

Energy efficiency of inland water ships - and how to improve it

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Energy efficiency of inland water ships



We propose to use the energy efficiency index EEFI as benchmarking index. The index EEOI will have the same relevance, as is obtained by data of ship operation.

 $EEDI = \frac{C_F \times SFC \times P}{Capacity \times V_{ref}}$

In fact, this simple expression shows

CO2 Emission / transport performance

Slow and large ocean vessels will obtain a value of about 5 gr CO2/tkm and RoRo ships or ferries will reach 50 gr. CO2/tkm



The water depth will have an influence two main aspects of transport efficiency :

- The load capacity of the ship
- The speed of the ship



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Influence of the water depth on transport efficiency The load capacity

For any ship, keel clearance is necessary to advance and to manoeuvre. The keel clearance should be greater then 0,3 m. As function of the water depth, the load capacity starts at zero and increases until the design draught of the ship is reached.





Ship speed

The practicable ship speed will increase, more or less proportionally to the root of the water depth. Typical IWS can reach a speed of 22 km/h, depending on the engine power and the hull form. For this speed level, a water depth of abt. 9 m will be necessary.





Example: Specific energy consumption

A IW cargo vessel works 12h per day, the transport distance being 200 km. The transport volume per day depends on load capacity and speed and is therefore a function of water depth:



The fuel consumption depends also on the water depth. As at low rater depth, the travel will take longer, there will be strong offluence on fuel consumption.



The fuel consumption has to seen in relation with the transport volume.



In our example it is obvious that the specific energy consumption will reach a low level at water depth larger then 2,5 m.

The same applies to the specific CO_2 - Emission.



Interesting to see that at water depth larger then 4 m, the IWS transport reaches its best transport efficiency.

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Ship type Scale effect Propulsion Ship weight Hull form







There is also a scale effect in transport efficiency...

Тур	L x B [m]	¥ [m³]	dW [t]	ms [t]	Р _в [kW]	D Р [m]	CO₂ [g/tkm]
Peniche	39,0 x 5,1	450	366	84	309	1,10	47,1
Gustav Koenigs	67,0 x 8,2	1178	935	243	549	1,40	31,3
Johann Welker	80,0 x 9,5	1672	1272	400	421	1,50	17,6
Gütermotorschiff	110,0 x 11,4	2750	1900	850	230	1,85	6,4
Jowi-Klasse	135,0 x 17,0	4745	3335	1410	480	3 x 1,74	7,7
Langschiff	150,0 x 15,0	4904	3404	1500	390	2 x 1,76	6,1
Schubverband 2spurig-2gliedrig	193,0 x 22,8	8600	6260	2340	1365	3 x 2,05	11,6
Schubverband 2spurig-3gliedrig	269,5 x 22,8	12550	9390	3160	2100	3 x 2,05	11,9
LKW V _{mittel} = 72,5 km/h	-	-	26	14	320	-	37,4
PKW V _{mittel} = 100 km/h	-	-	0,5	1,4	75	-	240

h = 5,0 m, T = 2,5 m, V = 13 km/h

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Propeller efficiency plays a key role

 CO_2 -emission of a large cargo motor ship (L x B x T = 110,0 m x 11,4 m x 2,5 m)

		spezifischer CO ₂ -Ausstoß specific CO ₂ -exhaust [g/tkm]				
	Р _в [kW]	zu Berg upstream	ohne Strömung streamless	zu Tal downstream		
freier Propeller free propeller B-series	715	25,3	16,8	11,5		
Kaplan-Propeller in Düse ducted propeller K-series	572	20,2	12,6	9,2		
Skew-Propeller in Düse ducted skew-propeller	536	18,9	11,8	8,6		



Ship light weight

Тур	T _{max} [m]	ms [t]	dW [t]	dW / ms [-]
Peniche	2,5	84	366	4,36
Gustav Koenigs	2,7	243	1276	5,25
Johann Welker	2,9	400	1940	4,85
Gütermotorschiff	3,2	850	2681	3,15
Jowi-Klasse	3,2	1410	4761	3,38
Langschiff	3,5	1500	5406	3,60
Schubverband 2spurig-2gliedrig Pushing train 2+2	4,0	2340	11200	4,79
Schubverband 2spurig-3gliedrig Pushing train 2+2+2	4,0	3160	16800	5,32
LKW		14	26	1,86



Ship light weight



Marginal influence of ship weight reduction



Hull form





Small changes in the hull form may produce a big difference



Hull form



CFD calculations are detecting flow separation areas



Hull form



Hull with variable geometry



Ship type... As large as theScale effect

Propulsion ...high performance propellers and nozzles

Ship weight ...don't expect too much

Hull form ...still decisive and pays off research