

Wind Assisted Ship Propulsion



Autonomous 10 - 16 meter foldable eConowind VentiFoils Over 200 kW feasible power reduction on propulsion per unit



Design Rationale Retrofit Ventifoils

The eConowind Ventifoils are bolted on a steel foundation from which a folding 'VentiFoil' can be deployed: a ridged 'aspirated wing profile' acting as a sail. The VentiFoil is designed as an optimal compact (non-rotating) wing profile, creating superior thrust by means of the principle of 'boundary-layer-suction', for which ventilators are mounted in the VentiFoils.

Due to the generated thrust by the Ventifoils, the thrust of the propeller can be reduced to maintain the same speed, see figure 2. This leads to fuel savings and emission reductions of 10 to 30%, depending on vessel type and number of VentiFoils, which brings us closer to IMO's goals on reduction of carbon emissions.



Fig.1: Ventifoil folded down over hatch covers



Installation

The eConowind Ventifoil system can be very easily retrofitted on existing vessels, the Ventifoil is provided with a dedicated foundation. The eConowind Ventifoils are mounted on a rotating platform, enabling high flexibility when air draft is critical.

For new vessels Conoship can integrate VentiFoils in the design on dedicated positions.



Fig.3: Ventifoil Thrust force compared to ships heading

Autonomous operation

From a remote panel the Ventifoils can be closed or initiated for operation from the bridge. The system senses the wind speed and -direction and autonomously deploys the VentiFoils, adjusting the ventilator power and optimizing the angle of each VentiFoil relative to the apparent wind.

In heavy and/or unfavourable wind conditions the VentiFoils are closed down automatically, minimising crew efforts and ensuring safe operations.

Main particulars

Dimensions (above mounting point)		
Deployed	11.3 - 17.3	m
Closed	1.6	m
VentiFoil	2.2 * 1.3 * 10 (16)	m
Weight (Two Foils)	7000	kg
Centre of Gravity above foundation		
Deployed	3.1	m
Closed	0.7	m
Material		
Foundation	Steel	
VentiFoil	Aluminum	
Electrical particulars		

Power demand		
Main power supp	ly Ca. 38.0 kW	
Ventilators	2×15 kW	
Voltage	3 phase, 400-460 V @ 50-60 Hz	
Control unit Phoenix Axio-line PLC		
Frequency controller	2x Schneider Altivar	

HPU operations

Power demand dual pump	8	kW
Hydraulic actuated bearing speed	2	rpm
Folding time	5	min

Operational conditions

Max. operational apparent wind speed	17	m/s
Thrust (max. continuous)	40	kN