Greening the European research vessel fleet

Cattrijsse, A. & Rogers, R.,

Flanders Marine Institute (B) & National Oceanography Centre (UK)





National Oceanography Centre



Eurofleets

• EC funded Research Infrastructure project (www.eurofleets.eu)

- Enhance coordination and promote the cost effective use
- Consortium of 24 partners, 15 countries
- 3 'domains'
 - Networking
 - Transnational access
 - Research (software facilitating transnational access, interoperability)



Eco-Responsability & Eco-Design

Design guidelines for regional research vessels

- Description of current performance
- Available techniques
- Guidelines

Environmental Management

- LCA
- RV-EM Plan
- RV-EM System



Current Performance

Questionnaire to 100 RV operators >150 regional vessels (20-60m LOA)

- MARPOL annexes I, IV, V & VI
- EC regulation on engine exhausts
- IMO convention on antifouling paints & ballast water
- Use of hazardous materials
- Underwater radiated noise
- Conduct of marine science
- Administrative tools

Green = being better than conventions/legislation



Current Performance

Operators generally follow international conventions

Older MARPOL annexes (I, IV & V) efforts to green operations and vessels Disposal of oil, sewage and garbage accustomed to practice costs involved have become standard or costs have evolved to acceptable levels

Recent conventions simple compliance

In time rules become simpler, older ships are being decommissioned. Community adapts, maybe slowly, but surely to an environmentally more friendly activity

Greening occurs equally for smaller and larger vessels (<>400GRT)

'Margin for growth'

All operators consider the environment important enough to consolidate an environmental policy into a management systems that are even often certified, the overall tendency seems to adopt what is legally asked for

Some operators indicate absence of compliance with international regulations



Green/Clean Ship

Fashionable term

The green ship does not exist

Continuous development of technologies/legal demands narrows the concept

Greener/Cleaner ship

Environmental awareness : crew & shore staff training environmental management system certification

Clear definition of the greener ship concept & auditing



Green Ship Technology Book (European Marine Equipment Council 2010) http://www.emec.eu/green/

> Reduction of air emissions Ship waste disposal Bilge water treatment Black water treatment Grey water treatment Ballast water treatment Anti-fouling systems

Integration of existing technologies : 15-20% improvement Further development of technologies : 30% more eco-friendly ships



Greener Technologies

MARPOL I Oil Dispose off at shore High speed centrifuges Biodegradable fuels & oils Green ship initiative NOAA-GLERL since 2006 Water lubed stern tube

MARPOL IV Sewage (no discharge anticipated)

Dispose off at shore Sewage treatment system Membrane bioreactors Vacuum toilets

MARPOL V Garbage (recent MEPC62 results)

Dispose off at shore Waste compressors Incinerators (heat recovery)



Greener Technologies

MARPOL VI Air Pollution

Slow steaming Low sulphur fuels Cold Ironing Improved hull, propeller & rudder design Engine performance monitoring Waste heat recovery LNG as fuel Exhaust cleaning – NOx, Soot & SOx Hybrid power generation fuel cells, solar, wind Air lubrication

Anti-Fouling Systems

Biocide free systems (Natural biocides under development) Surface treated coatings Non-stick coatings Photoactive paints Active anti-biofouling (Slime producing coatings)



Greener Technologies

Balast Water Convention

Balast water treatment systems Balast water free hull design

Harmfull substances Assured through EMP/EMS

Underwater Radiated Noise

All electric propulsion; cleaner exhausts & lower fuel consumption Silent Class notations (DNV, BV)

Conduct of Marine Science Adopted by IRSO & ERVO Assured through EMP&EMS

Administrative tools

Green Class notations (DNV, GL), Green Passport (ABS) ISM ISO9001, ISO 14001 Blaue Engel (ship & operations)



Ecore Bulker



0-emmissions container feeder







Quantum Container

Momentu

m RoRo



11

























Is "Greening the Research Fleet" all that we as research ship operators need to do to manage the impact of our marine scientific research activities on the ocean environment ?

Delivering a 'Green and Sustainable' capability that can be adopted by the RV operators within the European Community



Life Cycle Analysis

In the proposed Research Vessel Life Cycle Analysis [RVLCA] the approach adopted for the delivery of a 'Green' Eurofleets capability was to develop a three facet inter-related research delivery capability model. It is argued that the proposed model allows for the capture of all of environmental aspects of the delivery of a marine scientific research capability.





Three Research Vessel Life Cycle Analysis Inventory Types

[RVLCA][RV] – LCA Inventory Table			
Life Cycle Stage	Environmental Aspect	Environmental Impact	
Requirements			
Design			
Build &			
Mid Life Update			
Operation Normal			
Operation Laid Up			
Operation Refit,			
Recertification & Upgrade			
Disposal / End of Life			

It is possible to have a fully environmentally compliant Research Vessel with respect to the ISM code or ISO 140001 standards but still not be able to undertake certain types of scientific experiment.

[RVLCA] [RE] – LCA Inventory Table			
Life Cycle Stage	Environmental Aspect	Environmental Impact	
Requirements			
Build / Procure			
Operation Normal			
Operation Modification			
Operation Autonomous			
Operation Loss			
Operation Non Recoverable			
Operation Logistics			
Disposal / End of Life			

For example the use of acoustic scientific equipment in designated marine mammal protection areas.

[RVLCA][RO] – LCA Inventory Table			
Life Cycle Stage	Environmental Aspect	Environmental Impact	
Science Proposal			
Peer Review			
Cruise Planning			
Cruise Passage			
Cruise On Station			
Post Cruise Disposal of			
Scientific Sample			
Post Cruise Disposal of			
Scientific Waste			





The 'traditional model' based on a principal scientist & marine scientific research being delivered from a Research Ship the environmental responsibilities are less well defined under the maritime ISM code or ISO 14001.



Research Vessel Environmental Management Plan [RVEMP]

Consideration of the environmental issues arising from the growing use of autonomous capabilities such as profiling floats, gliders and powered autonomous vehicles [AUV, UAV etc...].

In the 'Autonomous' case a growing number of Principal Scientists fly their gliders in support of their marine scientific research operations from ashore. This can and will give rise to both safety and environmental compliance issues.



The 'autonomous model' based on the principle that marine scientific research being delivered by an AUV capability, not deployed and operated from Research Ship, the environmental responsibilities are not so well defined under the maritime ISM code or ISO 14001.





If you wish to discuss these ideas further then please contact

Roland Rogers UK NMFD - NOC Southampton rxr@noc.ac.uk

Dre Cattrijsse Flanders Marine Institute VLIZ andre@vliz.be

