



Installation on board
mv. “Amadeus Saffier”.

Owned by De Bock
Maritiem B.V.

- Installation can be done on existing vessels without major modifications to the vessel.
- We have done the installation on the first ever newbuilt vessel with Ventofoils, so the foundation and position was integrated in the design. Installation was therefore more or less “Plug & Play”.



The Ventofoils on board mv. “Amadeus Saffier”.

- The folding system of the Ventofoils needed to be adjusted to maintain the extremely low air draft of the vessel which was done successfully, proving that the system can also be used on sea-river trading vessels.
- Communication with Econowind went well and is still going well and focussed on constant improvement of the use of the foils.
- After-sales service was good, for example quick response to warranty items. We had some minor issues with the system in the first weeks / months, but these were resolved quickly, and system has always remained operational.



Experiences

- When system is in “Auto Sailing Mode” the speed of the vessel increases significantly, up to 1 knot depending on wind.
- Speed increase can be compensated by reducing the engine power, resulting in lower consumption and emissions.
- Obviously, the crew cannot control the direction and force of the wind, so that is always a variable.



Tips and advice.

- The system is user-friendly, one does not need to be educated extensively to operate it.
- We are doing short voyages in NW-Europe mainly, for vessels with longer voyages probably much gain is to be achieved from weather routing.



Training the crew.

- On-board training as provided by an Econowind engineer proved sufficient to familiarise the crew with the system.
- It really helps when crew is motivated, the system is as efficient as the crew is motivated.



Conclusions.

- If a company is truly dedicated to the climate, this is in my opinion a very good solution on board seagoing vessels.
- It can be used on both large and small vessels, and even on low-air-draft coasters.



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