

Latest News – January 2014

BRUNTONS join the HEME project

It feels as though every time someone thinks of efficient propulsion these days they think of us. It's very flattering of course but perhaps there is a good reason for it; we work very hard to stay at the leading edge of propulsion technology. First there was Autoprop and the Hymar project; now we have been invited to join forces with Pendennis Shipyard and other leading names in their fields in the HEME project. HEME stands for the High Efficiency Marine Energy project and, to quote from the project plan the intention is to 'improve the energy efficiency of vessels up to 50m in length by the intelligent use of hybrid power and propulsion systems'.

This time it is our controllable pitch propeller system that will be customised to work at maximum efficiency with the other elements in the project. The aim is to develop, transfer and adapt emerging technologies from other sectors, notably high efficiency electric motors and their controllers, plus high charge rate batteries and develop them to work, not just on the vessels propulsion, but on all the vessels services that require electricity. The target is an increase in propulsion efficiency of at least 10% and 25% in overall power efficiency with proportionate reductions in emissions and environmental impact.

Why our CPP system? Well, it is already very advanced; fully feathering with a twin cam hub and managed by a highly sophisticated control module linked to the engine management system which will ensure that the propeller blades are automatically set for optimum efficiency, whatever the conditions.

We will have regular updates on the HEME project as the news comes in.