

## News: First Aerial Wind Turbine Blade Inspection Course a Success

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The students of the First Aerial Wind Turbine Blade Inspection Course, which took place last February in the University of Salamanca's Research Park in Villamayor, have now successfully carried out inspections with the specialized Eol6 aircraft, the 'Aracnocóptero' as it is called.

As the company has reported to Europa press, the 'Aracnocóptero EOL6' consists of highly specialized hardware and software that make possible a 90 per cent reduction in inspection costs when compared with the most widely-used systems currently in place, which involves the use of cranes and suspending technicians by cord.



“The inspections procedures in place require notable downtime in wind turbine service, which means losses in production” one of the information sources said, explaining why they consider the aracnocóptero a technological revolution.

It seems that the use of this new platform reduces the average wind turbine downtime from 6 hours to just 30 minutes. This is being very well received by the strategic sectors involved in this renewable energy industry.

Specifically, the creators of the system emphasise that the technology has greatly facilitated the work of maintenance companies; the developers of the wind farms can guarantee an “efficient inspection” at a reduced cost and without “notable losses” in production; the insurers consider it guaranteed to be good inspection procedure, capable helping to avoid “costly disasters.” The operators don't have to suspend wires, nor use crane baskets more than 100 metres off the ground anymore.

The Enerpal group technicians have integrated in their staff the first graduation of wind energy sector professionals that believe in the platform and were given the training by the Arborea Company, where they are now concluding their educational activities.

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