

Rederi AB Transatlantic reduces costs, improves operations and increases profitability with Micro Motion flowmeters

BENEFITS

- Fuel costs reduced by 2 per cent per vessel
- Improved engine efficiency and reduced emissions
- Payback time on investment of only two months
- Highly accurate, continuous, and reliable measurement of fuel quality



CUSTOMER

Rederi AB Transatlantic operates in the Offshore/Icebreaking and Industrial Shipping business areas. The company has its Head Office in Skärhamn, Sweden and operates 38 vessels with approximately 1,100 employees. Net sales in 2009 were SEK 2,3 M.

APPLICATION

Fuel efficiency control systems have been installed onboard the M/V Ortviken, and the M/V Transpaper. These systems collect information from various onboard systems including Micro Motion Coriolis flowmeters fitted between the Booster Module and engine. Coriolis mass measurement can be directly correlated to cost and energy content of fuel, and is unaffected by changes to the flow profile and variable fuel properties such as density or viscosity.

CHALLENGE

Shipping operators, including Rederi AB Transatlantic, are facing volatile fuel prices and challenging emission regulations. These issues are compounded by the need to control costs and improve operating efficiencies. Fuel represents a major cost in the operation of a large vessel, making fuel efficiency a real focus for the shipping and marine industry. With highly accurate, continuous, and reliable measurement of fuel quality, usage costs and waste can be managed.

“Fuel costs have been reduced by approximately 2 per cent a year for each vessel”

Leif Holmberg,
Superintendent, Rederi AB Transatlantic

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SOLUTION

Rederi AB Transatlantic, Transas AB, and Emerson Process Management embarked on a joint programme to develop an onboard solution for better control of marine fuel consumption. As a result of this programme, Rederi AB Transatlantic has installed Emerson's Micro Motion Coriolis mass flowmeters on several ships in its fleet.

The standard solution uses a compact Micro Motion F-Series Coriolis sensor (Model F100) with a Model 1700 transmitter to provide highly accurate, traceable and transparent mass-based measurement of fuel oil. Emerson also supplied its Mobrey MCU 901 Universal Transmitter Controllers and Indicators to show the actual flow for local reading in the engine room or control room.

Using the MODBUS communications protocol, the Coriolis mass flowmeter sends data to a fuel efficiency control system supplied by Transas AB in Sweden. This system, also called a Conning unit, collects information from the flowmeter and other onboard systems to help the crew optimise the operation of the ship.

Tighter control and management of fuel burned improves engine efficiency, delivering fuel savings and reducing emissions.

Micro Motion Coriolis meters are ideally suited to marine fuel measurement applications, providing extremely high accuracy and wide rangeability. They are easy to install and because there are no moving parts, they also offer savings from reducing replacement or maintenance requirements when compared to volumetric flow measurement devices.

Emerson's unique MVD Direct Connect™ architecture further simplifies installation and reduces cost and complexity through direct integration into a MODBUS host. Digital and analogue communications deliver the data directly to the control room or bridge, enabling close control. This complete solution also provides access to all Micro Motion instrument variables, including embedded diagnostics and full sensor configuration.

Micro Motion devices are suitable for a range of measurement installations on cruise and ferry ships, merchant ships (including container vessels and tankers), navy ships and special purpose vessels such as ice breakers.

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