



**Jobcast Transcript:
Stefan Ivarsson, Model and Site Manager
GE Energy Water and Power Division
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“Green Jobs for Engineers: GE Energy Water & Power Division in Sweden & Norway”

Welcome to Jobs in Pods, the only podcast where you can hear real employers and leading recruiters talk about their jobs and how to get them.

I’m your host Peter Clayton.

This jobcast will feature engineering roles for [GE Energy Water and Power Division](#) in Sweden and Norway.

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Joining us today from Karlstad, Sweden is Stefan Ivarsson, Model and Site Manager.

Stefan, welcome to Jobs in Pods.

Stefan: Thank you, Peter.

Peter: Tell us a little bit about your career with GE, how long have you worked for the company and what is your role there?

Stefan: Actually, Peter, today or at least within the weeks I’m having my one year celebration here being a model manager for developing the new offshore model within the GE engineering team.

Peter: That’s really exciting. Tell us about GE wind energy offshore in Sweden and the growth you’re expecting over the next several years, Stefan.

Stefan: I'm glad to do that. We are doing great progress here and we are investing a lot in our offshore activities mainly on the engineering side but also a little bit on services and marketing also but our main focus is to grow our engineering activities and we are planning to put up our first demo unit here in Sweden within the year to prove our technology.

Peter: This is a lot of R&D, research and development that's going on within your facility. Is that correct?

Stefan: That's correct. It's engineers working with designing the turbine that's going to go out in the North Sea as our offshore turbine.

Peter: From what I understand last year GE Energy acquired the company you worked for at the time called ScandWind. What has changed since that acquisition?

Stefan: A lot has changed going into a new organization. Most of all we have a lot of more resources. The team has grown from being 17 people to now we are a part of a big organization with thousands of people working within wind power. We have the resources to do all the tests we need. We got good support on specialists for all our design activities but still there's a need to grow this organization to fit to the growing market demand we are aiming at.

Peter: You know, Stefan, oftentimes when you hear about acquisitions they're not happy experiences for the employees that are being acquired. How has this experience been for you going from a small company, ScandWind into this large global company, GE?

Stefan: You know what, Peter, I think you're right on spot there. I think many times it's easier to start as a new coming into a big organization and being acquired but I would say as a whole it's a very positive experience for us. We can now see that the plants we have for the product we developed can come true and that's the most important part but of course there's a lot to learn to fit into a new big organization.

Peter: What is the culture like at GE Energy in Norway?

Stefan: Well, I would say we have a really good culture here. One of the biggest things I noticed when starting in GE is the big focus on the continuous learning. GE has a very strong focus on trainings and the internal leadership programs, rotational programs, and so on and there's a big room for personal development. Another thing is that you will have the opportunity to work with people all over the world. There are a lot of skilled people in different countries that you will work with on a day to day basis more or less.

Peter: That's really exciting so you're able to tap in to the whole GE network globally when you have a question or get some advice about something.

Stefan: Yeah, you just pick up the phone, you call someone in the U.S. or in India or China or whatever. GE is a global organization and we are working 24 hours a day I would say all around the world.

Peter: Stefan, what is so special and great about wind energy from your perspective?

Stefan: I would say it's very satisfying to work with wind energy. You work with something you know that the whole society is waiting for. We need more green energy to produce our energy to get to a better environment and this is one of the main drivers I would say to a lot of us working within wind power. To see this come true and know that when you go home by the end of the day you have contributed to something good that can make the world go on in a better way and also I mean it's fun working in a growing business. That's also a big advantage.

Peter: It's really nice to be working in something that really has a meaning for society that benefits society.

Stefan: Absolutely.

Peter: Let's talk a little bit more about the engineering roles that you currently have available in Sweden and Norway. Can you kind of describe for us your ideal candidate for these positions and what kind of education background and experience are you looking for?

Stefan: The ideal candidate would have a university degree within engineering with some years of experience working as an engineer in a relevant field. We are very much looking for people that are specialist in their engineering area and we put those together in teams to solve the different design issues we need to take care of during our engineering work.

Peter: What impresses you when somebody comes in for an interview? What kinds of things are you looking for that are particularly impressive?

Stefan: I would say of course I look for the qualifications that is needed and try to find out if this person is really skilled or an expert in the area. I also think it's very important to have someone that finds it exciting working within this area. You need to have the flame and fire to burn for your area to do a really good job but what really impresses me is also if someone has worked within offshore wind before. That's also good for working with us.

Peter: Yeah, I'm sure and let's face it, there not many that folks out there that have that kind of experience, right?

Stefan: Of course. That's not necessary but it impresses me.

Peter: I'm sure. I know, Stefan, you have a by invitation only job fair coming up September 6th and 7th, can you tell us a little bit about these events and how interested candidates can get invitations to attend these?

Stefan: Yeah, I would love to do that. We have recruitment career days coming up in Oslo the 6th of September and in Karlstad the 7th of September. These days we'll include interviews, presentations about GE, wind energy in general, we will have a talk show, and you will have the possibility to meet with GE people for some mingle activities and ask your questions. The best way to apply to those two career events is to go into our website www.ge-energy.com/wind. They can read all about it and you can signup for these events.

Peter: That's really great. Is there anything we haven't discussed today, Stefan, that you would like potential candidates to know about working in GE Energy or particularly with your positions that you have open now in Sweden and Norway?

Stefan: What I can add to that is that we have a lot of interesting positions both within mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, also within control system. That is we are looking for people to fill as soon as possible.

Peter: Stefan, for those unable to attend one of the job fairs, what's the best way to connect with you?

Stefan: The best way is to go into our website: www.ge.com/careers. There where you can find all that you need to know about our open postings.

Peter: Great. Well, Stefan, thank you so much for speaking with us today on Jobs in Pods.

Stefan: Thank you.

Peter: That will do it for this edition of Jobs in Pods.

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