

Form of Written Discussion at the 26th ITTC Conference

Discusser:	
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Name of Technical Committee or Group to be discussed	Propulsion Committee
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Written Discussion (within 1,000 words of length):

In the excellent overview of the state-of-the-art concerning prediction methods for propulsion systems, as well as in the other chapters of the report, it is clear that all applications concern sea-going vessels, while inland shipping is not discussed at all. On the other hand, there is a need for an increase of the efficiency and a decrease of the emissions of the existing and future inland shipping fleet. As these propulsion systems have to operate in a large range of loading conditions, due to the varying conditions of water depth, blockage, loading conditions, lock operations, etc., it is a challenge to design the propulsion in such a way that the overall performance is optimized. Therefore, I would like to suggest to the next Committee to spend some attention to the propulsion of inland ships as well, taking into account that in many countries inland waterways offer an alternative to the highly congested road transport. It would be interesting to know the opinion of the Committee in this respect.

Answer:

The Committee thanks Prof. Vantorre for his valuable discussion. Indeed, the topic of in-land ship's propulsive performance is quite a specific one and covers a broad range of sub-problems, as indicated in Prof. Vantorre's discussion. In preparation of its report to the full Conference, the Committee has been primarily directed by the Terms of Reference (TOR), as stipulated by the Advisory Council (AC). Regretfully, our TORs did not include the topic of shallow water ship performance. However, considering the present interest and possibly the ever increasing demand for in-land shipping, the problem of optimizing propulsive performance of in-land ships may require special attention by the ITTC. Therefore, our Committee strongly supports Prof. Vantorre's proposal to include this topic under the future ITTC Propulsion Committee's TORs.