

Market Update Note



10 April 2024

New small-bore four-stroke engine joins methanol portfolio

MAN Energy Solutions introduces a new methanol-fuelled 27/38DF-M engine for aux. engine and electric propulsion applications

The shipping world shows an increasing interest in reducing the carbon footprint by operating vessels on carbon-neutral or carbon-free fuels.

At MAN Energy Solutions, we expect that a significant number of vessels will operate on carbon-neutral methanol produced from renewable energy sources in the future, as part of global decarbonisation efforts.

The increasing interest has been a contributory cause to the decision of MAN Energy Solutions to extend the well-proven dual-fuel engine portfolio with the MAN small-bore 27/38DF-M engine.

Today, the basic 27/38 engine has accumulated more than 200,000,000 operating hours with more than 3,600 engines in service.

The new 27/38DF-M engine design for methanol operation utilises the same well-proven basic engine design as our 27/38 Mk 2. The 27/38DF-M for methanol operation will benefit from the high reliability, high performance, and fuel flexibility of the current 27/38 engine platform. The engine output will range from 1,980 to 3,690 kW.

Furthermore, the engine will be designed to optimise the methanol fuel share with only minimum amounts of fuel oil acting as pilot oil.

When produced from renewable energy sources, methanol can reduce well-to-wake greenhouse gas emissions significantly, making the fuel carbon-neutral.

The possibility to operate engines on methanol as a drop-in fuel means that e-methanol and bio-methanol increase the fuel flexibility of the new engine and the potential of methanol as an option for genset applications on large merchant marine vessels as well as for propulsion solutions for smaller vessel types.

Compared to other dual-fuel supply systems, the methanol supply system for 27/38DF-M is a cost-optimised low-pressure system, effectively making it a profitable solution providing a lower capex.

The first engine deliveries of the 27/38DF-M engine are targeted for 2027. We are open to discussing presales projects.

Questions regarding this Market Update Note should be directed to our Promotion & Business Development Manager for small-bore engines at hakon.hansen@man-es.com.

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