

# RENEWABLES REPUTATION INDEX

**NORTH AMERICA** 

2019

YOUR EXCLUSIVE GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST BRANDS IN THE NORTH AMERICAN RENEWABLE ENERGY BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM

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Don't see your name on this list? Get in touch to find out how to boost your reputation.

www.tamarindocomms.com/reputation-index index@tamarindocomms.com

## **WELCOME**

It's always good to break new ground. Do something that's never been done before, create something that's never been created. That was what we did last year with the world's first Renewables Reputation Index. Like many groundbreaking ideas, the concept seems obvious in hindsight.

Managing the reputation of companies in the renewable energy ecosystem is our daily bread at Tamarindo Group. Our success is based on promoting our clients' successes and boosting the visibility of their brands. However, we realized, there was no objective measure of this visibility. So we decided to create one.

Our first Renewables Reputation Index aimed to offer a definitive ranking of the best-regarded names serving the renewable energy industry. It was, however, focused on the European market. And we knew there were many players, and plenty of activity, worthy of note in North America. This Index seeks to redress the balance.

Unlike in our inaugural Renewables Reputation Index, we have included major original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), even though the reputation of these players is already largely given by their sales success and market share. We have also widened the renewable energy ecosystem net to include financial and legal partners.

This report therefore looks at how the major renewable brands measure up to the names of companies that provide services to the sector from within industries such as consultancy, engineering, finance or logistics.

It also aims to serve as a benchmark for North American renewable supply chain marketers, because one of the main questions we got regarding our first Renewable Reputation Index was: "Why isn't my company in it?"

The answer is simple, of course. Building a solid reputation is not easy. It requires investment and dedication. Once achieved, though, a good corporate profile can repay the effort many times over, by creating opportunities, sealing deals and providing insurance against corporate hiccups.

Whether your brand is in this edition or not, we encourage you to think again about the value of your corporate reputation and how to improve it. And if you want some tips, we're happy to help.



ADAM BARBER,

MANAGING DIRECTOR,
THE TAMARINDO GROUP

# THE RANKING PROCESS



Establishing an objective measure of reputation is not an easy process.



For this report, we surveyed 1,500 companies active in the renewables sector, based on presence at major industry events including EES North America, Energy Storage International, Intersolar North America and Solar Power International.



We took out non-commercial bodies and omitted existing Tamarindo Group clients to avoid conflicts of interest.



This list was then narrowed down to a top 100 based on an extensive review of their news and social media profiles, online presence and search engine rankings.



Within the top 100, we then ranked organizations based on three indices:

- Online and search engine profile.
- News media profile.
- · Social media profile.



Each index was weighted to provide a realistic reflection of reputation, so that for example an extended profile in the mainstream media would be worth more than a press release reprint on a low-circulation website. The weights of the factors in each index section were set to add up to 100.



For each factor we then collected raw data for every company and ranked the companies to find the top-performing company within each factor in the period from March 1 2018 to February 28 2019. We normalized the data by indexing all companies against the top-performing company for each factor.



For each company, we then multiplied the normalized scores by the corresponding factor weight and summed the results to get an overall score for the index section.



We summed the index section scores to get an overall index score for each company and ranked the companies in the index based on that score. In the final overall index score, each index section was equally weighted.

## **INTRODUCING THE TOP 100**

If you had surveyed awareness of renewable energy's biggest brands 10 years ago, then most of the names on the list would likely have drawn a blank with the average Joe. And those that did break through to the general consciousness sometimes did so for the wrong reasons. Remember Solyndra, for instance?

But a lot has changed in the last decade. Renewable energy has gone from a fringe occupation to a transformational industry that attracts global players. And that's reflected by the power of the top brands in the sector.

Original equipment makers (OEMs) such as GE, developers such as EDPR and suppliers such as Schneider Electric are practically household names. Here's how they square up on each brand awareness measure that we looked at.

# NEWS MEDIA PROFILE TOP 10 COMPANIES

The power of these brands is most obvious in their news media profiles. Big firms make headlines every day, whether by accident or design.

What is perhaps most surprising about our news media top 10 ranking are the oil and gas majors at numbers 2 and 3.

But when companies like these start investing in renewables, the media takes note.

Invenergy

BP America

3 Shell

2

9

10

4 DNV GL

5 EDF

6 Lincoln Clean Energy

7 Ørsted

8 EDPR

Siemens Gamesa US

Clearway Energy Group

# SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILE TOP 10 COMPANIES

Social media is one sphere where smaller companies can gain a reputational edge by leveraging canny content and smart strategies. Hence, it's perhaps no surprise to find lesser-known brands, such as Geronimo or Homer Energy, edging into the top 10 alongside mightier peers such as Siemens Gamesa or GE Renewable Energy.

1 Siemens Gamesa US

2 GE Renewable Energy

3 Vestas American Wind

4 Enel Green Power

5 Apex Clean Energy

6 EDF

7 Geronimo Energy

8 Homer Energy

9 Ørsted

10 3M

# ONLINE PROFILE TOP 10 COMPANIES

Our online profile chiefly tracks how brands are doing in terms of search optimization, a metric which favors deep-pocketed companies with a good grasp of digital marketing. Our top scores reveal that financial services players, law firms and manufacturing conglomerates all have their finger on this particular pulse.

Wells Fargo

2 Enel Green Power

3 Cleantech Law Partners PC

4 Stoel Rives LLP

5 Blackrock

6 JP Morgan

7 Morgan Stanley

8 Lockheed Martin

9 Parker Hannifin

10 Schneider Electric

# 100 to 91

Our list kicks off with a bunch of names you may not have heard of.... yet. The presence of these often smaller or more specialist companies on our list is testimony to their ability to make noticeable waves in the market. These companies may not be all that famous now, but stay tuned to hear more from them.

## Sargent & Lundy LLC



Position 100
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.0
Online score 0.6
sargentlundy.com

#### Luminate



Position 95
News media score 0.0
Social media score 1.2
Online score 3.3

#### **Holland and Hart**



Position 99
News media score 0.0
Social media score 1.1
Online score 2.0

#### **TPI Composites Inc**

luminatellc.com



Position 94
News media score 2.7
Social media score 2.1
Online score 2.0
tpicomposites.com

#### **Arcvera**

hollandhart.com



Position 98
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.0
Online score 3.3

#### Akin Gump



Position 93
News media score 1.3
Social media score 1.9
Online score 3.7
akingump.com

#### Mayer Brown

arcvera.com



Position 97
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.1
Online score 3.7
mayerbrown.com

#### **PNE**



Position 92
News media score 1.7
Social media score 0.9
Online score 4.8
pnewind.com

#### **APB LLP**



Position 96
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.0
Online score 3.9
apbllp.com

#### **Northland Power**



Position 91
News media score 0.7
Social media score 0.7
Online score 7.2
northlandpower.com

# 90 to 71

The upper reaches of our top 100 are still dominated by lesser-known names in the business, but increasingly their media outreach is having an impact on brand awareness. Companies such as Leeward or Hanergy are building solid market reputations, while Rope Partner is an example of a specialist playing a smart media game.

#### Fagen Inc



Position 90
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.0
Online score 9.1

fageninc.com

#### Leeward Energy



Position 86
News media score 5.7
Social media score 0.0
Online score 6.5

leewardenergy.com

#### WindCom



Position 89
News media score 1.0
Social media score 0.5
Online score 8.6

windcomservices.com

## Moog Inc



Position 85
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.1
Online score 12.4

#### Infrastructure and Energy Alternatives LLC



Position 88
News media score 2.4
Social media score 0.6
Online score 8.9

#### **Scout Clean Energy**

moog.com



Position 84
News media score 5.2
Social media score 0.0
Online score 7.4

scoutcleanenergy.com

#### **MUFG**

iea.net



Position 87
News media score 3.4
Social media score 0.2
Online score 8.5
mufgamericas.com

#### **Greengate Power**



Position 83 News media score 2.4 Social media score 3.8 Online score 6.6

greengatepower.com

#### Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy

Milbank

Position 82
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.8
Online score 12.8

milbank.com

#### **Hanergy America**



Position 76
News media score 2.5
Social media score 3.5
Online score 10.7

hanergyamerica.com

#### Klüber Lubrication North America LP



Position 81
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.0
Online score 14.0

80

7.9

1.1

5.9

klueber.com

#### **Hannon Armstrong**



Position 75
News media score 0.0
Social media score 5.8
Online score 10.7

hannonarmstrong.com

# Marathon Capital Position

MARATHON CAPITAL

Marathon Capital

Online score

marathoncapital.com

#### **Longroad Energy**



Position 74
News media score 10.0
Social media score 0.2
Online score 6.5

longroadenergy.com

#### **Primus Power Corp**



Position 79
News media score 4.1
Social media score 0.0
Online score 10.9

primuspower.com

#### **Coronal Energy**



Position 73
News media score 5.0
Social media score 0.3
Online score 11.7

coronalenergy.com

#### Rope Partner



Position 78
News media score 1.0
Social media score 8.4
Online score 6.1

ropepartner.com

#### **Terrasmart LLC**



Position 72 News media score 2.5 Social media score 5.6 Online score 9.2

terrasmart.com

#### Soltage LLC



Position 77
News media score 5.0
Social media score 3.7
Online score 6.8

soltage.com

#### Tri Global Energy



Position 71 News media score 4.1 Social media score 5.2 Online score 7.2

triglobalenergy.com

# 70 to 51

Well-known industry names make their appearance as we reach the middle of the top 100. Companies such as Lazard, Goldwind and Nordex are regular industry headline grabbers. What is interesting is that lesser-known brands still manage to maintain a presence thanks to intelligent use of online or social media channels.

Sk	yspecs Inc		AlsoEnergy Inc		
	Position	70		Position	66
	News media score	6.8		News media score	6.3
CIAVEDEOS	Social media score	0.9	A1	Social media score	0.0
<b>S</b> SKV <b>SPECS</b>	Online score	9.8	AlsoEnergy	Online score	12.8
	skyspecs.com			alsoenergy.com	
Quantum Energy Partners Energy Acuity					
	Position	69		Position	65
	News media score	8.0		News media score	0.0
OUANTUM	Social media score	0.0		Social media score	0.9
ENERGY PARTNERS	Online score	9.5	energyacuity Intelligence Powering Growth	Online score	18.6
	quantumep.com		intelligence Powering Growth	energyacuity.com	
The Timken Company Dynapower Corporation					
	Position	68		Position	64
	News media score	0.0		News media score	2.5
TIMETA	Social media score	1.3	DYNAPOWER	Social media score	8.8
TIMKEN	Online score	17.5	DYNAPOWER	Online score	8.3
	timken.com			dynapower.com	
Lazard Envision Energy					
	Position	67		Position	63
	News media score	2.7		News media score	1.3
T	Social media score	0.6	3)	Social media score	2.1
Lazard	Online score	15.7	<b>ENVISION</b>	Online score	16.8
	lazard.com			envision-group.com	

#### **NRG Systems Inc**



**Position** 62 News media score 3.4 Social media score 3.4 Online score 13.4

nrgsystems.com

#### Array technologies



Position 56 News media score 9.1 Social media score 3.4 Online score 9.8

arraytechinc.com

#### State Street Bank



Position 61 News media score 0.0 Social media score 1.0 Online score 19.7

statestreet.com

#### Bank of America Merrill Lynch



Position 55 News media score 5.7 Social media score 2.1 Online score 14.6

bofaml.com

#### Pika Energy



Position 60 News media score 5.0 Social media score 3.1 Online score 12.8

pika-energy.com

#### Cohnreznick Capital



Position 54 News media score 9.6 Social media score 3.2 Online score 10.2

cohnreznickcapital.com

#### **Nord-Lock Group**



Position 59 News media score 1.25 Social media score 0.4 Online score 19.4

nord-lock.com

#### **Principle Power**



Position 53 News media score 9.1 Social media score 1.9 Online score 12.3

principlepowerinc.com

#### **Goldwind Americas**



Position 58 News media score 8.4 Social media score 0.7 Online score 12.6 goldwindamericas.com

**Uptake** 



Position 52 News media score 1.0 Social media score 2.0 Online score 20.7

uptake.com

#### Nordex Inc



Position 57 News media score 13.2 Social media score 0.0 Online score 9.0

**TE Connectivity Corporation** 



UPTAKE

Position 51 News media score 1.3 Social media score 0.5 Online score 22.4

te.com

nordex.com

# WHY DOES REPUTATION MATTER IN RENEWABLES?

BY **ROLAND GODFREY-DAVIES**,

MANAGING DIRECTOR,
TAMARINDO COMMUNICATIONS



Clean energy is generally fortunate in having a socially and environmentally sound image. Unlike traditional energy markets, or other large sectors such as financial services, our success generally correlates with saving the planet. So why try harder? Surely, from a corporate reputation perspective, this is about as good as it gets?

Not necessarily. Sure, today firms in our industry are able to rely on the positive perception of renewables for commercial benefit. But as the sector's importance increases, the halo effect, by which businesses benefit from the industry's reputation, could flip.

Then, as has happened in other sectors, the reputation of renewable energy will come to ride on the reputation of its leading companies. So it is necessary that players promote their strengths and success and attend to their reputations. What does a strong reputation in renewable energy look like, though?

Is it based on a multi-megawatt development pipeline? Is it based on funds placed into the industry and a highly successful commercial track record? Or is it something more nuanced, such as having a clear mission and values?

And assuming we can fully understand what a good reputation looks like, how well do firms in the industry cultivate theirs as part of their wider commercial image? Finally, there is the most important question of all: does a strong reputation make a real difference in winning new work?

Any experienced brand manager will tell you that the answer is 'yes.' And the great thing about reputations is that any business can build one at any time. This index contains many larger companies near the top, but also demonstrates clearly that size isn't essential to a strong reputation.

What is essential is a desire to take the reputation of your business seriously, and to invest in it appropriately. Building a solid reputation isn't overly difficult, but it does require dedication. As a first step, why not call us for a free consultation?

# DOS AND DON'TS FOR A GREAT REPUTATION

#### DO...

- · Discuss industry issues and become a 'go-to' source of industry comment
- Generate your own thought leadership through white papers and reports
- · Talk about your work, no matter where it sits in the supply chain
- · Learn how to work with and engage with the media
- Communicate ideas and content consistent with company values and key messages

#### DON'T...

- Be unnecessarily secretive around commercial challenges that will appear in the public domain eventually
- Expect to secure an industry-leading position without investing in thought leadership
- Be a closed shop
- Assume you know everything about your stakeholders without asking them
- Exclude parts of your audience by focusing on a narrow set of communications channels

# 50 to 31

This is where things start to get interesting. As we move from 50 towards 30, familiar names crop up with increasing frequency. And these names don't just belong to diehard renewable energy companies. Also present is a growing number of brands from the wider industry ecosphere, from supply chain to financing.

## Senvion

## **SENVION**

Position 50 News media score 8.6 Social media score 0.4 Online score 15.1

senvion.com

#### **Sentient Science**



Position 46
News media score 8.3
Social media score 2.9
Online score 14.4

sentientscience.com

#### **UL LLC**



Position 49
News media score 2.4
Social media score 1.5
Online score 20.4
ul.com

#### Tigo Energy Inc



Position 45
News media score 11.3
Social media score 3.8
Online score 11.6

#### **Greenberg Traurig**



Position 48
News media score 0.0
Social media score 0.1
Online score 25.3
qtlaw.com

#### **Tradewind Energy**

tigoenergy.com



Position 44
News media score 5.9
Social media score 11.3
Online score 10.1
tradewindenergy.com

#### Orrick



Position 47
News media score 1.3
Social media score 3.6
Online score 20.7
orrick.com

#### Parker Hannifin

parker.com



Position 43
News media score 0.0
Social media score 2.2
Online score 26.0

#### **Key Bank**



Position 42
News media score 3.4
Social media score 0.2
Online score 25.1

key.com

#### EnerSys



Position 36
News media score 2.5
Social media score 4.6
Online score 23.3

enersys.com

#### E.ON



Position 41
News media score 6.7
Social media score 12.2
Online score 10.0

eon.com

#### Mortenson



Position 35 News media score 10.7 Social media score 6.1 Online score 14.6

mortenson.com

#### Morgan Lewis



Position 40
News media score 7.9
Social media score 1.9
Online score 19.0

morganlewis.com

## **Greentech Capital Advisors**



Position 34
News media score 1.7
Social media score 15.9
Online score 16.3

greentechcapital.com

#### **Engie Insight Services Inc**



Position 39 News media score 7.9 Social media score 10.7 Online score 10.3

engieinsight.com

#### Southern California Edison



Position 33 News media score 13.3 Social media score 11.7 Online score 9.6

sce.com

## Ice Energy



Position 38
News media score 12.9
Social media score 3.6
Online score 12.4

ice-energy.com

#### Solaria



Position 32 News media score 15.0 Social media score 9.8 Online score 12.4

solaria.com

## Skyline Renewables



Position 37 News media score 20.5 Social media score 0.5 Online score 8.3

skylinerenewables.com

#### **Blackrock**



Position 31
News media score 3.3
Social media score 1.6
Online score 32.5

blackrock.com

# 30 to 21

As we approach the top 20 it gets harder for smaller brands to stand out. Nevertheless, there is still a good showing from organizations such as JP Morgan or Stoel Rives that belong to the renewable energy ecosystem rather than being power firms or developers in their own right.

#### **Lockheed Martin**



Position	30
News media score	5.8
Social media score	2.6
Online score	29.0
lockheedmartin.com	

## **Schneider Electric**



Position	25
News media score	11.5
Social media score	3.5
Online score	25.7

schneider-electric.us

#### JP Morgan

## J.P.Morgan

Position	29
News media score	2.4
Social media score	3.2
Online score	32.5
jpmorgan.com	

#### Stoel Rives LLP



Position	24
News media score	3.3
Social media score	5.1
Online score	32.6

#### **SMA America**



Position	28
News media score	7.5
Social media score	5.4
Online score	25.3
sma-america.com	

#### Cleantech Law Partners PC

stoel.com



Position	23
News media score	0.0
Social media score	4.3
Online score	36.8

cleantechlaw.com

#### EnSync



Position	27
News media score	15.8
Social media score	6.0
Online score	16.6
ensync.com	

#### Clearway Energy Group



Position	22
News media score	28.7
Social media score	6.3
Online score	7.9
clearwayenergygroup	.com

#### **Pattern Energy**



Position	26
News media score	11.5
Social media score	15.6
Online score	12.8

patternenergy.com

#### **Grid Alternatives**



Position	21
News media score	13.3
Social media score	10.6
Online score	19.5

gridalternatives.org

## **POWER TO RENEWABLES**

Tamarindo Communications helps renewable energy businesses with the best technology, products and services to develop beneficial, long-term relationships with political, financial, commercial and public stakeholders, through clear, transparent and informative communications. We believe that when you win trust, you win work.

We understand how clean energy markets operate, and we recognize the interconnected relationships between industry operators.

To maintain this understanding and edge, we encourage our team to continuously learn and work with our clients to develop a detailed understanding of their business and why their customers engage with them and ultimately buy from them.

With a wealth of large-agency experience locked within our senior management team, we are equally at home working with multinational businesses to develop complex global solutions or dynamic founders and senior teams that set out to build a business and change the world.

Whatever the background and whatever the business, at Tamarindo our team brings a directness and responsiveness that represents the very best of the specialist PR agency model. To deliver this kind of service, we continually invest in our team.

We hire passionate and ambitious individuals with a keen interest in renewable energy and a determination to make a difference in this fast-moving market.

We prioritize passion, enthusiasm and clear commercial aptitude and this has resulted in high levels of accountability that generate long-term customer relationships with some of the sector's most influential brands.

Every member of the Tamarindo team has excellent media acumen and a clear sense of how to develop a story that ensures your service offering is clear, compelling and unique.

Each member of the team possesses excellent mainstream media connections and has developed exceptional relationships with key energy trade journalists and many of our industry's leading influencers.

When delivering media campaigns, our teams focus not only on securing media coverage and market profile but also on using the profile created to drive sales-qualified inbound new business leads, establish market-leading reputations and help many of the most ambitious brands thrive.

Tamarindo Communications began life in 2012 on a beach in Costa Rica, a country that has led the way in the global transition to clean energy.

The auspicious location formed the vision for what Tamarindo today continually strives to be: the best communications advisory to the renewable energy market, delivering campaigns and consultancy that enable you to develop, build, refine and protect your profile and reputation within the sector.



# 20 to 11

Believe it or not, there's still room for smaller or niche players in top half of the top 20. Hats off to companies such as Burns & McDonnell or Homer Energy for making enough of a marketing racket to stand out amid big-league names of the stature of Morgan Stanley, EDPR or BayWa.

#### **Burns & McDonnell**

Position 20
News media score 4.1
Social media score 20.2
Online score 19.9

burnsmcd.com

Burns & McDonnell's motto of "making the world a more amazing place, one relationship at a time" is borne out on social media, with more than 11,200 followers on Twitter alone.

#### **Homer Energy**



Position 18
News media score 4.6
Social media score 28.0
Online score 14.1

homerenergy.com

Perhaps sensing that its product offering of microgrid software isn't going to pull in headlines every day, Homer Energy has invested in social and built up major followings on all the main platforms.

#### Morgan Stanley

Morgan Stanley

Position 19
News media score 9.9
Social media score 4.2
Online score 30.2
morganstanley.com

In common with many of the other banking names in our list, Morgan Stanley's outsize online score reflects the financial services giant's ability to fund laser-sharp search engine optimization techniques.

#### **EDPR**



Position	17
News media score	34.0
Social media score	3.7
Online score	9.4
edprnorthamerica.com	

EDP Renewables has been regularly in the trade press headlines over the last year thanks to an important pipeline of North American work, recently for instance inking a media-friendly power-purchase agreement with the tech behemoth Microsoft.

#### BayWa r.e. Wind LLC



Position 16 News media score 8.1 Social media score 16.3 Online score 23.7

us.baywa-re.com

BayWa perhaps keeps a lower media profile than one might expect from its stature but has taken a leaf out of the financial services playbook in maximizing opportunities for online promotion.

#### **Geronimo Energy**



Position 13 News media score 13.7 Social media score 31.0 Online score 10.2

geronimoenergy.com

Unusually in the top 100, Minneapolis-based full-service renewable energy development company Geronimo has invested heavily in video to get its message out to key audiences including corporations, utilities and landowners.

#### Lincoln Clean Energy



Position 15 News media score 38.5 Social media score 0.0 Online score 10.1

lincoln-clean-energy.com

Few things get business journalists more worked up than a good bit of merger and acquisition activity, and Lincoln Clean Energy certainly kept the gentlemen and women of the press happy last year when it sold out to the Danish power giant Orsted.

#### **Apex Clean Energy**



Position 12 News media score 10.3 Social media score 38.0 Online score 11.5

apexcleanenergy.com

Apex is one of those developers that keeps its head down and focuses on doing a good job, relying heavily on local talent and building a solid social media footprint in the process.

#### **DNV GL**



Position 14
News media score 42.2
Social media score 5.2
Online score 4.2

dnvgl.com

The certification body DNV GL touches many parts of the renewable energy business and has a highly competent communications team that has helped it achieve an outstanding news media score over the last year.

#### 3M Company



Position 11 News media score 18.0 Social media score 21.8 Online score 24.2

Fortune 500 company 3M can afford to make a lot of noise in the renewable energy sector. It is a major supplier to the industry, serving the solar, wind and energy storage markets and also a major renewable energy purchaser.

3m.com

# 10 то 6

It's no surprises as we look at the companies just outside the top five. The companies here are all major names with big marketing budgets to play with. What perhaps stands out most is that two of the five in this section would not claim energy as their first concern – although they clearly have a reputation in the industry.

## **GE Renewable Energy**



Position 10
News media score 14.3
Social media score 41.5
Online score 14.2

gerenewableenergy.com

GE Renewable Energy benefits massively from the GE brand, which makes it one of the energy sector's must-follow companies. On social media, the company is a major influencer, boasting nearly 28,000 followers on Twitter and almost 17,000 on Facebook.

But where GE Renewable Energy really flexes its social media muscles is on the business network LinkedIn, where it has an awe-inspiring 152,000 fans. While the brand's press image is tarnished by financial struggles, on social media it continues to wow audiences with news of innovations such as the world's most powerful wind turbine.

#### **Orsted**



Position 9
News media score 36.5
Social media score 25.4
Online score 18.3

orsted.com

It says a lot about Ørsted's ability to generate headlines that the brand didn't even exist two years ago. The company, which wisely ditched its former Dong Energy moniker in November 2017, is notable for being Denmark's largest energy firm. To the rest of the world, though, it is the planet's leading offshore wind developer.

That's a big deal in North America as the East Coast of the US prepares to embark on an ambitious offshore wind buildout program. You can barely talk about offshore wind without mentioning Ørsted, and there is plenty of talk about offshore wind in the US at the moment.

#### **Vestas American Wind**

### Vestas.

Position	8
News media score	26.6
Social media score	38.7
Online score	22.1

vestas.com

Marketers at the Danish turbine manufacturer Vestas clearly realized early on that the majestic machines they were selling were great eye candy for social platforms. And they've used that knowledge to amass a truly eye-popping social media following.

With roughly 305,000 followers on LinkedIn, 103,000 on Facebook, 40,000 on Twitter and 26,000 on Instagram, Vestas's social media figures speak for themselves. And the company doesn't do badly in traditional media coverage, either, thanks to a steady pipeline of deals and regular mentions in analyst research.

#### Wells Fargo



Position 7
News media score 22.9
Social media score 3.3
Online score 65.0

wellsfargo.com

A bank at number 7? Well, why not. The financial services sector has shed its dusty bricks-and-mortar image and embraced digital technology with a vengeance, spending lavishly to acquire a significant online clout.

In the traditional media, meanwhile, banks including Wells Fargo have taken flak for an equivocal stance towards fossil fuels. Wells Fargo has been on the receiving end of direct action in the form of big protests, which have forced the bank to pledge a USD \$200 billion clean energy financing commitment through to 2030.

#### **Enel Green Power**



Position 6
News media score 18.4
Social media score 38.7
Online score 38.3

enelgreenpower.com

Enel Green Power calls itself the leader in renewables, and its reputation does not disappoint. A strong social media presence sees it claim more than 432,000 followers across all platforms, while its website drew almost 60,000 visits in February 2019, according to data from SimilarWeb.com, mainly from the US and Enel's home market of Italy.

Media outreach is tightly controlled by a small yet responsive team in Italy, and press activity tends to be restrained. However, the sheer level of corporate activity at the company means it is rarely out of the news, with recent US activity including the acquisition of development partner Tradewind Energy.

# 5 to 2

There are no banks in the top 5. But not all the companies here are renewable energy firms, either. What these brands all share is an immense reputation in the energy sector, bolstered by high scores across all three measures we are tracking in the list: news, social media and online.

# SIEMENS Gamesa

#### Siemens Gamesa US

Position	5
News media score	33.1
Social media score	45.1
Online score	18.2

siemensgamesa.com

Like Vestas, the wind turbine manufacturer Siemens Gamesa uses the visual grandeur of its machines to good effect on social media. The company has more than 209,000 followers on LinkedIn and almost 18,000 on Facebook, with a further 15,000 or so on Twitter.

As befits a business born of two high-profile industrial players, Siemens Gamesa also has a sizeable, proactive press team. The company's leading position in the wind turbine market means it benefits from regular press coverage on bids and deals, not just in North America but right around the world.

The Siemens Gamesa website pulled in an estimated 115,000-plus visitors in February 2019, with more than 54% coming via organic search. Perhaps unsurprisingly for a global leader in offshore wind turbine technology, nearly 30% of traffic came from European offshore wind sector hubs Denmark, UK and Germany.



#### **BP** America

Position	4
News media score	54.3
Social media score	17.8
Online score	24.8

bp.com

BP is one of the best-known names in energy, giving the brand an automatic advantage in any ranking. But the oil and gas major's exploits in renewable energy are worthy of note in their own right. Recently, for example, the company named its former upstream business chief, Al Vickers, as the new head of wind energy.

The high-profile appointment follows investments in companies such as the electric vehicle charging technology developer FreeWire, showing that BP is keen to diversify its energy portfolio and put money into ventures that might pave the way to a low-carbon future. And where BP invests, headlines follow.

A strong wind portfolio of close to 2GW shows the business is serious about renewable energy in the US market, and intends to be in the sector for the long term.



#### **EDF**

Position	3
News media score	41.7
Social media score	35.4
Online score	21.7

edf-re.com

EDF is one of the world's biggest utilities, wielding immense influence in its home market of France and also increasingly engaged in projects around the globe. It plays in all energy fields, from distributed generation to nuclear power, giving it a vast reach in terms of traditional news coverage.

This extends to its social media footprint, where the company benefits from the activities of its local brands around the world. EDF isn't perhaps the hardest-working brand on social media, but it doesn't need to be – the company gets regular mentions just for being what it is. And it creates good engagement with followers.

EDF, like several other large European utilities, is in the process of pivoting away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy. On that basis, expect to see it retaining a strong reputation in the sector in years to come.



#### Shell

Position	2
News media score	51.9
Social media score	21.1
Online score	25.5

shell.us

Does an oil and gas company deserve to have the second-highest reputation among North American renewable energy players? That's for you to judge. But what we can say is that Shell's brand recognition is impressive by any standards – and there is no doubt the company has been wielding its influence in renewables over the past year.

Shell's New Energies division has been on the acquisition trail, recently snapping up a German residential battery maker called Sonnen and investing in an airborne wind energy system maker called Makani, which had just hopped out of Alphabet's notorious X incubator arm.

Shell has also recently bought Greenlots, a leading US electric vehicle charging company, perhaps pointing towards where the company wants to be when interest in oil and gas finally wanes. Until then, there will likely be more acquisitions by Shell New Energies – and a continuing high profile for the oil and gas brand.

# THE LIST IN FULL

Here's the full reputation index so far, from 100 down to 2. Did your business make the list?

POSITION	BRAND	POSITION	BRAND
100	Sargent & Lundy LLC	76	Hanergy America
99	Holland and Hart	75	Hannon Armstrong
98	Arcvera	74	Longroad Energy
97	Mayer Brown	73	Coronal Energy
96	APB LLP	72	Terrasmart LLC
95	Luminate	71	Tri Global Energy
94	TPI Composites Inc	70	Skyspecs Inc
93	Akin Gump	69	Quantum Energy Partners
92	PNE	68	The Timken Company
91	Northland Power	67	Lazard
90	Fagen Inc	66	AlsoEnergy Inc
89	WindCom	65	Energy Acuity
88	Infrastructure and Energy Alternatives LLC	64	Dynapower Corporation
87	MUFG	63	Envision Energy
86	Leeward Energy	62	NRG Systems Inc
85	Moog Inc	61	State Street Bank
84	Scout Clean Energy	60	Pika Energy
83	Greengate Power	59	Nord-Lock Group
82	Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy	58	Goldwind Americas
81	Klüber Lubrication North America	57	Nordex Inc
01	LP	56	Array Technologies
80	Marathon Capital	55	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
79	Primus Power Corp	54	Cohnreznick Capital
78	Rope Partner	53	Principle Power
77	Soltage LLC	52	Uptake

POSITION	BRAND	POSITION	BRAND
51	TE Connectivity Corporation	26	Pattern Energy
50	Senvion	25	Schneider Electric
49	UL LLC	24	Stoel Rives LLP
48	Greenberg Traurig	23	Cleantech Law Partners PC
47	Orrick	22	Clearway Energy Group
46	Sentient Science	21	Grid Alternatives
45	Tigo Energy Inc	20	Burns & McDonnell
44	Tradewind Energy	19	Morgan Stanley
43	Parker Hannifin	18	HOMER Energy
42	Key Bank	17	EDPR
41	E.ON	16	BayWa r.e. Wind LLC
40	Morgan Lewis	15	Lincoln Clean Energy
39	Engie Insight Services Inc	14	DNV GL
38	Ice Energy	13	Geronimo Energy
37	Skyline Renewables	12	Apex Clean Energy
36	EnerSys	11	3M Company
35	Mortenson	10	GE Renewable Energy
34	Greentech Capital Advisors	9	Ørsted
33	Southern California Edison	8	Vestas American Wind
32	Solaria	7	Wells Fargo
31	Blackrock	6	Enel Green Power
30	Lockheed Martin	5	Siemens Gamesa US
29	JP Morgan	4	BP America
28	SMA America	3	EDF
27	EnSync	2	Shell

# AND THE WINNER IS...

# Invenergy

Position 1
News media score 68.2
Social media score 15.0
Online score 18.8

invenergyllc.com

One thing that's striking about the top 5 so far is that it doesn't include a single North American company. So it's perhaps something of a relief to find that the top spot in this North America edition of the Renewables Reputation Index goes to a company that is as American as apple pie.

Like EDPR, as a developer Invenergy has benefitted significantly from tying up high-profile power-purchase agreements with big-name customers. In March this year, for example, the company inked a deal to provide 74 MW of solar power to Microsoft.

The company also took the American Wind Energy Association's 2019 Excellence in Operations Award and gave specialist renewable energy journalists of all stripes plenty to write about by pursuing a fair mix of wind, solar and energy storage projects.

This high media profile has helped the company rise to the top spot on our chart despite perhaps not having the strongest online or social media showing. There's an important lesson there for renewable energy marketers in North America: what other people say about you counts for more than what you say about yourself.



New for 2020, the **North American Wind Investment Awards** will celebrate best practice in the North American wind industry and help it to thrive in the coming years, while enabling top industry players to forge strong business connections.

Hosted by industry experts **A Word About Wind**, the awards will bring together the industry's top decision makers at a black-tie dinner where they can meet, connect with and celebrate the best people and companies working in wind.



This report is published by Tamarindo Communications, the specialist renewable energy PR, marketing and communications agency, which is a part of The Tamarindo Group.

The Tamarindo Group also owns and operates A Word About Wind, a global membership community for developers, investors, financiers, owners, operators and companies working throughout the renewable energy supply chain.

The information in this report has been compiled exclusively from publicly available information. It has been designed solely to illustrate trends in the reputational performance of a representative sample of companies in the renewable energy services sector.

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