls to companies like ATDI to ensure that air traffic control systems work effectively in the proximity of a wind farm. The potential problem is that the speed at which the tips of the turbines rotate can confuse a radar system and make it give an inaccurate reading for the position of an aircraft in flight.



Strategy

ATDI has planned and modelled the potential problems from wind farms for a number of developers and has given advice on mitigation techniques. Importantly, the company has also facilitated communications between wind farm companies and air traffic controllers. This discussion has created solutions before problems occur, and that has saved money for developers and ensured the safety of air passengers.



ATDI: making the turbines turn safely