

THE ESPY *Newsletter*

NOVEMBER 2025

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BEAT THE HEAT *Building a Culture of Safety*

As summer approaches in South Africa, temperatures are rising on site and during training. At the SP-Wind Training Centre, we prepare every technician to stay safe, cool, and alert.

Understanding Heat Stress:

Heat stress occurs when the body absorbs more heat than it can release. Long hours in the sun, heavy PPE, and physical work can raise your body temperature, affecting focus, coordination, and reaction time.

Recognising the Risk:

Heat stress can lead to dehydration, exhaustion, or even heat stroke. Recognising the early signs and responding quickly can prevent serious harm.



Training and Prevention:

Through our GWO First Aid course, trainees learn to identify and respond

to heat-related symptoms such as dizziness, nausea, or confusion. We teach when to hydrate, how to cool down safely, and when to seek medical help.

How We Prepare You:

Every trainee receives an SP-Wind water bottle and protective gear to reduce sun exposure. We encourage shade breaks, smart work in the heat, and the use of lightweight, breathable PPE.

At SP-Wind, safety goes beyond training, it's a daily habit built on awareness, teamwork, and care for one another.

By Jenna Mulder

WIND CAREERS *Pathways and Training*

The global shift toward renewable energy is driving strong demand for skilled wind technicians who keep turbines operating safely and efficiently. At SP Wind, we recognize that this hands-on career offers lasting stability and global opportunities, especially as offshore wind continues to grow. Guided by the Global Wind Organisation (GWO) Job Roles in Wind 2025, every aspiring technician completes a blend of safety, technical, and role specific training before stepping into a turbine environment.

The GWO Basic Safety Training (BST) provides essential knowledge for working safely in the wind industry. It covers First Aid for emergency response, Manual Handling to prevent injuries, Fire Awareness to manage potential hazards, and Working at Heights for safe performance at elevation. Each module remains valid for 24 months, after which refresher courses are required to maintain certification.

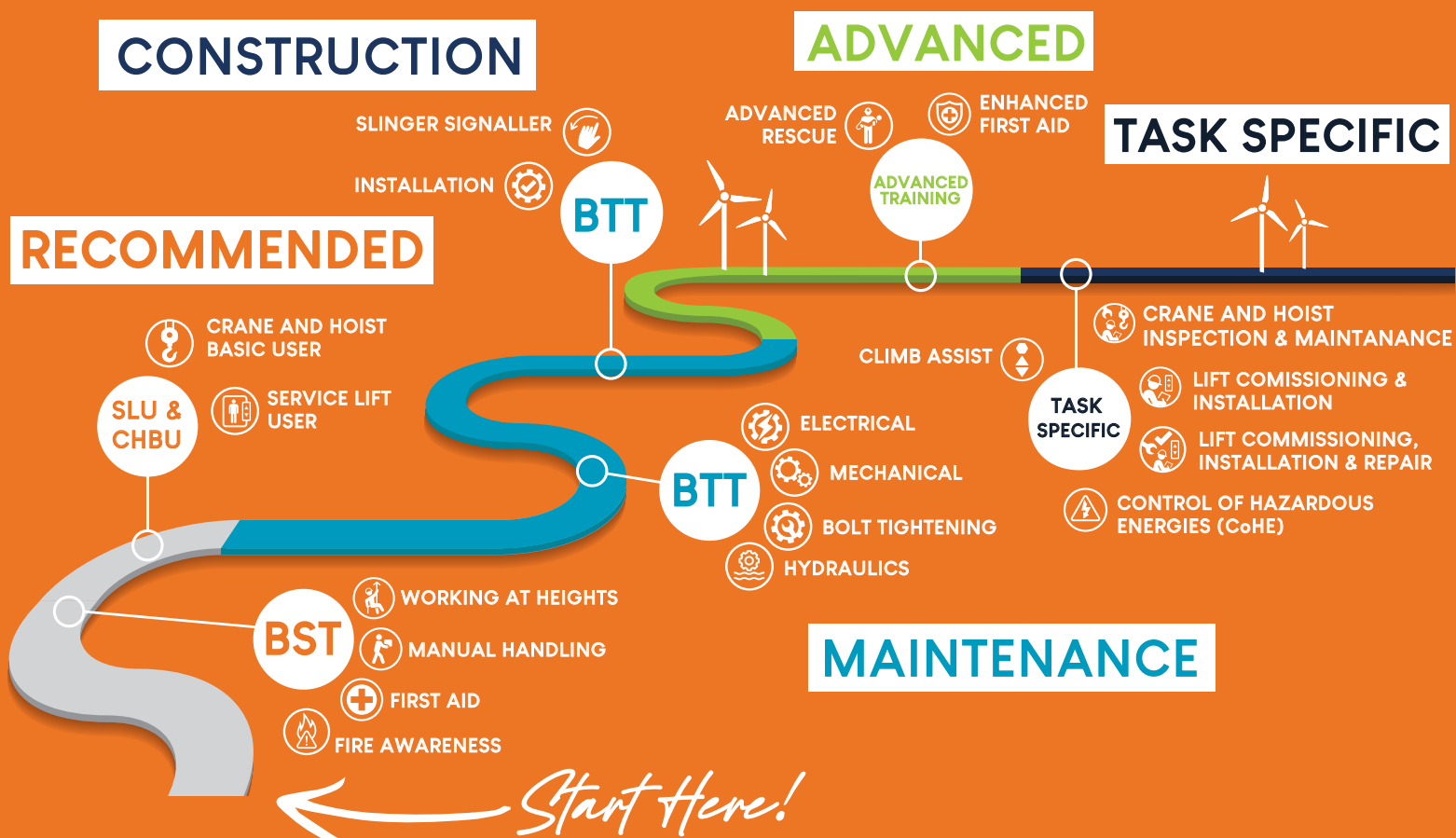
Following BST, participants move on to the GWO Basic Technical Training (BTT), which introduces the fundamentals of turbine operation and maintenance. It covers mechanical systems and moving parts, electrical safety under supervision, hydraulic systems under pressure, and the critical process of bolt tightening and installation.

Bolting plays a vital role in maintaining the structural integrity and safety of wind turbines. During installation, tower, blade, and hub bolts must be precisely tensioned using specialized tools or automated systems. In service, these bolts face fatigue and preload loss, making regular inspections, smart monitoring, and proper tool calibration essential. Following correct tightening patterns and ensuring technicians are properly trained guarantees long term reliability and safety across every turbine.

These programmes build the foundation for four key GWO career pathways: Pre Assembly, Installation, Service, and Blade Repair. Each offers practical experience and clear progression to leadership roles such as Site Manager or Construction Manager. As technicians gain experience, they can specialize further in areas like Crane and Hoist Operations, Control of Hazardous Energies, or Advanced Rescue Training, often supported by ongoing vocational or in house education in electrical, mechanical, or hydraulic systems.

All GWO accredited training is globally recognized and recorded in WINDA, allowing employers to verify qualifications anywhere in the world. At SP Wind, we uphold these standards to ensure every team member meets the highest safety and technical benchmarks, helping you start your journey with confidence as you build a rewarding career in the wind industry.

By Jade Willis



FROM BTT *Discovering Confidence*

"Going into the BTT courses, I felt a mix of excitement and nerves. I don't have a technical background, and even simple technical terms felt unfamiliar. I was eager to understand how everything comes together, from building a turbine to learning what each part does and how it works, and to feel confident speaking about the technical side of the industry.

The training was one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. The instructors were patient, knowledgeable, and passionate, and the practical sessions brought the learning to life. Learning from a participant with years of industry experience added valuable real-world insight. I was amazed by how complex turbines are, with so many parts and processes that all require precision and attention to safety.

The bolting module was a real workout. Even my CrossFit training didn't prepare me for using such heavy tools. It was challenging, but it gave me a deeper appreciation for the physical side of the job.

The BTT Mechanical module was where everything truly clicked. I

learned how the gearbox, shaft, bearings, and other systems connect to make the turbine turn and generate power. Seeing all the moving parts work together made the turbine come to life. Experiencing the hands-on technical side of the wind industry was incredible. I never imagined I would do something like this, and it opened my eyes to the skill, care, and teamwork required to keep turbines running safely and efficiently.



Completing BTT has changed the way I approach my work. I can now explain course content with confidence, answer technical questions, and guide others toward the right training. More importantly, it gave me pride in truly understanding the industry I am part of.

On a personal level, I learned that women can absolutely do this too. I walked away feeling stronger, braver, and more inspired. Stepping out of my comfort zone reminded me that growth happens when you dare to try something new.

Why this course matters: BTT is more than just training. It is an opportunity to enhance your technical skills, build confidence, and expand your career opportunities in the wind industry. The knowledge and hands-on experience gained through this course are invaluable for anyone who wants to grow professionally and make a meaningful impact in this field.

This experience was eye-opening, empowering, and truly unforgettable."

By Natalie Mels



BLACK FRIDAY SALE 40% OFF GWO TRAINING

Modules that We Offer:

Basic Safety Training:

- Working at Heights
- Manual Handling
- First Aid
- Fire Awareness

Basic Technical Training:

- Electrical
- Mechanical
- Bolt Tightening
- Hydraulics
- Installation

Lift Training:

- Service Lift User
- Lift Commissioning & Installation
- Lift Commissioning, Installation & Repair

Advanced Training:

- Advanced Rescue
- Enhanced First Aid

Lifting Training:

- Slinger Signaller
- Crane and Hoist Basic User
- Crane and Hoist Inspection & Maintenance