APPLICATION OF DIAGNOSTICS AS A BASIS OF CONDITION BASED MAINTENANCE OF THE MARINE PROPULSION DIESEL ENGINE

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Professional paper

Summary

This paper is about condition based maintenance and technical diagnostic on specifically object-cylinder units of two stroke low speed diesel engine MAN B&W 8K80MC-C. It describes: the way of controlling direct parameters (pressure and temperature) taken from the engine, measuring the pressure in engine cylinders via electronic device "PREMET" and visual control of cylinder liners and pistons. Analyzing the data we got clear conclusion about needs of preventive action or possibility of extension of exploitation without maintenance for certain period. Practice confirms that it is possible to extend the period between two overhauls while maintaining engine performance within the limits prescribed by the manufacturer and the values of the parameters obtained on the test drive, as well as reduce maintenance costs.

Key words: ship; cylinder unit; measuring equipment; technical education; competence

1. Introduction

The main marine propulsion engine's performance is determined by operational safety, protection of the environment, reliability and price. The purpose of modern maintenance is to maintain the designed reliability, availability and degree of efficiency of the marine propulsion engine at the lowest possible cost. Proper and long-lasting functioning of the engine depends on its proper maintenance. Unplanned stagnation and breakdowns, which can result from improper maintenance, can create additional costs. By implementing Condition Based Maintenance, the failure can be predicted, and the period of the planned overhaul can be extended. The intervention is performed after the signal is obtained by analysis of individual parameters that are constantly monitored. On the basis of the symptoms that are obtained by monitoring the parameters, the diagnosis of the condition is given and the intervention is performed if necessary. The validity of such a maintenance system depends on the validity of the information we obtain by measuring. There is also a need for increased reliability of diagnosis. This is achieved by the quality of diagnostic instruments, the training of those who perform measurements and the systematic examination. The term of intervention or repair of the device is determined based on the performed diagnostics. [1, 2].
This paper is based on concrete results obtained during the three-year exploitation of the main two-stroke engine "MAN B&W 8K80 MC-C" on the ship "HS SCOTT" of the German company "HANSA SHIPPING". The ship has a computer program "TITAN" for planning preventive maintenance of ship systems based on working hours or time period depending on the type of system. This program also includes the maintenance of the marine propulsion engine with all its subsystems. According to the manufacturer's recommendation, each subsystem of the main marine propulsion engine must be repaired after a certain number of working hours. Thus, the overhaul of cylinder units is recommended after a period of 16000 working hours [3]. By implementing Condition Based Maintenance and using technical diagnostics in the control of the main propulsion engine, beginning of the overhaul of the first cylinder unit was postponed to 20637 working hours, and the last cylinder unit was overhauled after 26876 working hours. Modern diagnostic systems, despite being equipped with modern technical and technological solutions, usually only inform engineers about the values of the tested parameters. Based on this information, and primarily on the conclusions obtained after the visual inspection of the condition of the cylinder liners and piston rings, conclusions were made about the need to overhaul the cylinder unit. It is important to point out that during the entire period, the ship performed its tasks without downtime, which is very important for the shipowner in terms of earnings. Engine performance and specific fuel consumption did not differ significantly from the values obtained during the test run of the test vessel, and the emission were fully kept within the standardized limits.

2. Experience and achievements of MAN B&W in Condition Based Maintenance of engine cylinder units

MAN B&W is one of the leading manufacturers of two-stroke low-speed engines in the world. They have designed a two-stroke engine that fully meets the requirements and regulations set before the maritime industry. This implies cooperation with maritime authorities, governments and international organizations in the improvement and implementation of new rules, all with the aim of reducing the emission of harmful exhaust gases by realistic methods. The aim is to achieve a method that will be suitable and practical for marine use and that will be implemented with a high degree of engine safety and reliability. On the other hand, customer requirements, in addition to reducing the emission of harmful gases into the atmosphere, are also the reduction of specific fuel consumption at different engine loads as well as the extension of the time between two overhauls [3].

In addition to many new technical solutions and innovations that have been applied on the new series of MC and ME engines, Condition Based Maintenance with the application of technical diagnostics has also been applied. Data obtained from ships on which a Condition Based Maintenance was used with the application of technical diagnostics show that the average time between two overhauls is 32000 working hours [3]. This is very favorable for tanker and container maritime traffic because it opens the possibility for repairs to be done in the docking every five years. This method of maintenance is greatly helped by the use of modern electronic devices for monitoring parameters and diagnostics. Depending on the MC or ME engine series, MAN B&W has produced two types of electronic devices. For the MC series engines, a PMI (Pressure Mean Indicator) pressure analyzer was produced, and for the ME series engines, a special hardware-software system CoCoS-EDS (Computer Controlled Surveillance-Engine Diagnostics System) [4, 5].
2.1 PMI for two-stroke low-speed MC series marine diesel engines

For MC series engines, MAN B&W has produced a PMI pressure analyzer to measure all relevant parameters in the engine cylinder during combustion [3]. PMI is a computerized device for reliable and accurate performance calculation of two-stroke and four-stroke engines. The device replaces the conventional device for measuring the changes in pressure in the engine cylinder during the cycle, and also does not require a planimeter and manual calculation of engine power. This device uses a high quality piezo-electric pressure sensor and can automatically identify on which cylinder the pressure is being measured. After recording the performance, the data from the PMI analyzer is transferred to the computer for data analysis [4].

Figure 1 shows the elements of the PMI system for measuring the change in pressure in the engine cylinder during the cycle.

![Figure 1. Elements of the PMI system for measuring the pressure in the engine cylinder [3]](image)

2.2 CoCoS-EDS for two-stroke low-speed MC series marine diesel engines

The MC series low-speed two-stroke chain drive engines for camshaft operation have limited flexibility when activating the injectors and exhaust valves, and these are two important factors for achieving optimal engine performance. In contrast, ME engines use a hydraulic-mechanical system to activate injectors and exhaust valves. The actuators are electronically controlled with a number of control devices, which complete the engine control system.

MAN B&W has developed a special hardware-software system for engine control of the ME series called CoCoS-EDS [5], which enables increased monitoring and planning of engine maintenance. In fact, there are four software programs.

The CoCoS-EDS program includes data storage, monitoring and diagnostics. If there is a deviation from the set performance or a malfunction, the possibility of the cause of the
malfunction will be obtained, as well as actions that should be taken to eliminate the malfunction.

2.3 LDM device for measuring the diameter of the engine cylinder liner

Insight into the condition of the cylinder liners is very important. The measurement of the wear of the liners is performed regularly when removing the piston. In order to measure the diameter of the cylinder liner with a conventional internal micrometer, it is necessary to dismantle the head from the cylinder unit or the exhaust valve. MAN B&W has also included LDM (Liner Diameter Measuring Instrument) in diagnostic devices. It is not necessary to lift the cylinder head or the exhaust valve using an LDM. The device is installed through the scavenging air openings of the cylinder liner which are reached through the scavenging air collector.
The LDM device is designed for precise measurement of the diameter of the cylinder liner. It consists of:

- Measuring unit that is mounted inside the cylinder liner on the piston head. The measured values are sent through radio signal via an antenna that is mounted in place of the air start valve. The antenna is connected to the interface box via a cable.

- A device for measuring the vertical position of the piston, which is placed under the piston with the help of a magnet and is connected to the interface box with a cable.

- The interface box which has two input signals, an antenna and a device for measuring the vertical position of the piston and one output signal connecting box to a computer via bluetooth.

- A computer where data is stored and can be transferred to Excel, on a personal computer via bluetooth, USB or SD card.

The average measurement time per cylinder unit is about one hour, with four measurements of the cylinder liner diameter at nine different heights. The accuracy of the device is 0,03 mm. This device can be applied to cylinder liners with a diameter of 500 to 980 mm [6]. Due to the high cost of the device, most ships still use the conventional method of measurement using an internal micrometer. The conventional method of measurement primarily depends on the training and experience of the person performing the measurement, so the possibility of error is high.

3. Subject of research

The research was conducted on the cylinder units of the main two-stroke low-speed marine diesel engine MAN B&W 8K80 MC-C.

Table 1: Technical data for the engine [7]

| Engine manufacturer | Engine model   | Working principle | Maximum power       | Number of cylinders | Bore/Stroke   |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| MAN B&W             | 8K80 MC-C     | Two-stroke reversible | 28880 [kW] 104 [min⁻¹] | 8                   | 800 [mm] 2300 [mm] |

During engine exploitation, engine parameters were monitored and recorded at certain time intervals. Continuous control of parameters is necessary in order to detect certain changes in [7]:
The control of operating parameters is done in order to keep the performance of the engine within the set limits. Timely detection of these changes enables preventive measures to be taken and accidents to be prevented.

The key parameters for determining the engine performance are [7]:
- barometric ambient pressure,
- speed of the ship,
- ship's draught,
- mean indicated pressure,
- compression pressure,
- maximum combustion pressure,
- high fuel pressure pump index,
- exhaust pressures,
- exhaust temperatures,
- scavenging air pressure,
- scavenging air temperature,
- turbocharger rotational speed,
- exhaust gas pressure in the exhaust line after the turbocharger,
- air temperature at the turbocharger intake,
- pressure difference in front of and behind the intake air filter,
- pressure difference in front and behind the air cooler and
- air and cooling water temperature before and after the scavenging air cooler.

The intervals between controls were defined as permanent, daily and monthly. Pressures and temperatures must be constantly monitored to protect the engine from overheating and malfunction. For this purpose, the system for remote control and monitoring of the engine "Auto Chief C20" is used. Daily controls include all parameters that affect engine performance and their records are noted in the machine log. Monthly control is performed for all parameters that affect engine performance, by measuring the pressure in the engine cylinder using the electronic system PREMET XL as well as visual control of cylinder liners and pistons through the scavenging air receiver. When it comes to engine performance, special attention must be paid to the following indicators [7]:
- directly measurable indicators,
- indirectly measurable indicators,
- hidden indicators and
- ISO correction.

Directly measurable indicators are pressures and temperatures that we read on the engine itself using built-in thermometers and manometers. It is very important that the measuring instruments are correct and calibrated in order to obtain reliable data. Figure 4 shows the measuring points on the motor where the measuring instruments are located or the possible places for their connection [7].
Figure 4. Measuring points of directly measurable parameters on the engine [7]

Figure 4 shows the measuring points of the following engine parameters:
- indicator valve for measuring the pressure in the engine cylinder position 1,
- fuel index lever and VIT index position 2,
- exhaust gas temperature at the outlet of the cylinder position 3,
- exhaust gas temperature before and after the turbocharger position 4,
- exhaust gas pressure after turbocharger position 5,
- exhaust pressure in the exhaust manifold position 6,
- air temperature at the inlet to the turbocharger position 7,
- air pressure at the turbocharger intake intake position 8,
- chiller air pressure drop position 9,
- water temperature at the inlet and outlet of the air cooler position 10,
- scavenging air pressure in the manifold position 11,
- scavenging air temperature in the collector position 12,
- scavenging air temperature before cooler position 13,
- scavenging air temperature after cooler position 14 and
- engine coolant outlet temperature position 15.

In addition to the above parameters, other data that is taken with directly measurable parameters are [7]:
- engine rotational speed,
- turbocharger rotational speed,
- fuel pressure,
- fuel temperature at the engine inlet,
- coolant temperature at engine inlet and
- barometric ambient pressure.

Indirectly measurable indicators are pressure measurements done during operation of the cylinder engine. To measure the pressures in the engine cylinder and record the diagram, the
electronic system PREMET XL was used, whose function is identical to the system of the PMI pressure analyzer. This system allows us, in addition to the maximum combustion pressure, to determine the average indicator pressure, compression pressure, indicator power and the relationship between the crank rotation angle and the pressure. The PREMET XL system has a computer where the analysis of recorded data is performed with the help of installed software. Before the data analysis, the software allows us to enter additional information, such as: exhaust gas temperature, position of the high pressure fuel pump rails, injection angle and rotational speed of the turbocharger rotor. As well as the data needed for ISO correction, such as engine coolant temperature, compressor inlet air temperature, specific fuel density, fuel calorific value and engine inlet temperature. After entering the data, the process of analysis begins. The following diagrams are displayed on the computer screen: \( p/\alpha \) diagram for all cylinders, \( p/\alpha \) diagram including \( dp/da \) curve for each cylinder, zoomed \( p/\alpha \) diagram including \( dp/da \) curve for each cylinder, \( p/V \) diagram of all cylinders, \( p/V \) single cylinder diagram, \( p_{\text{max}} \) for all measured strokes on one cylinder, \( p_{\text{max}} \) for all strokes and all cylinders, mean \( p_{\text{max}} \) for all cylinders, indicator pressure diagram for all cylinders, mean indicated pressure diagram for all cylinders, mean indicated deviation diagram pressure, a diagram of the deviation of the indicated power and finally a tabular presentation of completed data.

Even if direct and indirect indicators are within limits, it does not necessarily mean that the engine is operating in the optimum load range. The problem can occur when the engine crankshaft is raised again from the lower rotational speed to the nominal speed. In the event of maximum combustion pressure, exhaust gas temperature before and after the turbocharger, turbocharger rotational speed, flush air pressure and fuel index increase, attention must be paid to the thermal load of the engine. Even if the engine is regularly maintained and working flawlessly, it can easily be overloaded resulting in inevitably damage the cylinder liner in a very short period of time. The main causes of thermal overload are mainly the hidden factors, such as:

- overgrown formwork of broad and propeller wings,
- distorted or damaged propeller blades,
- heavy sea and
- shallow water on the navigation route.

In order to avoid the influence of hidden factors on the thermal and mechanical overload of the engine, it is necessary:

- to calculate the effective engine power and the mean effective pressure at a specific crankshaft rotational speed, and
- to calculate the slip of the ship's propeller.

When the specified parameters are determined, operating mode is checked in relation to the defined limits on the motor load diagram.

ISO corrections are calculated based on known formulas and take into account the influence of inlet air and engine coolant temperatures on exhaust gas temperature, scavenging air pressure, compression pressure and maximum combustion pressure. ISO corrections must be made when the intake air and coolant temperatures at the engine inlet are significantly higher than 25 °C. After the corrections are made, the obtained results can be compared with the data from the previous measurements and the data when the engine was tested in the test drive of the new engine. Based on these data, an insight into the condition of the engine is obtained [7].
In addition to monitoring all the above parameters, one of the important measures for the application of the principle of Condition Based Maintenance is the visual control of the cylinder liners and pistons through the scavenging air collector. The physical condition of the piston rings is very important. The role of the piston rings is to provide a seal between the piston and the liner with the help of gases in the cylinder, in order to prevent the penetration of gases from the combustion chamber into the cylinder space under the piston. This sealing is achieved by the action of gases from the upper and inner side of the piston ring, which results in pushing the piston ring towards the lower side of the groove in the piston and outside towards the wall of the cylinder liner [8]. Timely detection of changes in the cylinder liners and pistons can prevent large-scale accidents, but also if the condition is found to be satisfactory, the overhaul of the cylinder units can be postponed. During the visual control of the cylinder units, an important factor is the experience of the crew, their consistency and thorough inspection as well as accurate recording of the obtained results. It is recommended that the control of the cylinder units, if possible, be done immediately after a long voyage by stopping the ship before entering the port. This is essential to avoid the impact of low engine operation loads during ship maneuvering. At low loads, the lubrication of the cylinder liners is increased, which can give a wrong picture of the estimated amount of oil for lubricating the cylinder liners. Another reason is the combustion in the cylinder, which is not optimal at low loads and can give a wrong picture of the condition of the piston head and piston rings.

4. Presentation of data obtained by recording engine performance in the period from March 2009 to March 2012 with discussion

A total of 12 measurements were performed and than presented in tables, on the basis of which a comparison of measured parameters, analysis and conclusions were made. It should be emphasized that the sailing conditions of the ship for each measurement were different (meteorological conditions, the state of the ship's hull and the state of the sea). The sailing conditions of the ship were also differed in relation to the measurements performed in the test run after the construction of the ship.

Table 2. Pressures in the engine cylinder obtained by the electronic device PREMET XL [9]

| Date measurements | Crankshaft rotational speed [min⁻¹] | Maximum compression pressure $p_{\text{Kmax}}$ [bar] | Maximal combustion pressure $p_{\text{fmax}}$ [bar] | Mean indicated pressure $p_{\text{i}}$ [bar] | Average indicator power $P_{\text{i}}$ [kW] | Medium temperature exhaust gases $T_{\text{ex}}$ [°C] |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 26.03.09          | 102.0                             | 100.0                             | 116.1                             | 14.1                             | 22078                             | 333.5                             |
| 18.05.09          | 103.5                             | 106.0                             | 119.9                             | 15.5                             | 24739                             | 330.0                             |
| 18.11.09          | 103.4                             | 99.4                              | 109.0                             | 14.3                             | 22720                             | 349.4                             |
| 13.02.10          | 103.6                             | 104.0                             | 115.9                             | 14.8                             | 23705                             | 333.3                             |
| 21.06.10          | 103.4                             | 106.2                             | 116.4                             | 15.3                             | 24420                             | 328.1                             |
| 22.11.10          | 103.4                             | 107.9                             | 117.4                             | 15.6                             | 24864                             | 341.0                             |
| 20.01.11          | 103.6                             | 107.9                             | 118.4                             | 15.8                             | 25172                             | 357.1                             |
| 14.06.11          | 103.5                             | 105.5                             | 115.8                             | 15.2                             | 24170                             | 341.8                             |
| 26.09.11          | 103.7                             | 105.1                             | 115.8                             | 15.4                             | 24748                             | 342.9                             |
| 20.12.11          | 104.0                             | 103.5                             | 113.6                             | 14.8                             | 23746                             | 352.9                             |
| 17.01.12          | 103.8                             | 102.2                             | 113.0                             | 15.1                             | 24207                             | 350.3                             |
| 13.03.12          | 103.3                             | 102.9                             | 112.8                             | 15.1                             | 24452                             | 339.3                             |
Air at the compressor inlet $T_{vauk}$ [$^\circ$C] | Water at the inlet to the cooler $T_{vaur}$ [$^\circ$C] | Air on inlet to the cooler 1/2 $T_{vaur}$ [$^\circ$C] | Air on out of the cooler 1/2 $T_{vaur}$ [$^\circ$C] | Scavenging air pressure $p_{vaur}$ [bar] 
---|---|---|---|---
26.03.09 | 11120/11100 | 30 | 36 | 151/152 | 38/38 | 2.00
18.05.09 | 11613/11566 | 41 | 40 | 180/170 | 42/42 | 2.20
18.11.09 | 11244/11201 | 41 | 34 | 185/185 | 39/40 | 2.00
13.02.10 | 11320/11324 | 36 | 36 | 165/175 | 41/40 | 2.11
21.06.10 | 11636/11638 | 41 | 38 | 180/84 | 44/43 | 2.20
22.11.10 | 11580/11610 | 41 | 38 | 180/85 | 44/44 | 2.20
20.01.11 | 11708/11714 | 41 | 38 | 179/181 | 43/43 | 2.20
14.06.11 | 11627/11629 | 42 | 36 | 180/85 | 44/42 | 2.40
26.09.11 | 11580/11600 | 42 | 36 | 180/85 | 44/44 | 2.20
20.12.11 | 11460/11460 | 40 | 37 | 180/80 | 44/44 | 2.10
17.01.12 | 11390/11415 | 42 | 39 | 177/180 | 44/44 | 2.10
13.03.12 | 11420/11450 | 40 | 38 | 175/180 | 44/44 | 2.10

Table 3. Scavenging air parameters [9]

ISO corrected scavenging air pressure $p_{sv}$ [bar] | ISO corrected compression pressure $p_{kom}$ [bar] | ISO corrected maximum pressure $p_{max}$ [bar] | ISO corrected scavenging air temperature $T_{isv}$ [$^\circ$C] 
---|---|---|---
26.03.09 | 1.97 | 99.8 | 116.9 | 322.2
18.05.09 | 2.24 | 108.6 | 122.8 | 301.6
18.11.09 | 2.08 | 102.8 | 111.4 | 321.4
13.02.10 | 2.13 | 105.6 | 117.7 | 313.0
21.06.10 | 2.25 | 109.1 | 119.0 | 300.0
22.11.10 | 2.24 | 110.6 | 119.9 | 313.8
20.01.11 | 2.25 | 110.9 | 121.1 | 327.6
14.06.11 | 2.48 | 109.6 | 118.6 | 312.0
26.09.11 | 2.28 | 108.6 | 118.6 | 313.3
20.12.11 | 2.15 | 106.2 | 116.0 | 325.5
17.01.12 | 2.10 | 105.2 | 115.7 | 319.2
13.03.12 | 2.10 | 105.4 | 115.2 | 312.1

Table 4. ISO corrections of pressures and temperatures of combustion products [9]

Tables 2, 3 and 4 show the parameters that characterize the combustion process. It can be observed that all parameters are measured at the engine rotational speed for maximum power when testing the engine on the brake. At this crankshaft rotational speed, the engine will develop a different power for each measurement depending on the sailing conditions, displacement, overgrowth of the ship's hull and some other less important factors. All parameters are within the set limits and differ slightly from those measured in the test run of the ship after the construction. Due to the high temperatures of the scavenging air at the inlet to the compressor and the cooling water at the inlet to the flue air cooler, ISO correction of the scavenging air pressure, compression pressure, maximum combustion pressure and scavenging air temperature was performed.
To balance the engine load per cylinder unit, it is important that the indicated pressure of an individual cylinder does not deviate by more than 0.5 bar from the mean value of the indicated pressure of all cylinders. The maximum combustion pressure of an individual cylinder must not deviate by more than 3 bar from the mean combustion pressure of all engine cylinders, and the difference between the maximum combustion pressure and the compression pressure must not exceed 35 bar [7].

After the inspection of the cylinder liners, pistons and piston rings, it was concluded that the cylinder liners, pistons and piston rings are in a satisfactory condition until the moment of overhaul of the first cylinder unit. No changes were observed that would require overhaul of the cylinder units. Traces of machining were still visible on all liners, indicating that the oil film was not broken and that the amount of lubricating oil was optimal. No signs of rubbing, scratching or corrosion of the cylinder liners were observed. The piston front is free of accumulated carbon deposits and signs of burns. The clearances of the piston rings and the relief grooves were within the permitted limits.

The overhaul of the first cylinder unit was done on October 16, 2010 after 20637 working hours, and the overhaul of the last cylinder unit was done on December 18, 2011 after 26876 working hours. Overhaul of the cylinder unit means disassembly of the cylinder head, its cleaning and replacement of rubber seals between the upper part of the head and the cooling space. Then, removing the piston, cleaning it, measuring the wear and, if necessary, replacing the lower part of the piston, as well as the obligatory replacement of the piston rings. After that, cleaning the upper part of the cylinder liner from accumulated carbon deposits and measuring the wear of the cylinder liner with the help of an internal micrometer.

Table 5 shows the deviations of the indicator pressure, maximum combustion pressure and scavenging air temperature in relation to the measured mean values. It can be noticed that the deviations did not vary more than 5 %, which is allowed for this engine, and this also indicates that the engine worked within the permitted operating parameters during the entire period of operation.

Table 5. Deviations from the measured mean values in % [9]

| Date measurements | Deviation of indicator pressure \( P_i \) [%] | Deviation of maximum pressure \( P_{\text{max}} \) [%] | Deviation of indicator power \( P_i \) [%] | Deviation of temperature scavenging air \( T_{\text{i sv}} \) [%] |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 26.03.09         | +2.7 / -2.8              | +3.3 / -2.7              | +2.9 / -2.5              | +2.3 / -2.4              |
| 18.05.09         | +1.3 / -1.3              | +3.3 / -2.4              | +1.4 / -1.4              | +3.0 / -3.0              |
| 18.11.09         | +2.0 / -3.5              | +2.7 / -2.8              | +2.3 / -3.3              | +2.5 / -3.2              |
| 13.02.10         | +39 / -2.0               | +1.8 / -1.6              | +3.5 / -1.8              | +2.6 / -1.5              |
| 21.06.10         | +1.9 / -3.3              | +1.4 / -1.2              | +1.7 / -3.4              | +2.1 / -2.4              |
| 22.11.10         | +3.1 / -2.6              | +3.0 / -2.9              | +3.0 / -2.6              | +1.5 / -2.1              |
| 20.01.11         | +1.7 / -2.5              | +2.9 / -2.0              | +2.1 / -2.6              | +2.2 / -2.0              |
| 14.06.11         | +1.3 / -4.6              | +1.0 / -3.3              | +3.1 / -4.3              | +1.7 / -2.3              |
| 26.09.11         | +3.1 / -4.5              | +2.7 / -4.1              | +3.1 / -4.7              | +2.0 / -2.3              |
| 20.12.11         | +2.6 / -2.7              | +2.9 / -3.2              | +2.7 / -2.3              | +1.4 / -1.7              |
| 17.01.12         | +3.2 / -2.6              | +2.6 / -2.7              | +3.2 / -2.7              | +2.2 / -2.3              |
| 13.03.13         | +3.2 / -2.6              | +1.1 / -2.5              | +2.6 / -2.4              | +2.3 / -2.1              |
which is very small considering the maximum allowable wear is in the range of 0.4% to 0.8 % of the diameter of the cylinder liner. For a diameter of 800 mm, this is 3.2 mm to 6.4 mm [7].

Table 6. Periodicity of inspection and control of cylinder units [9]

| Date       | Ordinal number | Work hours | Wear mm/1000 h | Comment                                                                 |
|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16.10.10   | 1              | 20637      | 0.03 0.02      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 14.12.10   | 8              | 21617      | 0.02 0.02      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 10.03.11   | 4              | 22924      | 0.02 0.01      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 31.05.11   | 7              | 24141      | 0.02 0.01      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 20.07.11   | 5              | 24796      | 0.01 0.01      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 02.09.11   | 2              | 25434      | 0.01 0.01      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 17.10.11   | 3              | 25995      | 0.01 0.01      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |
| 18.12.11   | 6              | 26876      | 0.01 0.01      | The liner is in good condition, visible traces of machining, no traces of scratches, rubbing or corrosion. |

Table 7. General data relevant to engine performance [9]

| Date measurements | Engine operating hours [h] | Ship speed in [knots] | Slip [%] | Displacement ship [T] | Displacement in relation to the maximum [%] |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 26.03.09         | 12254                     | 19.9                 | 12.1     | 44999                  | 87.7                                     |
| 18.05.09         | 13197                     | 21.2                 | 8.2      | 47700                  | 92.9                                     |
| 18.11.09         | 15529                     | 19.8                 | 13.8     | 22993                  | 44.8                                     |
| 13.02.10         | 16803                     | 21.3                 | 7.4      | 28741                  | 56.0                                     |
| 21.06.10         | 18966                     | 22.0                 | 4.2      | 44108                  | 86.0                                     |
| 22.10.10         | 21238                     | 22.2                 | 3.3      | 46615                  | 90.8                                     |
| 20.01.11         | 22166                     | 21.8                 | 5.2      | 47980                  | 93.5                                     |
| 14.06.11         | 24337                     | 21.8                 | 5.1      | 47260                  | 92.1                                     |
| 26.09.11         | 25694                     | 22.3                 | 3.4      | 43289                  | 84.4                                     |
| 20.12.11         | 26905                     | 22.6                 | 2.1      | 37846                  | 73.7                                     |
| 17.01.12         | 27286                     | 22.8                 | 1.3      | 34523                  | 67.3                                     |
| 13.03.12         | 28099                     | 22.4                 | 2.3      | 36497                  | 71.1                                     |
Table 8. Fuel parameters [9]

| Date measurements | Fuel density ρ [kg/m³] | Specific Fuel consumption [g/kWh] | Corrected fuel consumption [g/kWh] | Fuel inlet temperature Tgm [°C] | Lower heating value Hd [kJ/kg] |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 26.03.09          | 986.2                  | 195.3                             | 184.5                             | 136                           | 40351                         |
| 18.05.09          | 977.6                  | 187.3                             | 177.5                             | 130                           | 40465                         |
| 18.11.09          | 977.0                  | 186.5                             | 176.2                             | 136                           | 40355                         |
| 13.02.10          | 990.0                  | 189.7                             | 177.7                             | 135                           | 40000                         |
| 21.06.10          | 977.2                  | 188.4                             | 178.5                             | 140                           | 40471                         |
| 22.11.10          | 969.9                  | 183.7                             | 175.9                             | 138                           | 40896                         |
| 20.01.11          | 955.8                  | 182.2                             | 175.3                             | 137                           | 41082                         |
| 14.06.11          | 991.0                  | 189.6                             | 176.3                             | 139                           | 39724                         |
| 26.09.11          | 992.1                  | 183.7                             | 176.4                             | 139                           | 40287                         |
| 20.12.11          | 990.3                  | 189.5                             | 177.9                             | 139                           | 39996                         |
| 17.01.12          | 989.6                  | 185.0                             | 175.9                             | 139                           | 39743                         |
| 13.03.12          | 979.9                  | 188.3                             | 176.9                             | 139                           | 40135                         |

Table 9. Measured power values [9]

| Date measurements | Indicated power Pı [kW] | Effective power Pe [kW] | Propeller shaft power Ppv [kW] | Load in [%] | Maximum effective power 28880 [kW] |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 26.03.09          | 22110.0                 | 20537.8                 | 20332.4                       | 76.6        | 28880                             |
| 18.05.09          | 24739.0                 | 23132.2                 | 22901.0                       | 85.7        |                                   |
| 18.11.09          | 22792.0                 | 21198.0                 | 20986.0                       | 78.9        |                                   |
| 13.02.10          | 23714.4                 | 22117.5                 | 21896.3                       | 82.1        |                                   |
| 21.06.10          | 24425.7                 | 22831.9                 | 22603.5                       | 84.6        |                                   |
| 22.11.10          | 24844.1                 | 23250.3                 | 23017.8                       | 86.0        |                                   |
| 20.01.11          | 25172.0                 | 23574.7                 | 23338.9                       | 87.1        |                                   |
| 14.06.11          | 24170.2                 | 22574.8                 | 22349.1                       | 83.7        |                                   |
| 26.09.11          | 24748.0                 | 23144.7                 | 22913.3                       | 85.7        |                                   |
| 20.12.11          | 23746.0                 | 22142.8                 | 21921.4                       | 82.2        |                                   |
| 17.01.12          | 24207.0                 | 22603.7                 | 22377.7                       | 83.8        |                                   |
| 13.03.12          | 24044.0                 | 22451.5                 | 22227.0                       | 83.3        |                                   |

Table 7 shows the general data that have a significant impact on individual engine performance. It can be observed that the speed of the ship is significantly affected by displacement and slip size. The size of the slip is related to the conditions of navigation, the condition of the sea, wind, sea currents and how overgrown the hull of the ship is.

Table 8 shows the parameters related to marine fuel. An important parameter is the specific fuel consumption and it can be seen that it is a function of the size of the lower thermal power of the fuel. Lower heat output depends on fuel quality. The quality of heavy oil on the market varies and depends on the producer as well as the place of loading the fuel.

Table 9 shows the values of the measured engine power and load. The engine load ranged between 75 % and 86 %. The measured power values are expected considering the
sailing conditions and the displacement of the ship. Figure 5 shows a diagram of the engine load.

![Engine load diagram](image)

**Figure 5.** Engine load diagram [7]

The load diagram presents:
- upper limit of propeller characteristic when the hull and propeller of the ship are overgrown, line 1,
- upper limit of propeller characteristic when the hull and propeller of the ship are clean, line 2,
- limit regulatory characteristic, line 3,
- external characteristic of the engine (maximum engine power), line 4,
- maximum mean effective pressure limit, line 5,
- maximum load limit at maximum engine rotational speed, line 6,
- upper engine overload limit, line 7 and
- constant values of mean effective pressure.

Conclusion is that the load was below the upper limit of the propeller characteristic when the hull and propeller of the ship were clean (line 2).

## 5. Conclusion

Maintenance of the ship's propulsion system nowadays is unthinkable without the use of modern diagnostic procedures and diagnostic equipment. Modern technical systems such as marine propulsion require sophisticated equipment to maintain it. For these reasons, during the design and development of new propulsion systems, designers and constructors are required to take care of the development of diagnostic equipment that is installed or separately supplied with the ship's propulsion system. In this way, the suitability for servicing and maintenance of the ship's propulsion system is ensured, i.e., its overall quality is enhanced and the satisfaction of the owner and the ship's crew in charge of its maintenance is increased.

A merchant ship, in this case a container ship, is a complex system with a large number of interconnected subsystems and as such requires intensive maintenance in order to maintain
operational performance over the given period of time. The aim is to keep the proper operating periods of the system as long as possible and the periods of failure as short as possible, and in addition to predict and avoid system failures or to minimize the harmful consequences of failures. This is achieved by regular and proper maintenance of the system.

The development and application of technical diagnostic methods (as part of Condition Based Maintenance) represents a significant contribution to the rationalization of the maintenance process of engine cylinder units. Rapid development of measuring and calculation equipment has enabled quality control of the condition of cylinder units in the process of exploitation and thus a wider application of Condition Based Maintenance. Proper monitoring and diagnostics achieves better engine performance, which directly affects the consumption of fuel and oil for lubricating the cylinder liners, system oil for engine lubrication as well as lower emissions of harmful gases into the atmosphere. Proper operation of the engine and satisfactory condition of the cylinder units enable an increase in the number of working hours before needed overhaul, which brings significant savings whilst exploiting the ship.

The cylinder unit itself is a complex system and is closely related to other marine propulsion engine systems, such as the fuel system, the lubricating oil system and the coolant system. The maintenance of such a complex system cannot rely on only one type of maintenance. Conditional Based Maintenance is an important segment of the planned maintenance system based on operating hours and time interval of individual components of the cylinder unit system.

The results obtained by researching the main propulsion two-stroke engine "MAN B&W 8K80 MC-C" on the ship "HS SCOTT" show that the engine was operating and properly maintained during the period of exploiting, and that it did not work in areas of thermal overload. The condition of the cylinder liners until the moment of the overhaul of the first cylinder unit was very good. The overhaul time could have been extended for a certain period of time with regular control. The only reason for starting the overhaul of the cylinder units was the request of the technical inspector of the company that the overhaul of all cylinder units be completed before the expiration of the five-year ship insurance, in order to obtain an extension of insurance for another two years. For good physical condition of cylinder units, the beginning of engine operation is very important, when the cylinder liner, piston and piston rings are completely new. The period of running-in of the engine is set by the manufacturer. Gradual increase of load and proper lubrication of cylinder liners must be strictly observed. From the obtained results, it can be concluded that in the case of this engine, the period of running-in was done correctly.

Despite the constructive improvements of the engine, the use of electronic diagnostic equipment and modern measuring instruments, the most important role in the application of the method Condition Based Maintenance is played by the crew of the machine department. Professional training and education combined with experience are the key to the success of ship maintenance systems. In addition to education and experience, consistency and continuity in the implementation of Condition Based Maintenance is also essential. If the monitoring of parameters, performance recording and visual control of cylinder units are not performed regularly and observations are not recorded, continuity in monitoring the condition will be lost and any changes will not be noticed in a timely manner. In that case, even the most sophisticated equipment cannot help. In everyday activities, the habit of the members of the machine department to listen and visually control all engine systems is very important, because the first changes are usually manifested in changes in sound, vibration, temperature or pressure. It is very important that every observed change in these indicators is reported to the machine operator, as timely action can prevent large-scale accidents.
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