

PROJECT

ULTRABOAT

Ultrasonic System for Antifouling Protection of Ships

Funding: European (Horizon 2020)

Duration: Oct 2014 - Feb 2015

Status: Complete

Total project cost: €71,429

EU contribution: €50,000



Call for proposal: H2020-SMEINST-1-2014

[CORDIS RCN : 194692](#)

Objectives:

75% of imports and exports and 37% of the internal trade of the EU takes place through seaports. From Delco TS, we envisaged UltraBoat as a durable and reliable solution to avoid the formation of fouling (bio-fouling) in ships (attachment of marine animal and plants to the surface of underwater parts of the vessel). This may seem a minor problem but every ship owner knows about the importance of making an adequate choice of antifouling treatments due to associated operating costs. The formation of fouling on ships increases the surface roughness of the hull, which leads to increased fuel consumption. After six months, a ship without an appropriate antifouling system can suffer a 40% increase in fuel consumption to maintain normal speed.

Antifouling also requires specific maintenance because current solutions are not durable enough. Nowadays the ship owners need to periodically re-apply antifouling coatings. Apart from the fact that these coatings are in constant surveillance due to the release of harmful substances, the process requires dry docking the ship (at least every 5 years) for a period of usually 10-12 days. Although antifouling treatment is only a part of this maintenance, it has a big impact on the total operating costs of transport ships. Annual costs resulting from fouling represent more than 350,000€ for a single vessel of medium size (90-120,000 of Gross registered tonnage).

Parent Programmes:

[H2020-EU.3.4. - Horizon 2020: Smart, Green and Integrated Transport](#)

Institute type: Public institution

Institute name: European Commission

Funding type: Public (EU)

Lead Organisation:

Delco T.s. Srl

Address:

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Italy

EU Contribution: €50,000

Technologies:

Ship design and manufacturing
Antifouling coatings

Development phase: Research/Invention

STRIA Roadmaps: Vehicle design and manufacturing
Water transport (sea &

Transport mode: inland)

Transport sectors: Passenger transport, Freight transport

Transport policies: Environmental/Emissions aspects, Decarbonisation

Geo-spatial type: Other