

The Evolution of Marine and Drilling AC Drives in Today's Market

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Abstract

The benefits of Diesel Electric Propulsion for Marine applications are well known and documented and the trend is still increasing. Furthermore, advancements in power switching technologies are ever increasing the number of possible solutions available for electric propulsion and other converter related applications onboard ships.

AC drive system technology has for some time been the dominant type of variable speed drive system supplied having overtaken DC drive technology.

The use of AC motor and drive technology offers a number of benefits, dependent upon the solution selected.

This paper discusses the most appropriate AC drive technologies commercially available for marine applications and subsequently to highlight some considerations in their selection and application on board ships.

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