

MacArtney Electrical Winches and other non-hydraulic thoughts



MacArtney offices



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Green demands

From ERVO 2012 (and elsewhere):

- General desire for greener operations and vessels
- Not just ocean science, but also hybrid vessels and electrical vessels.
 - First all-electric ferry in NO (2015, Ampére)
 - Noticed poster and talk about Zero emission R/V
- No oil above water
 - from O&G industry
 - ROV operators and manufacturers



MacArtney brands





LOTUS

FOCUS

TRIAXUS

310



FLEXUS

LUXUS



Hydrostatic Pressure Vessels



CORMAC stainless steel winches





CORMAC B winches

CORMAC M winches



CORMAC Q winches





MERMAC



MERMAC R series



MERMAC winches - active heave compensation (AHC)



MERMAC S series



MERMAC A series





MERMAC D series





Electrical winch advantages

- No oil pollution.
- Lower noise.
- Better efficiency typical values:
 - hydraulic 0,65-0,7
 - electrical 0,85-0,92.
- Fast reaction time, relevant in Active Heave Compensation mode.
 - AHC using multiple smaller motors
 - Accelerations up to 2,0 m/s² @ 2,7m/s @ 343kN
- Takes up less space.

- · Potentially allows for remote diagnostics
- Potentially easier to swap umbilical
- Option to regenerate energy.



Regenerating energy

- Using any electrical winch system generates electrical energy.
- When the winch is paying out, the electrical motor will act as a generator and create electrical power.
- The system needs to get rid of this generated power.
- Two options
 - Option 1: Burn off the energy in a Brake Resistor – very suitable for portable systems.





Regenerating energy

- Option 2: Return the generated power back into the ships power management system using an Active Front End.
 - AFE placed in front of the frequency inverter
 - · Allows bi-directional power flow
 - Energy generated by the winch can then be forwarded to the vessel power management system...
 - ...provided the vessel is designed to receive the generated power!
 - Up to 70% of the total generated power will be available as regenerated power
 - i.e. a 400kW winch can regenerate 280kW



Source:

http://blog.999automation.com/2016/02/01/s chneider-active-front-end-for-atv61-and-atv71/



Regenerating energy

- Green advantages of electrical winches w/ AFE
 - No / very little risk of oil spill
 - Feeding regenerated power back to the vessel (instead of heating up brake resistors), thereby saving fuel.
 - Not more expensive than a hydraulic system
 - But only worth it for larger winches (>~50-100kW)







Non-hydraulic vs hydraulic actuators

- Hydraulic actuators (hydraulic cylinders) have been used for centuries.
- Hydraulic cylinders are able to generate huge amounts of force, while requiring minimum of space.
- However there will always be a minimum of oil spill
 - As the market requires cleaner environment, we see more requests for ways to replace the hydraulic cylinder with a more environmental suitable actuator.
 - Especially for applications above water





In principle, everything is possible – but maybe not wise / feasible

- Replacing A-frame cylinders?
- Potentially possible using bascule bridge designs.
- Simple, but not exactly space saving...
- So the old mechanical designs are out!



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bascule_bridge



Source: http://www.realclearlife.com/design/building-bridges-and-community-online/#1



- Electrical actuators have roughly the same form factor as cylinders
 - · Potential for swap
 - Known in industrial application for decades
- Consists of a spindle, moved by an electrical motor through a gearbox.
 - Requires a motor for each actuator
 - Requires motor control, using the same principles used to control the electrical winch motors.



http://www.actuators-electric.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/idcu-10000kg-electric-actuator-e1469456144330.jpg



- Industrial grade ≠ marine/offshore grade!
- Availability of electrical actuators for offshore use extremely limited
 - Existing designs all would have to be enclosed in an offshore housing



http://www.actuators-electric.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/idcu-10000kg-electric-actuator-e1469456144330.jpg



- MacArtney investigating the requirements for electrical actuators to be used on A-frames and docking heads:
 - The main electrical actuator running the A-frame in and out need to be designed with respect to high load and low speed.
 - Four minutes from A to B.





- MacArtney investigating the requirements for electrical actuators to be used on A-frames and docking heads:
 - The main electrical actuator running the A-frame in and out need to be designed with respect to high load low speed.
 - Four minutes from A to B.
 - Electrical actuators used on docking heads need to be able to react very fast with low load.
 - 34 seconds from A to B and B to C







- MacArtney investigating the requirements for electrical actuators to be used on A-frames and docking heads:
 - The physical requirements for these two different actuators is very different.
- MacArtney's cylinder factory currently developing the initial designs.





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