

A New Generation DpDt System for Dredging Vessels

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Abstract

Until last year most DpDt Systems in use on board of dredgers were designed for the offshore industry, with slight modifications for coping with the peculiar forces in dredging.

One of the drawbacks of today's DpDt systems from a dredger point of view is, that they are designed primarily for the offshore industry and that slight modifications are expected to coop with the peculiar forces that occur while dredging. Unfortunately for their designers, dredging operations can be characterized by:

- huge and variable water currents,
- very often power limitations, caused by the dredging process, and
- wildly varying very large forces operating on the ship due to the dredging.

Thus it is no wonder that the trained human operator on board a dredger can easily outperform today's DpDt systems.

The paper discusses how the problems of today's DpDt systems have been solved and how the resulting DpDt system has been integrated with the dredging process. It illustrates this with measurements carried out on board of the first ships equipped with these new systems.

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