RWE

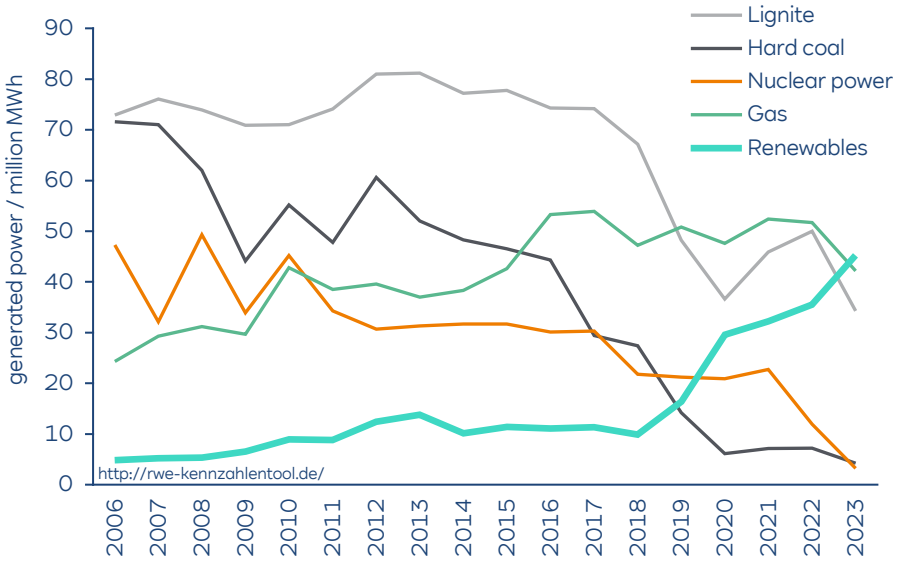
Relying on 3rd party certification

IEA Experts Group on R&D Priority-setting and Evaluation Workshop, DTU, November 21 and 22, 2024

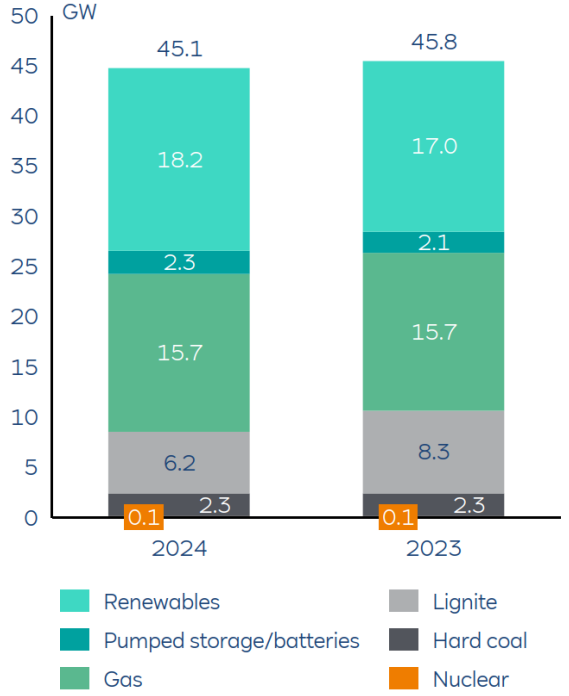
Simon Pansart

RWE
‘Growing Green’ strategy

Energy production:



Installed capacity:



Why do we have to rely on 3rd party certification?



OEM

have an interest to protect their intellectual property







Owner & Operator

have an interest in assessing certain technical details to make sure that:

- the design is correct; and
- manufacturing is done properly

conflicting interests



"3rd party":

someone independent from OEM, and independent from Owner & Operator

What are the challenges?

… Let's look at some real life examples.

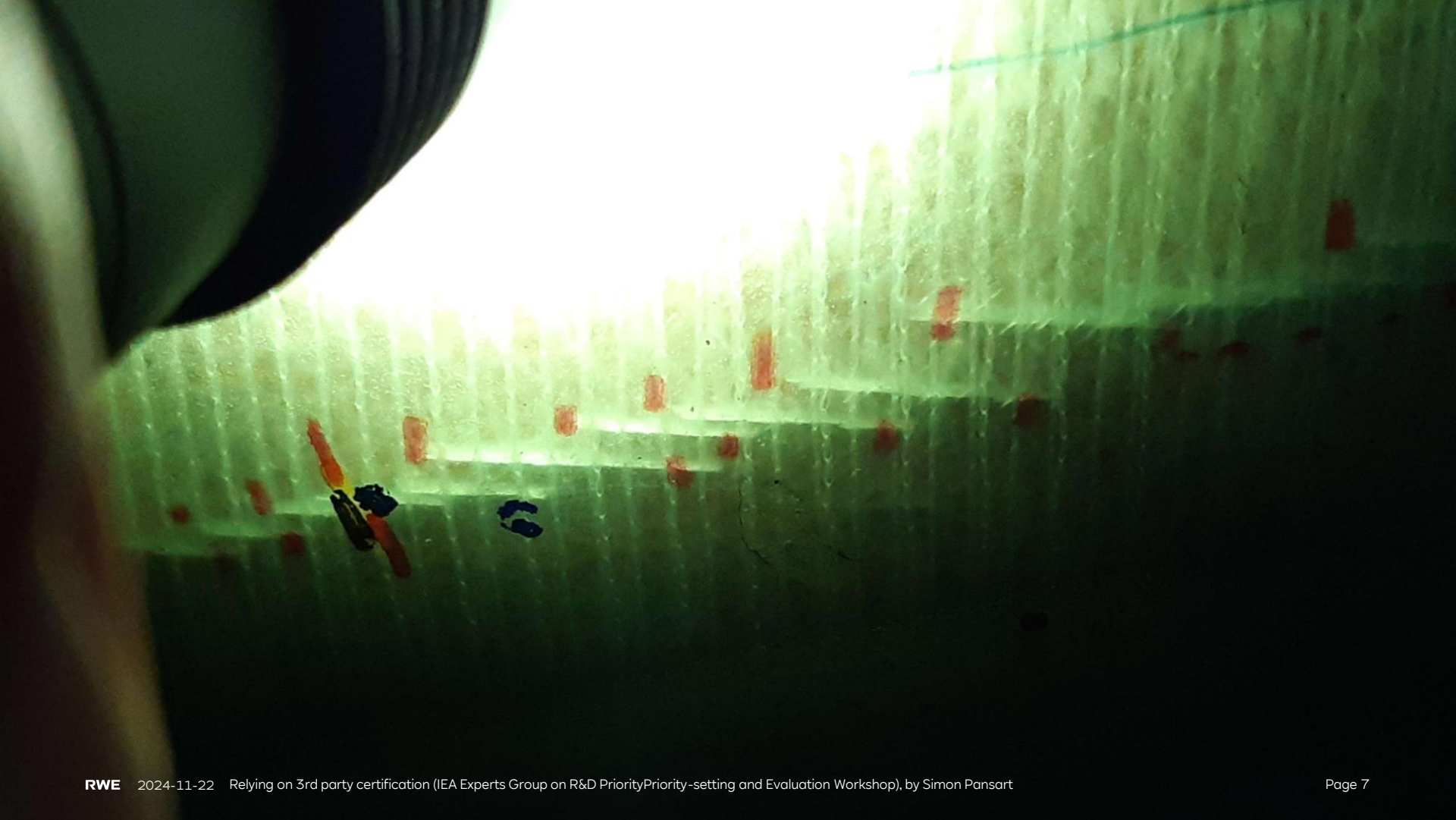
What can be improved?

Example 1
Cracks in the blade structure

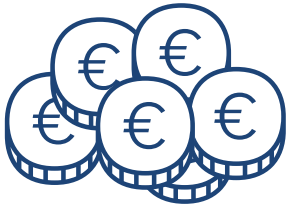








The consequences?



What had happened?

?!



OEM







Owner & Operator





"3rd party"

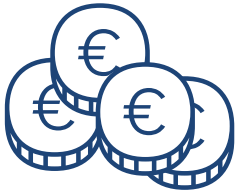
At the time, the certification body:

- created the rules
- did not require a full scale blade fatigue test
- was the main authority to interpret the rules

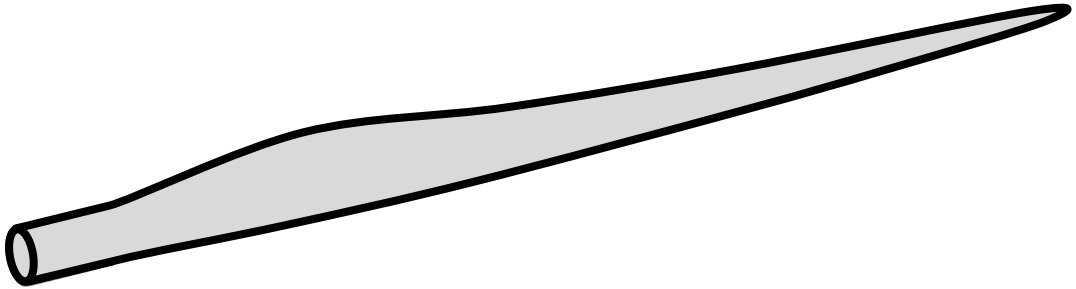
Example 2

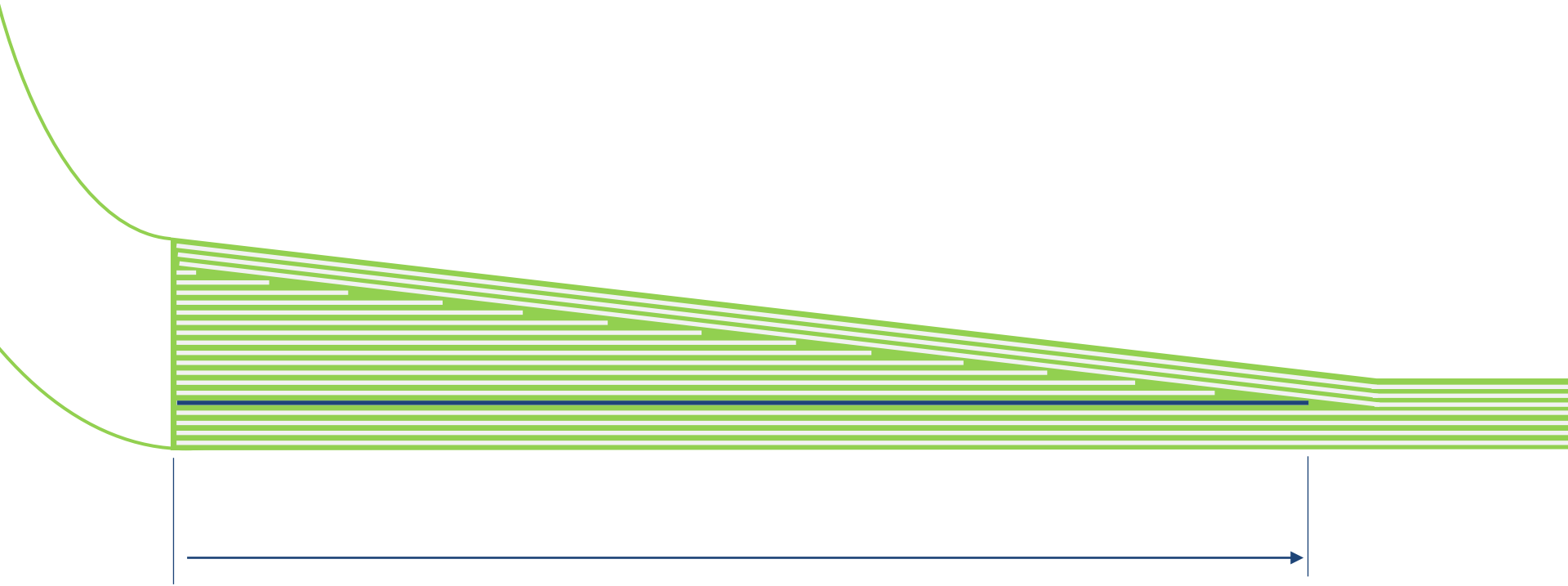


The consequences?



What had happened?







OEM

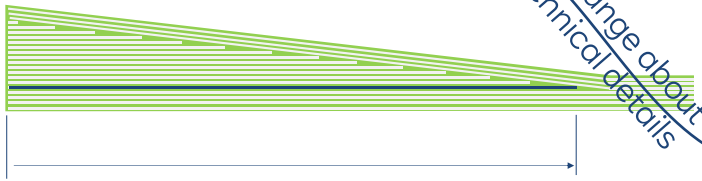






Owner & Operator

exchange about technical details





customer

supplier



“3rd party”

Certification body has access to detailed information (the Owner & Operator does not, e.g. for IP reasons).



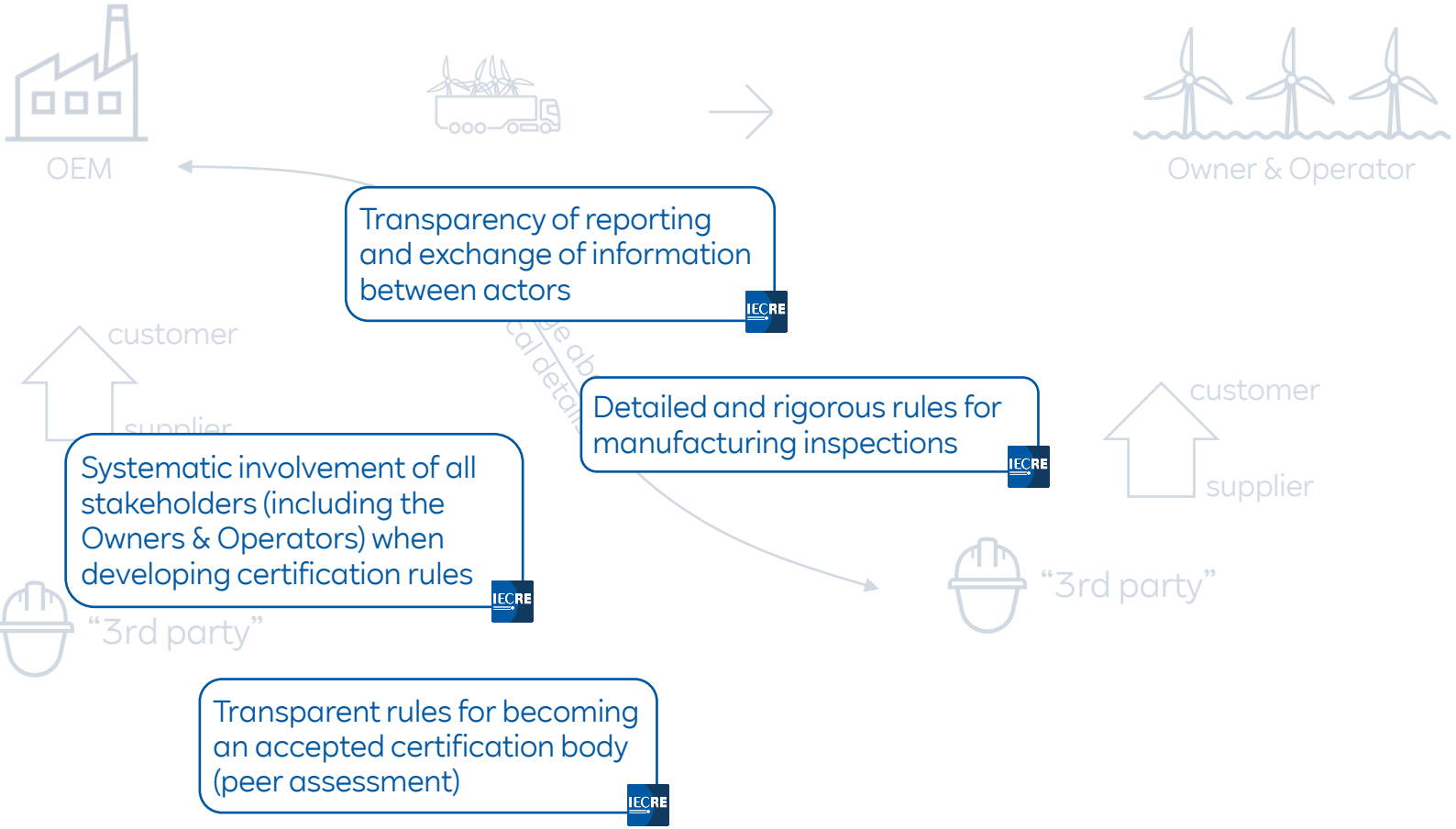
→ So what went wrong?
Maybe the manufacturing surveillance was not rigorous enough?

How to improve things?



IECRE has been working to improve the set up in several ways:

- Transparent rules for becoming an accepted certification body (peer assessment)
- Systematic involvement of all stakeholders (including the Owners & Operators) when developing certification rules
- Transparency of reporting and exchange of information between actors
- Detailed and rigorous rules for manufacturing inspections


OEM
Owner & Operator
Transparency of reporting and exchange of information between actors
customer
supplier
Detailed and rigorous rules for manufacturing inspections
customer
supplier
Systematic involvement of all stakeholders (including the Owners & Operators) when developing certification rules
"3rd party"
"3rd party"
Transparent rules for becoming an accepted certification body (peer assessment)



Key messages

These 2 negative examples were extreme and rare situations. They were used to illustrate the main message:

1. 3rd party certification can effectively mitigate the risk of “something going very wrong”.
2. In the vast majority of cases, this seems to work quite well.
3. Independent, international schemes (such as IECRE) aim for further improvements.

Thank you!



Dr. Simon Pansart
Principal Engineer Rotor Blades
Engineering
M +49 15254607601

RWE Offshore Wind GmbH
Drehbahn 47-48
20354 Hamburg
Germany
www.rwe.com