



Baldacci Heads Trade Mission to Spain and Germany

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The Governor is leading a group that includes representatives of some of Maine's largest companies in a bid to market Maine-based wind energy technology.

Gov. John Baldacci is touting Maine-based wind energy technology on a trade mission this week to Spain and Germany. The Governor is leading a group of representatives from some of Maine's largest companies, including Bath Iron Works and Reed and Reed construction, in hopes of attracting some overseas investment in Maine's fledgling alternative energy sector.

"We're actually going to visit a site that's installing an offshore wind turbine that's 26 miles out off the coast with the Norwegians, who are the world leaders in this field," Baldacci told Capitol News Service. "And we're going to be forming a cooperative with the University of Maine and the Norwegians to have kind of an international center of excellence around offshore wind technology."

The trip was organized by the Maine International Trade Center, and Baldacci says it's being paid for by the participating companies. He says he expects some deals to be made that will help boost Maine's economy. In the past, he says, such trade missions have yielded signed contracts exceeding \$30 million.