

The aracnocóptero Eoló presented yesterday at the Sierra Dueña Wind Farm (Salamanca).ICAL

## Iberdrola puts to the Test an Unmanned Helicopter for Wind Turbine Inspection

The aracnocóptero 'Eol6' will save inspection time and money/Investments from Arbórea, the Ministry, and the Electric Company

## Salamanca

In the Sierra Dueña Wind Park (Salamanca), Iberdrola and Arbórea Intellbird introduced yesterday an unmanned helicopter that will carry out wind turbine inspection and maintenance, among other types of energy facilities.

A flight demonstration of the foldable, multi-rotor helicopter—designed by the Salamanca-based company Arbórea—took place during

the presentation. In addition, the helicopter inspected a wind turbine and showed the information captured over the course of the process, according to Europa Press.

The aracnocóptero is part of Arbórea Intellbird's main initiatives and allows the user to, along with its accompanying software platform, "increment effectiveness of wind turbine maintenance inspections, reducing service downtime and achieving a level of inspection detail

superior to traditional inspection methods" as Iberdrola explained.

Thanks to this project, the energy firm could "considerably reduce" the time it takes to inspect the machines installed in the wind parks and improve their reliability which "would imply an important advance in the operation and maintenance work, currently one of the most pressing objectives in the wind energy sector".

The event unfolded in the Sierra Dueña Wind Park, about 40 kilometres away from the city of Salamanca. This 31.5 megawatt wind park is the only one operated by Iberdrola in the province and is located between the municipalities of Pedrosillo de los Aires, Frades de la Sierra, Las Veguillas and Membribe de la Sierra.

This wind energy complex is composed of 37 wind turbines and a substation

## Investment

Iberdrola and the Centre for Technological Development in Industry (CDTI), an organisation that collaborates with the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, signed an agreement last year with Arbórea Intellbird, SL. in which both entities invested 500,000 euros.

This is the first investment that has been made in the Energy and Environment Field within the 'Innviert' program.

<u>Link to original article</u> (Spanish)