
Dynamic Positioning Systems

MANAGING RISK



Schedule

- Basic definition of a DP vessel
- DNV DP class notations
- Typical operations vs. class notations
- Description of DP Systems
- Failure definitions and Redundancy Concept
- Documentation/Certification
- Environmental Regularity Number (ERN)
- Failure Modes and Effect Analysis (FMEA)
- Tests

Basic definition

Dynamically positioned vessel:
A vessel which automatically maintains position and heading (or track) by controlling the three horizontal motions (surge, sway, yaw) exclusive by means of thruster force.

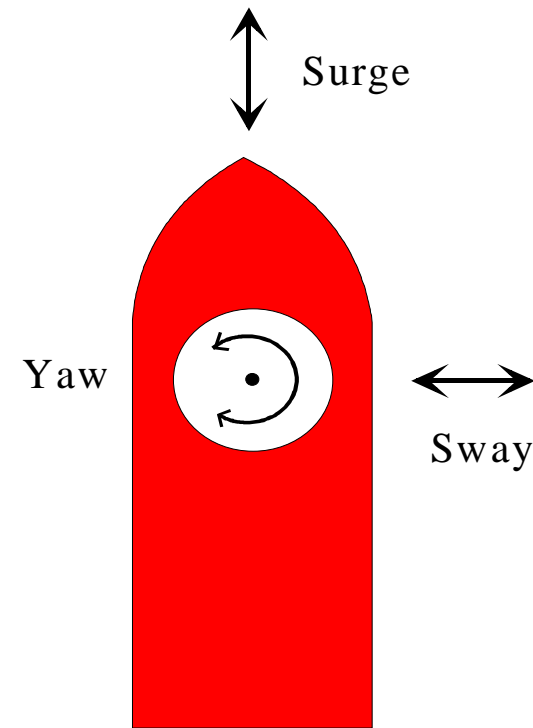


Fig.1 Surge, sway and yaw motions of a vessel

IMO and class societies DP notations

Correlation IMO / Class notations

DNV	IMO	LRS	ABS
AUTS	-	-	-
AUT	Class 1	DP A	DPS-1
AUTR	Class 2	DP AA	DPS-2
AUTRO	Class 3	DP AAA	DPS-3

IMO and class societies DP notations

- DYNPOS AUTS:

- Dynamic positioning without any redundancy
- Loss of position may occur in the event of a single failure



- DYNPOS AUT (Class 1):

As for AUTS +

- Independent joystick backup with auto heading
- Positioning reference system back-up
- UPS power supply



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IMO and class societies DP notations

- DYNPOS AUTR (Class 2):

As for AUT +

- Redundancy in technical design = loss of position shall not occur in the event of a single failure in any active component or system.
- Flooding and fire not considered beyond main class requirements



- DYNPOS AUTRO (Class 3):

As for AUTR +

- Single failure definition extended to include flooding in any one watertight compartment and fire in any one fire subdivision
- Backup DP-control system in a separate compartment, separate engine rooms, separate thruster rooms, separate switchboard rooms etc..



Typical operations vs. class notation

DYNPOS-AUT (Class 1):

- Bow loading
- Marine operations
> 500m from an installation



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Typical operations vs. class notation

DYNPOS-AUTR (Class 2):

- Marine operations
 < 500 from an installation
- Subsea well stimulation
- Unmanned subsea
 interventions with ROV



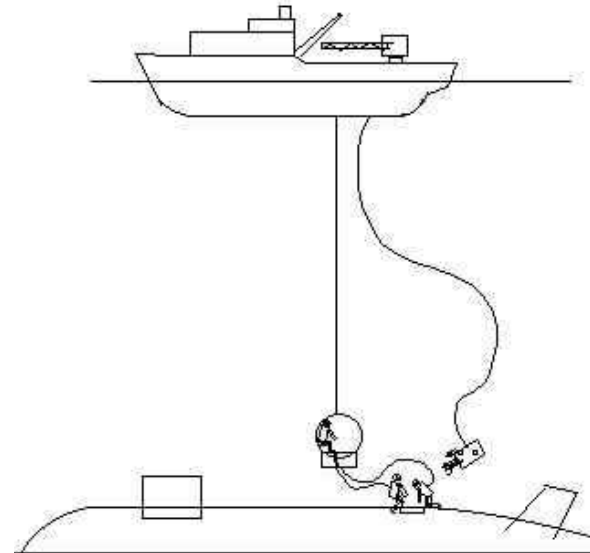
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Typical operations vs. class notation

DYNPOB-AUTRO (Class 3):

- Critical manned subsea interventions (diving)
- Drilling / production of hydrocarbons



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Dynamic Positioning System

The complete installation on the vessel
necessary for dynamically positioning a vessel

Dynamic Positioning System

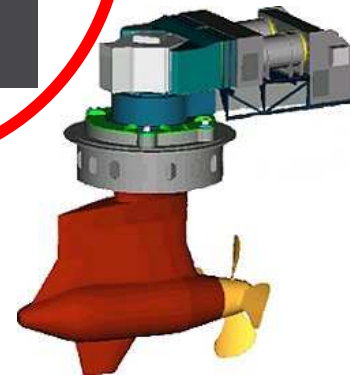
- DP Control System

All control systems and components, hardware and software necessary to dynamically position the vessel.



- Thruster System

All components and systems necessary to supply the DP-system with thrust force and direction.



- Power System

All components and systems necessary to supply the DP-system with power.

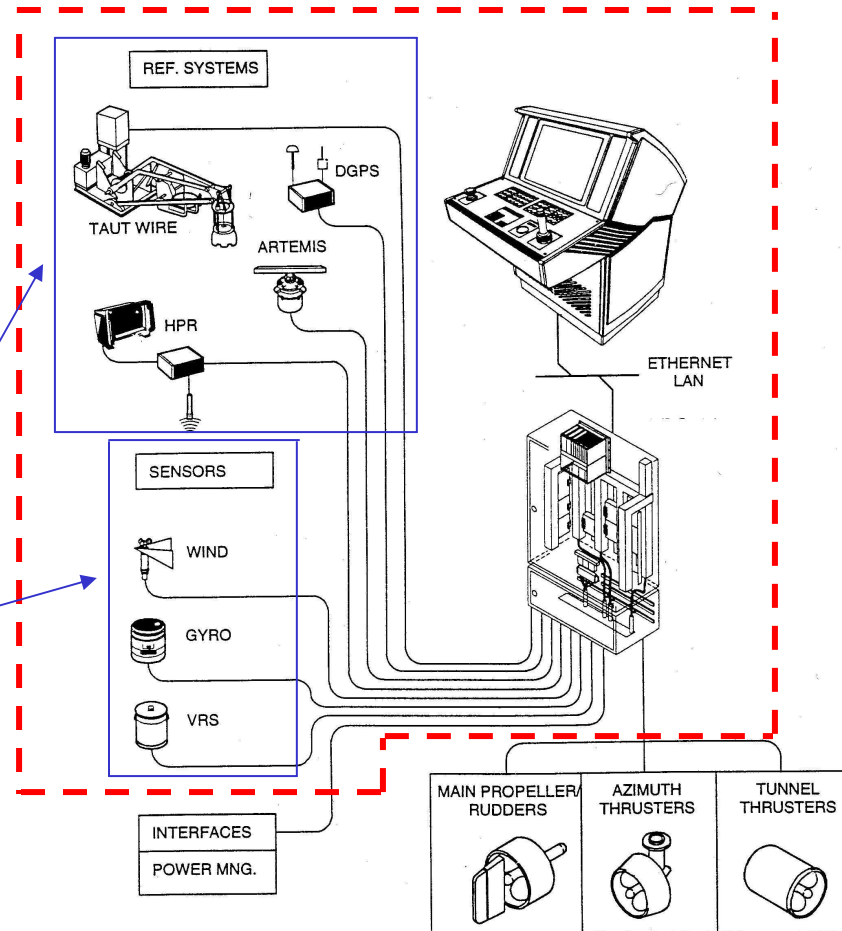


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DP Control System

- Computer system
- Operator system
- Positioning reference system
- Sensor system
- Associated cabling

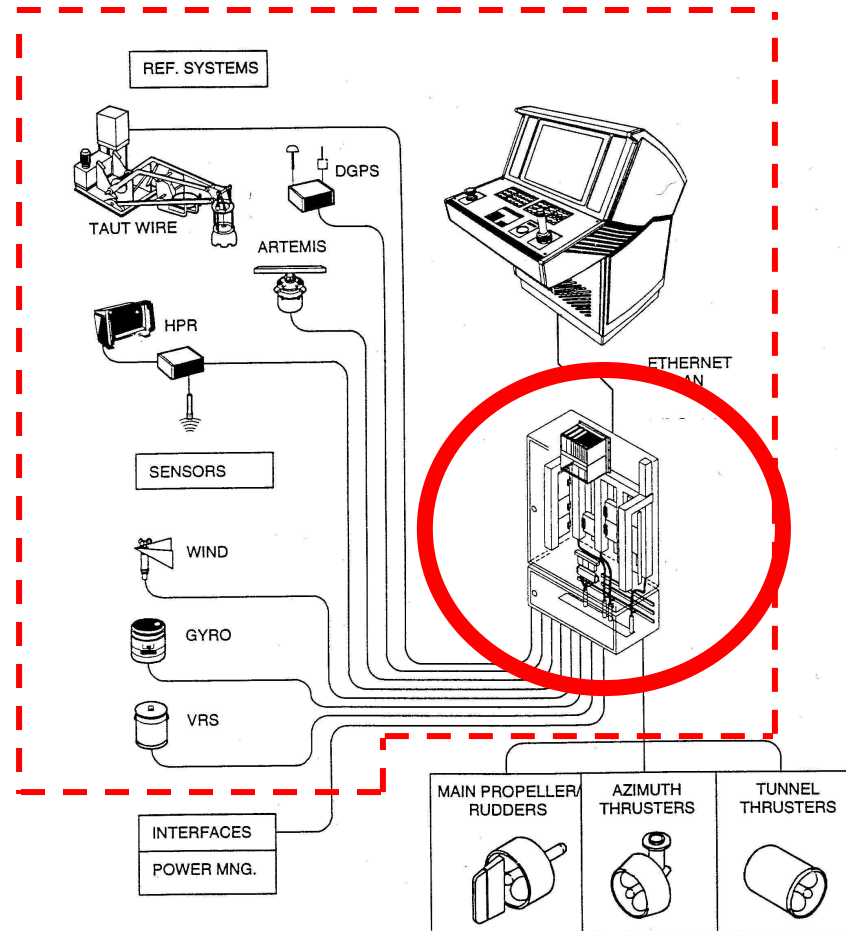


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DP Control System

- Computer system
- Operator station
- Positioning reference system
- Sensor system
- Associated cabling



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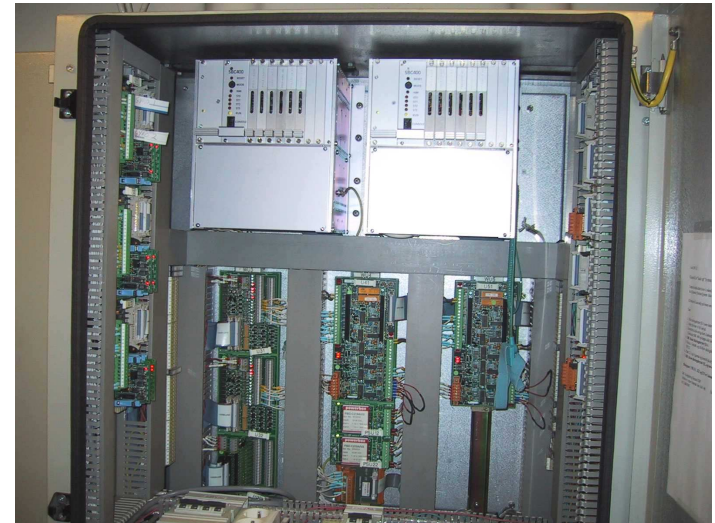


DP Control System

- Computer system, “The brain”

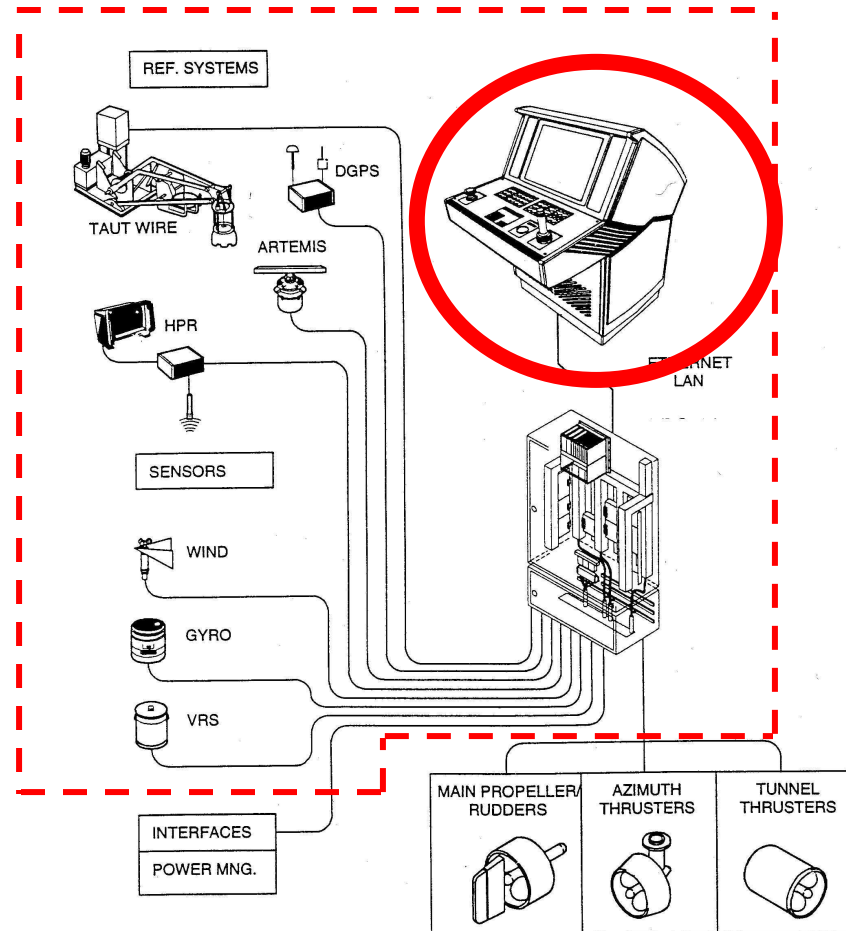
Gives command signals to thrusters based on:

- Operator input signals
- Position input signals
- Sensor input signals



DP Control System

- Computer system
- Operator station
- Positioning reference system
- Sensor system
- Associated cabling



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DP Control System

- Operator station, “Human / Machine Interface”
 - Present the vessels position relative to the reference station
 - Receive operator commands and transfer these to the computer system
 - Present warnings and alarms to the operator

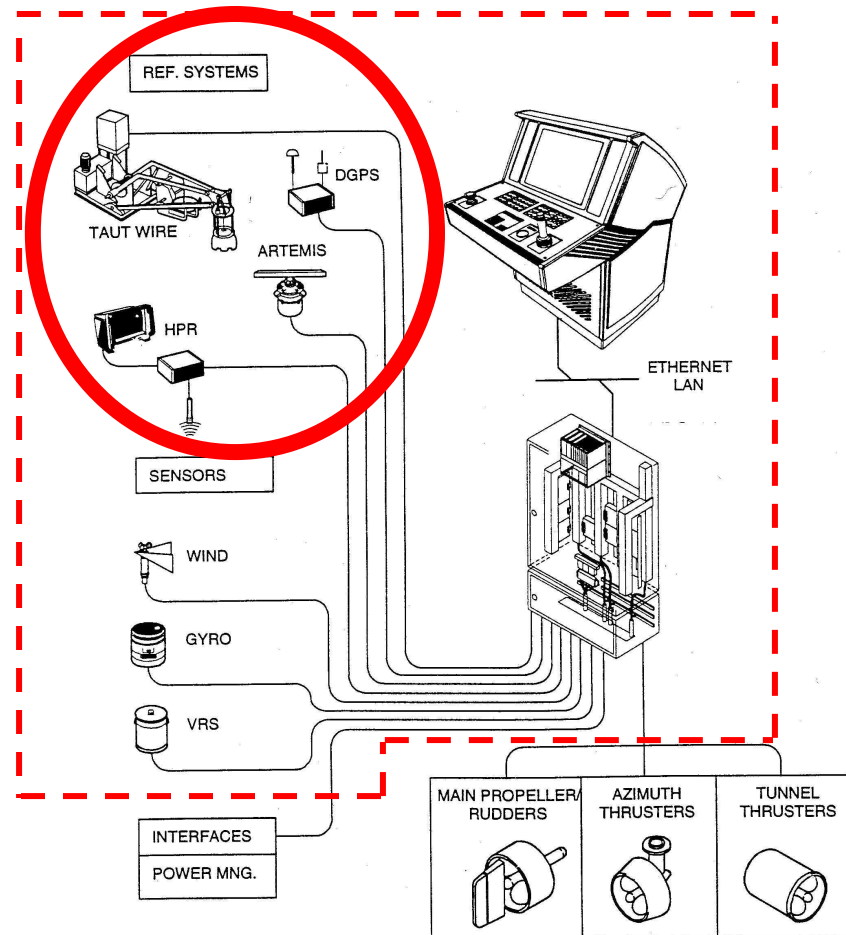


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DP Control System

- Computer system
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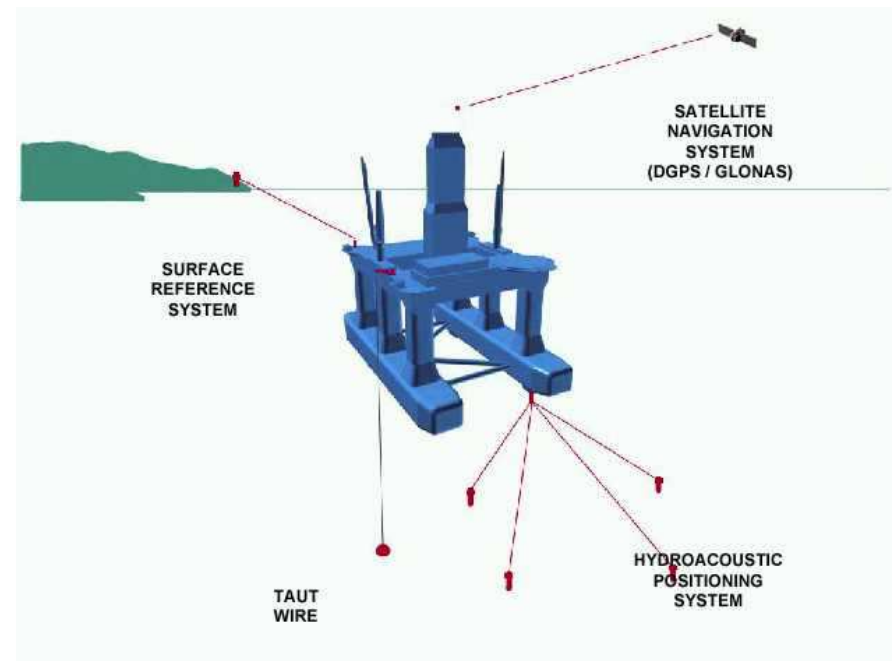


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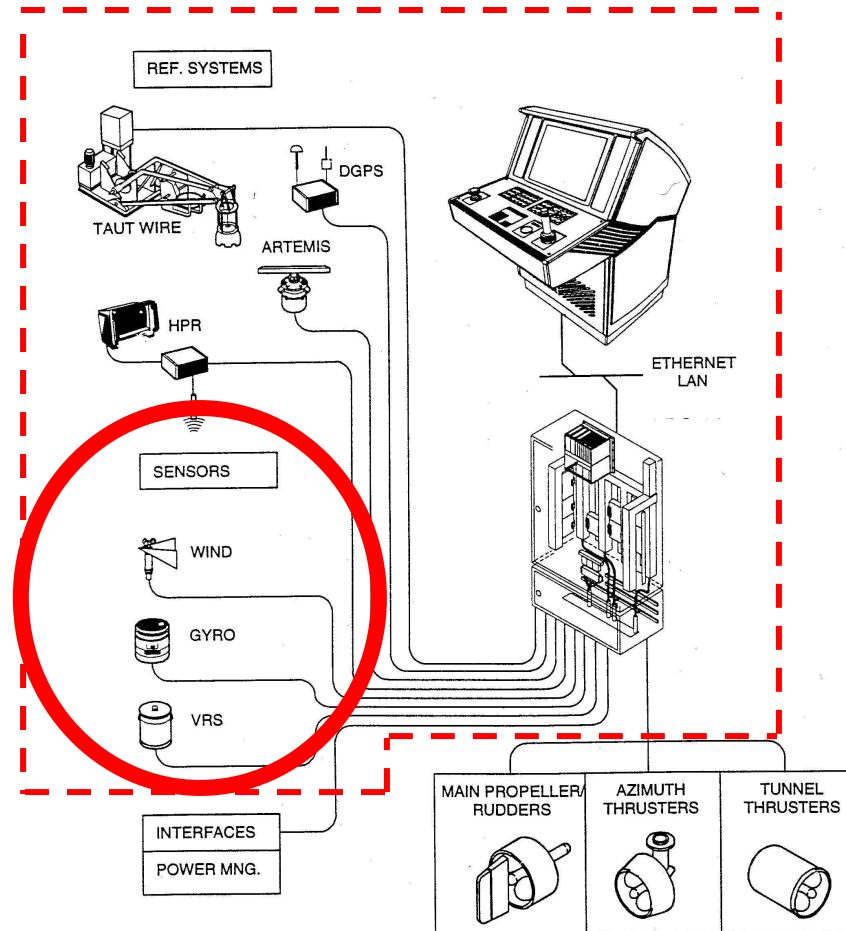
DP Control System

- Position reference systems
 - Satellite navigation system
 - Hydro acoustic system
 - Taut wire
 - Micro wave system
 - Optical system



DP Control System

- Computer system
- Operator station
- Positioning reference system
- Sensor system
- Associated cabling



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DP Control System

- Sensor system:
 - Gyro compass (heading)
 - Motion Reference Unit (MRU), measures pitch, roll and heave in order to compensate for vessel movement
 - Wind sensor, used to estimate wind forces on vessel.



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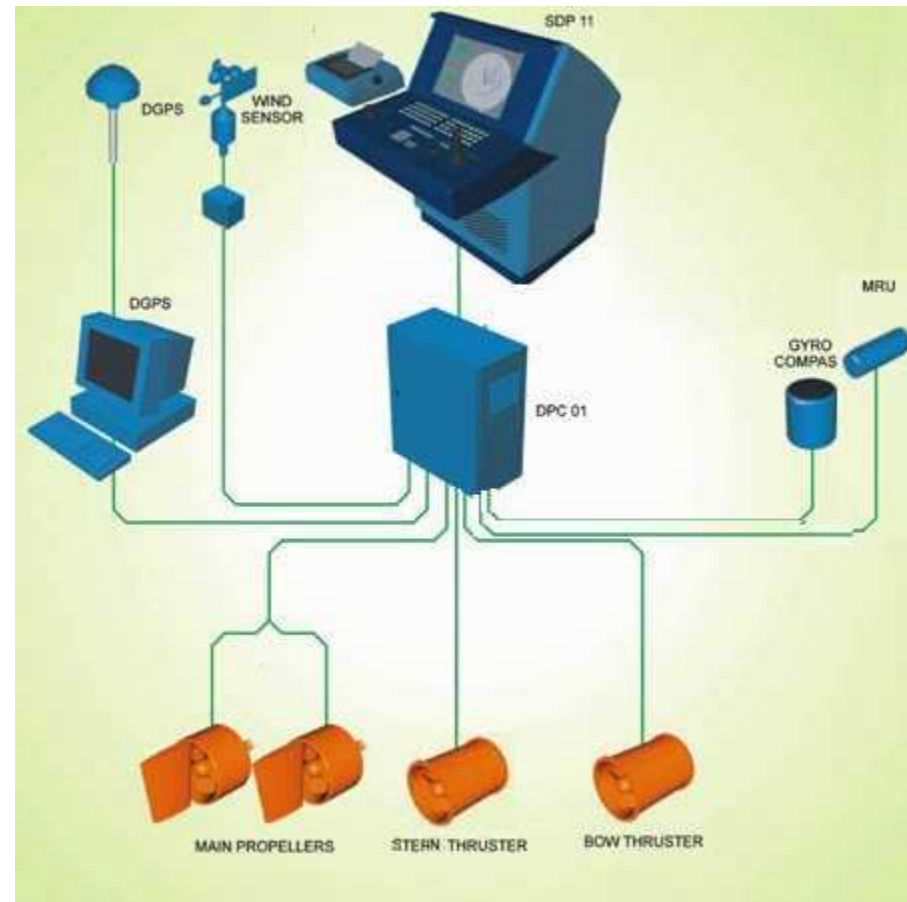
Class Notation DYNPOS AUTS

Equipment:

- 1 computer system
- 1 position reference system
- 1 wind sensor
- 1 MRU/VRS
- 1 gyro compass
- 1 printer

In addition (not shown):

- Manual levers



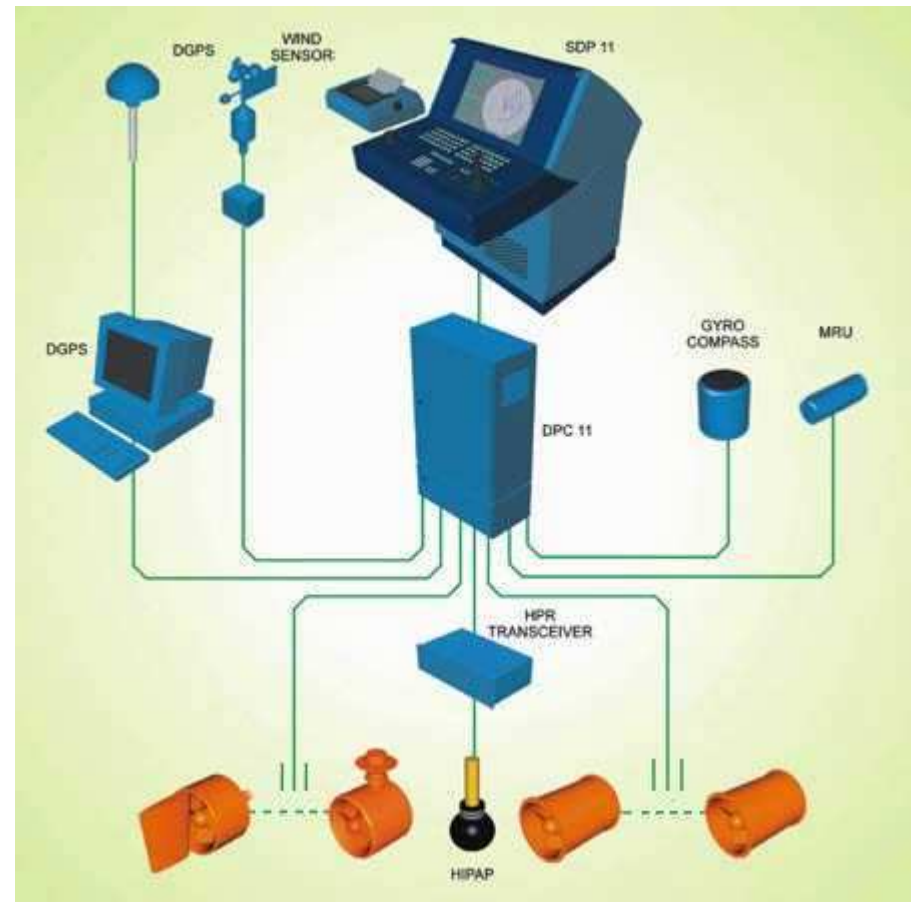
Class Notation DYNPOS AUT

Minimum equipment:

- 1 computer system
- 2 position reference system
- 1 wind sensor
- 1 MRU/VRS
- 1 Gyro compass
- 1 printer

In addition (not shown):

- 1 Joystick with automatic heading
- Manual levers
- 1 UPS



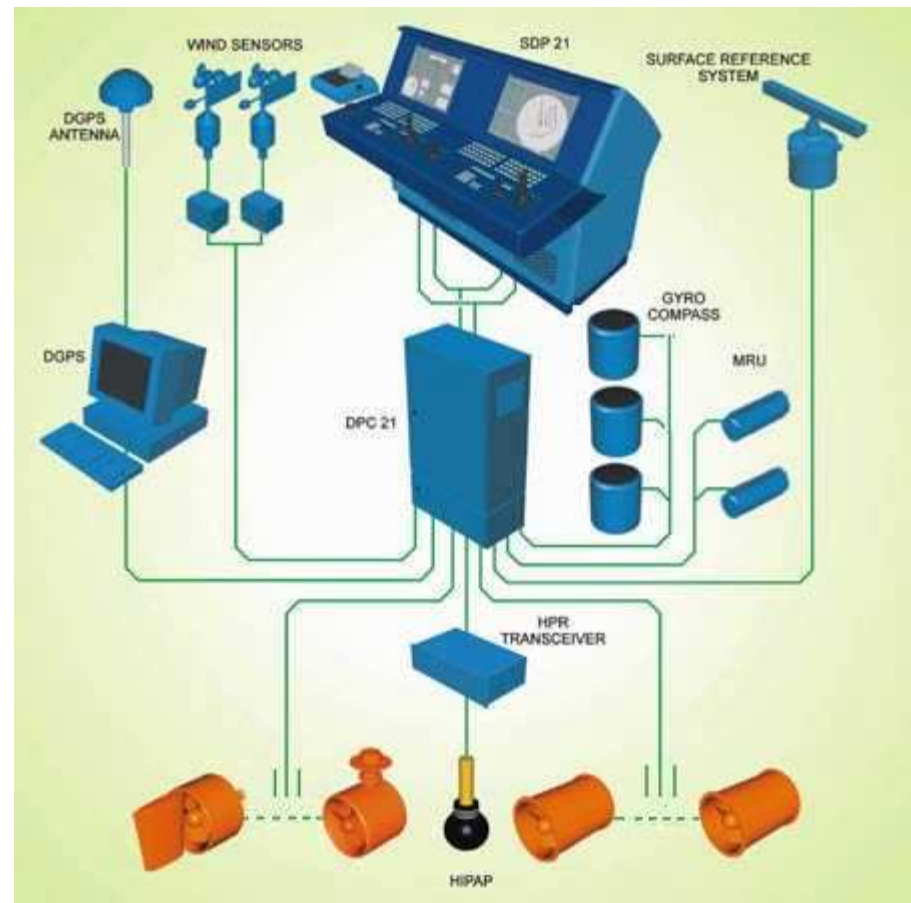
Class Notation DYNPOS AUTR

Minimum equipment:

- 2 computer systems
- 2 operator stations
- 3 position reference systems
- 2 wind sensors
- 2 MRU/VRS
- 3 gyro compass
- 1 printer

In addition (not shown):

- 1 Joystick with automatic heading
- Manual levers
- 2 UPS`s



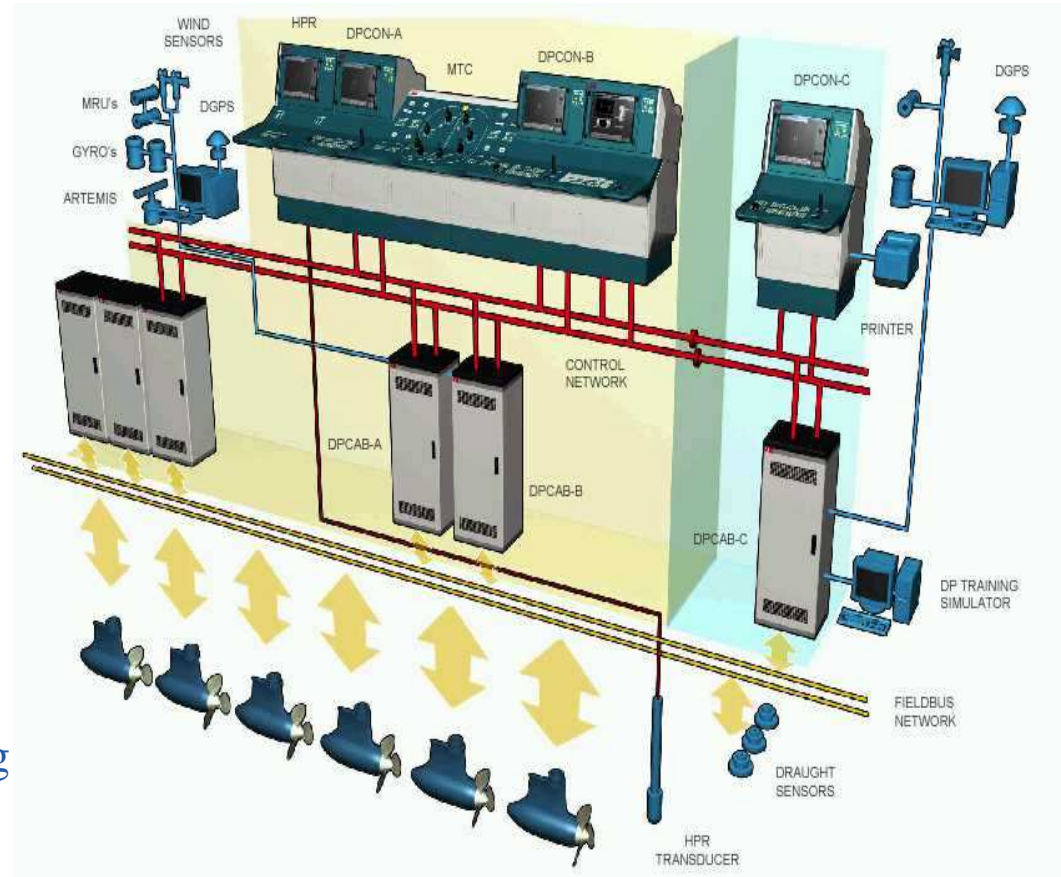
Class Notation DYNPOS AUTRO

Minimum equipment:

- 2 + 1 computer systems
- 2 + 1 operator stations
- 2 + 1 position reference systems
- 1 + 1 wind sensors
- 2 + 1 MRU/VRS
- 2 + 1 gyro compass
- 1 printer

In addition (not shown):

- 1 Joystick with automatic heading
- Manual levers
- 3 UPS`s
- Separation is NOT shown for all equipment



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Dynamic Positioning System

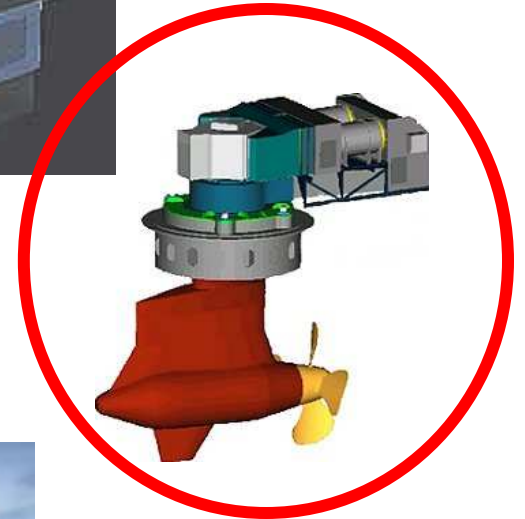
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- Power System

All components and systems necessary to supply the DP-system with power.



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Thruster system



**MAIN
PROPELLERS
WITH RUDDERS**



**TUNNEL
THRUSTERS**



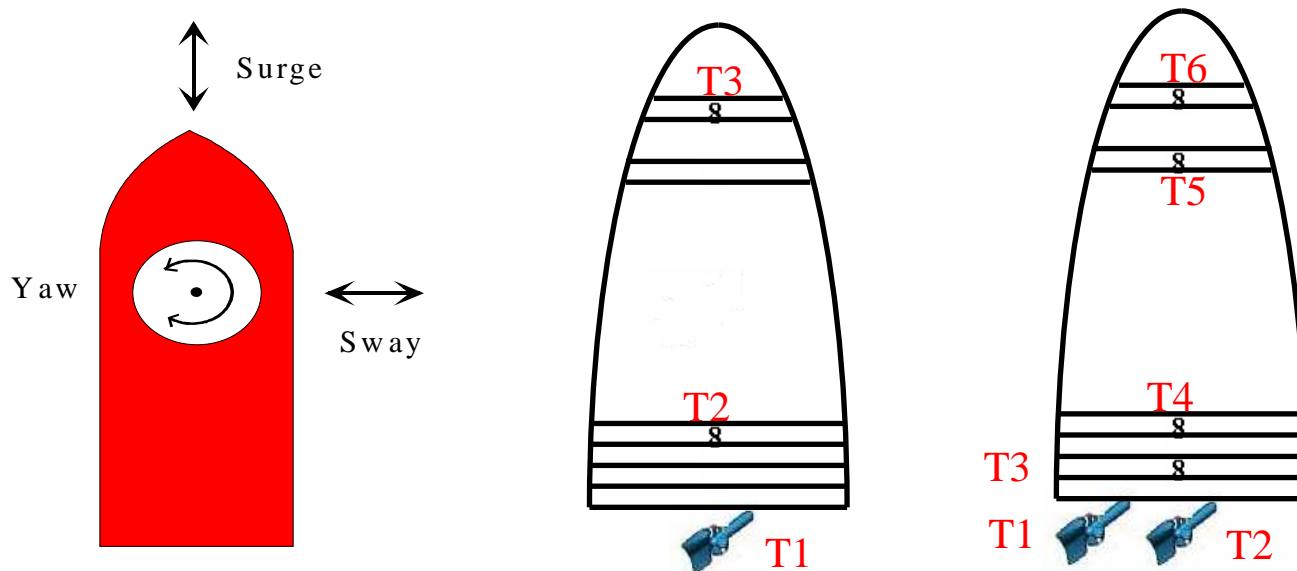
**AZIMUTH
THRUSTER**



AZIP OD

Thruster Systems

- Configuration
 - Must produce transverse and longitudinal thrust, and a yawing moment
 - For AUTR and AUTRO, transverse and longitudinal thrust, and a yawing moment after any single failure



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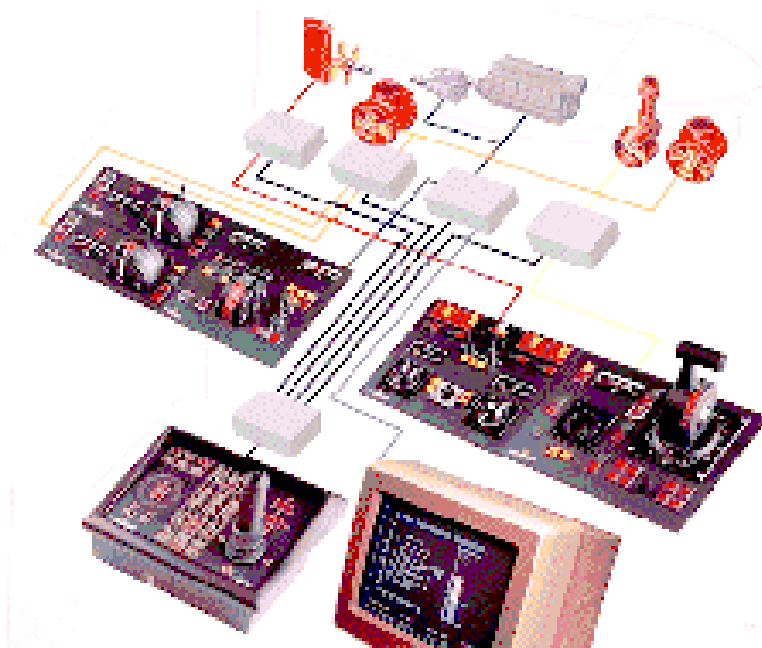
Thruster System

Covered by DNV Rules:

- Thruster with drive units and necessary auxiliary systems including piping
- Thruster control & monitoring
- Cabling and cabling routing (AUTRO)
- Main propellers and rudders if these are under control of the DP-system

Thruster System

- Control
 - Individual manual control of each thruster in the DP control centre
 - Emergency stop system at the DP control position
 - Loop monitoring in the emergency stop system (AUTR and AUTRO)



Dynamic Positioning System

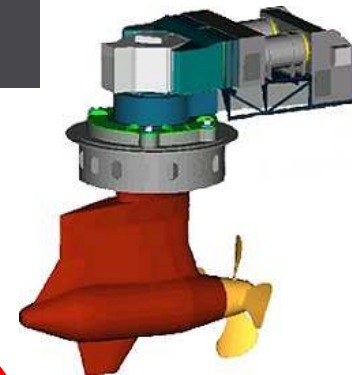
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Power Systems

- General
 - Comply with the relevant rules for main class for all notations
 - For AUTR and AUTRO additional requirements will apply with regard to redundancy and respect to maximum single failure
 - To prevent overloading the power plant, interlocks or thrust limitations are to be arranged



Power Systems

- Main and Distribution Switchboards
 - For notations AUTR (Class 2) and AUTRO (Class 3) no single failure shall give a total black-out.
 - Single failure includes short-circuit of bus-bars
 - A main bus-bar system consisting of at least two sections, with bus-tie or inter-connector breaker(s), are to be arranged



Power Systems

- Power Management System
 - Required for AUTR (Class 2) and AUTRO (Class 3)
 - PMS failure not to cause alternations to the power generation, and is to initiate an alarm in the DP-control centre
 - Possible to operate the switchboards in manual as required for the main class, with the PMS disconnected
 - Overload, caused by the stopping of one of or more generators, shall not create a black-out
- PMS functions
 - Load dependent starting of additional generators
 - Block starting of large consumers when there is not adequate running generator capacity, to start up generators as required, and hence to permit requested consumer start to proceed
 - If load dependent stop of running generators is provided, facilities for disconnection of this function is to be arranged

Power Systems

- Control System Power Supply
 - The controller and measuring system are to be powered from UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply)
 - The battery for each UPS is to be able to provide output power for 30 minutes after loss of charger input power at actual load.
 - An alarm is to be initiated when the UPS loses charger input



Failure definitions and Redundancy Concept, AUTR & AUTRO

Single Failure

- Failure definition:
 - An occurrence in a component or system causing one or both of the following:
 - Loss of component or system function
 - Deterioration of functional capability to such an extent that safety of the vessel, personnel, or environment is significantly reduced.
- Normally static components will not be considered to fail if adequate protection is provided. Example: Pipes, manual valves. Exceptions for AUTRO.

Class Notations and Single Failure

- **AUTS and AUT:**

Loss of position may occur in the event of a single failure

- **AUTR:**

Loss of position is not to occur in the event of a single failure. Certain exceptions will be allowed in the definition of single failure. Flooding and fire is not to be considered beyond main class requirements and failure of non-moving components, e.g. pipes, manual valves, etc. may not need to be considered.

- **AUTRO:**

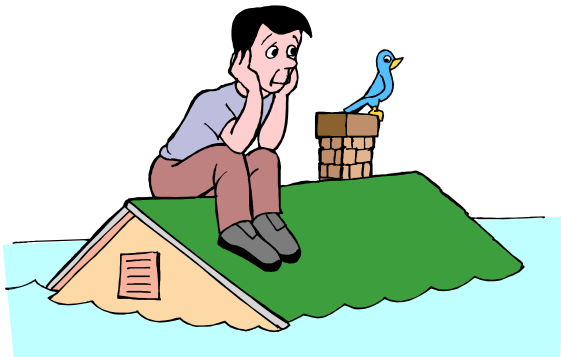
Loss of position is not to occur in the event of a single failure. The definition of single failure has no exceptions, and shall include incidents of fire and flooding. Loss of stability (e.g. as a result of flooding) is not a relevant failure mode for DP.

Single Failure AUTR

- Any active component or system has to be considered to fail.
Examples:
 - Components for mechanical transfer of energy, e.g. pumps, fans, electric motors, generators, combustion engines. Short-circuit of switchboard bus-bars considered to be a single failure.
 - Coolers, filters, motorised valves, fuel oil tanks, electrical and electronic equipment.
- A single inadvertent act of operation. If such an act is reasonably probable
- Systematic failures or faults that can be hidden until a new fault appears

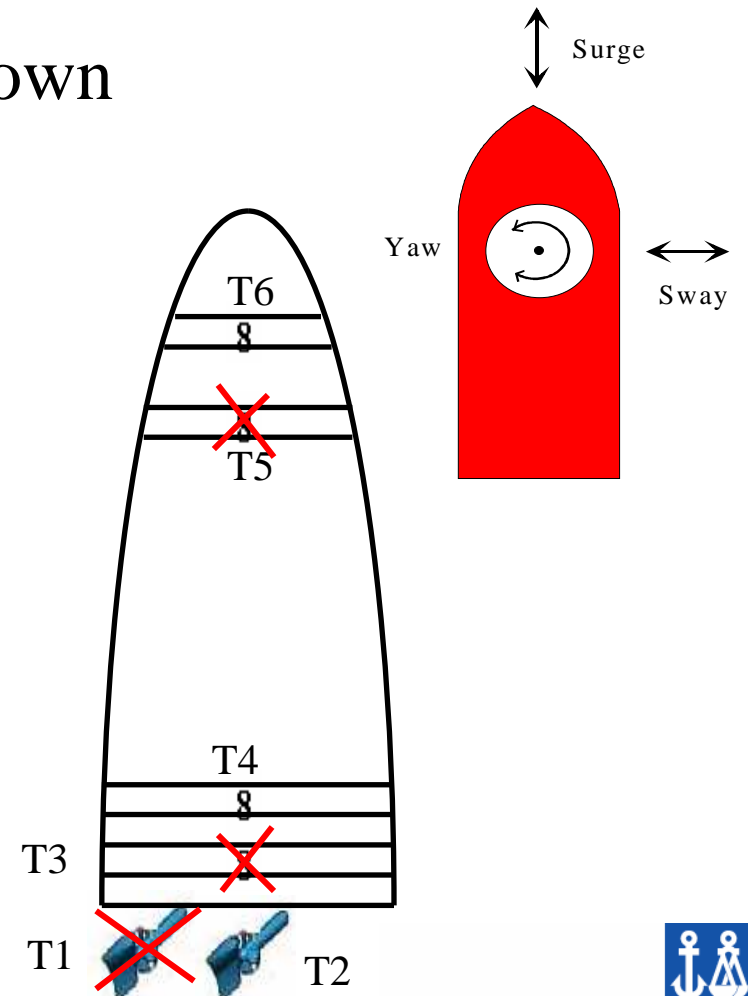
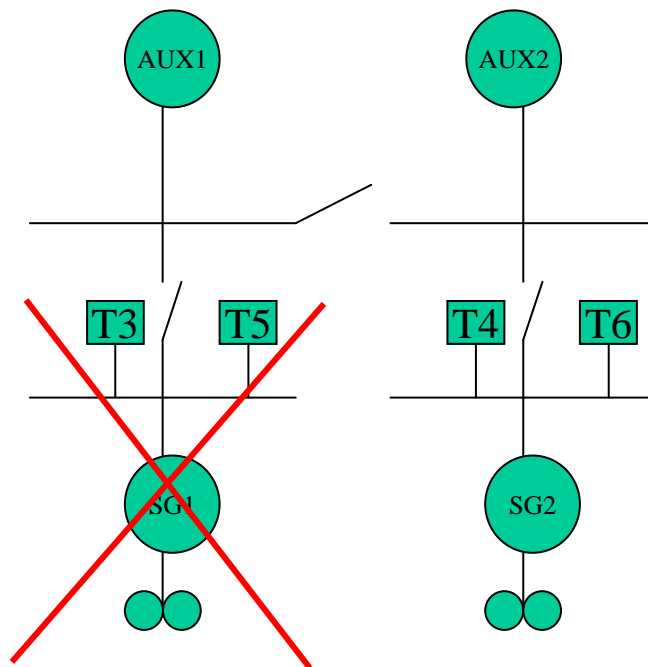
Single Failure AUTRO

- Items listed for AUTR and failure of static components
- All components in any one watertight compartment, from fire and flooding
- All components in any one fire sub-division, from fire and flooding



Single failure

- Example ME No.1 shut-down

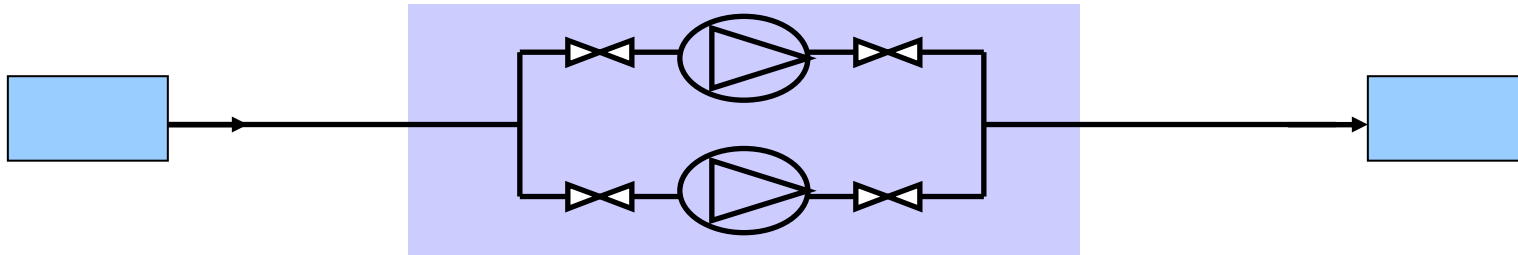


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Redundancy

- The ability of a component or system to maintain or restore its function when one failure has occurred.
- Philosophy: Redundancy can be achieved, for instance, by installation of multiple components, systems or alternative means of performing a function.

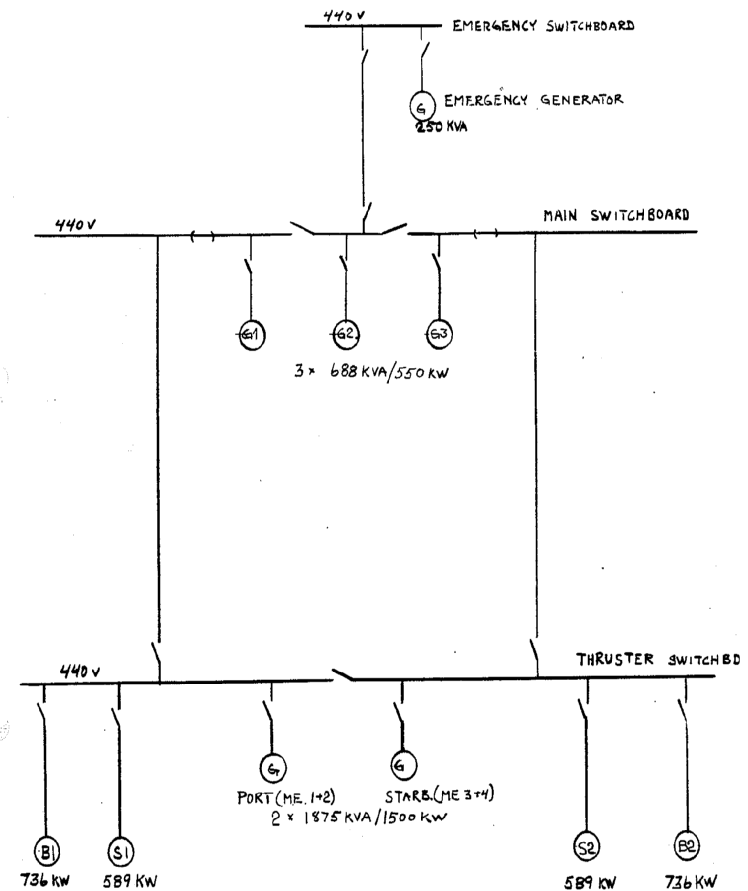
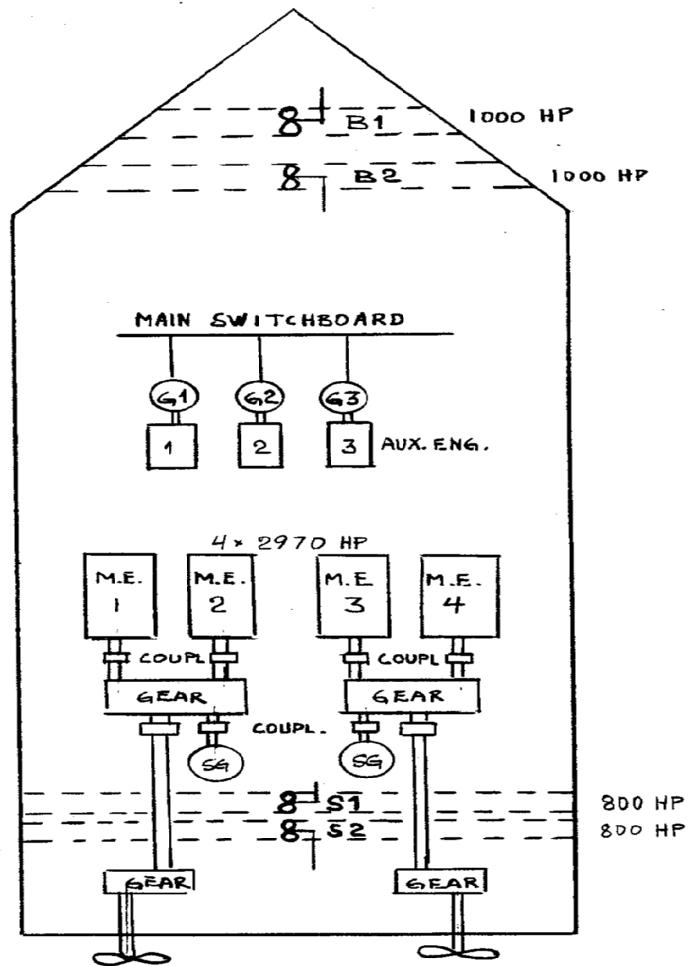


Solutions are not considered to be redundant if they contain single components even if:

- components have proved reliable during the years. 100% availability can never be achieved
- components can be replaced upon failure onboard
- systems can be started after failure. Starting of a generator after black-out is not accepted in this context.

Redundancy is not to reduce the number of failures, but the consequence of failures

Redundancy example



Redundancy

Piping general:

- Fixed piping may be shared by components designed with redundancy for AUTR notation, except for fuel and fresh water piping.
- For AUTRO notation separate piping is to be arranged for systems designed with redundancy

Piping spesial:

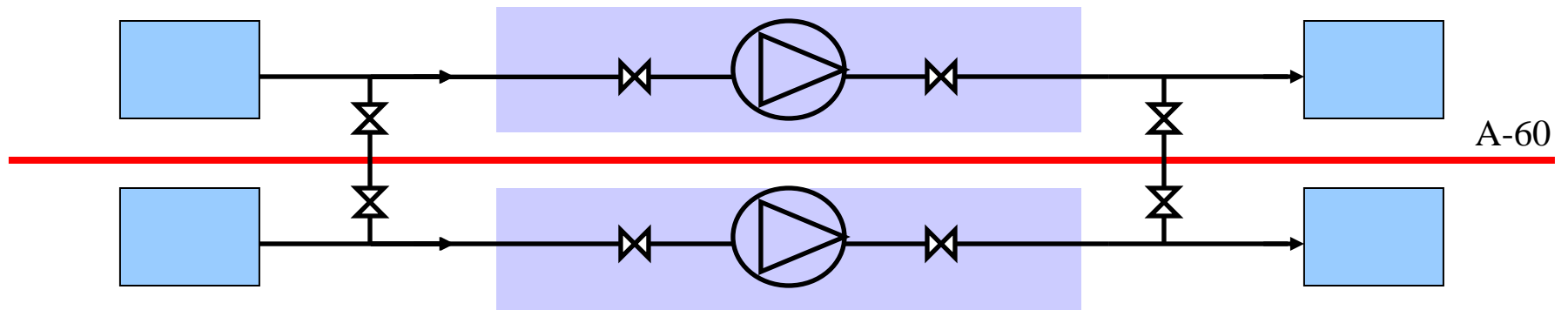
- Fuel system
 - Is to be arranged as fully separated systems for AUTR and with separation for AUTRO notation
 - At least one service tank to each dedicated system
- Cooling water
 - Fresh water cooling systems are to be arranged with full separation between systems designed with redundancy

Redundancy

- Lubricating oil system
 - Usually no problem since the systems are usually separated
- Compressed air
 - Instrument air may be required redundant if running machinery is dependent of instrument air.
 - A starting air system in compliance with main class will usually be acceptable also for AUTR and AUTRO notation (Starting of an engine is not accepted as a part of the redundancy concept for AUTR and AUTRO notation.)
- Ventilation
 - For AUTRO separate ducting systems is required between systems designed with redundancy

Separation (AUTRO)

- Physical separation by installation of equipment in two different compartments.
 - Separation by bulkheads which are to be fire-insulated by A60 class division, and in addition are to be watertight if below the damage waterline.



- Normally closed cross over valves on both sides of the bulkhead is accepted.

Documentation/Certification

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Documentation/Certification

- Control system must be DNV certified, also independent Joystick system.
- Thrusters must be certified as DP thrusters = propulsion thrusters (100% continuous output)
- Power Management System must be DNV certified. Sometimes included in switchboard certificate.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTATION:

- Most documentation requirements are usually covered by the manufacturer's document package, submitted in conjunction with certification.
- Electrical load calculation during dynamic positioning operation. For vessels with the notations DYNPOS-AUTR and DYNPOS-AUTRO the load calculations shall also reflect the situation after the maximum single failure(s). Normally part of the power consumption balance document required for main class.
- For vessels with the notation DYNPOS-AUTRO:
 - cable routing layout drawing
 - fire and flooding separation arrangement

Documentation

- Drawings showing the physical arrangement and location of all key components in the DP-control centre. GA drawing for bridge can be used. For notation DYNPOS-AUTRO only, drawings showing the physical arrangement and location of all key components in the emergency DP-control centre.
- Failure mode and effect analysis (FMEA), for vessels with the notations DYNPOS-AUTR and DYNPOS-AUTRO. Will be explained on separate sheet.
- ERN calculation = position holding performance. Will be explained on separate slides
- Program(s) for tests and trials
- If external systems such as sensors (gyro's, position reference systems etc.) or thruster control mode switch is not supplied by the DP manufacturer, additional documentation will be required from the Yard.



ERN

Environmental Regularity Numbers

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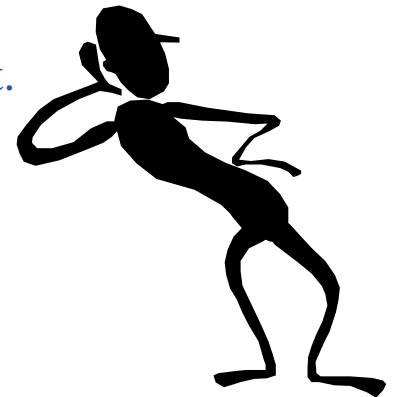


Environmental Regularity Numbers

- Represent
 - The static balance of environmental forces and thruster output
 - The “percentage” chance that the ship will be capable of maintaining its position
- Calculations
 - Based on weather statistics from the North Sea
 - Case situation with regard to direction of the weather (usually at the beam = worst case)
 - Only single failure thruster failures are considered
 - Not related to redundancy
- Represented by three numbers ERN(a, b, c) ranging from 0-99
 - Optimal use of all thrusters (rudders not included) (a)
 - Minimum effect of single thruster failure (b)
 - Maximum effect of single thruster failure (c)

ERN

- General information
 - The ERN evaluation is restricted to thruster application within the limits of available power; that is one of the ground rules of the ERN concept
 - The ERN is to be based upon the thrust output that is under control, in the most efficient mode
 - ERN usually submitted by DP manufacturer or external consultant.
 - DNV can calculate ERN as consultancy service.



ERN

- Necessary documentation to do a ERN-calculation

- Particulars of the vessel

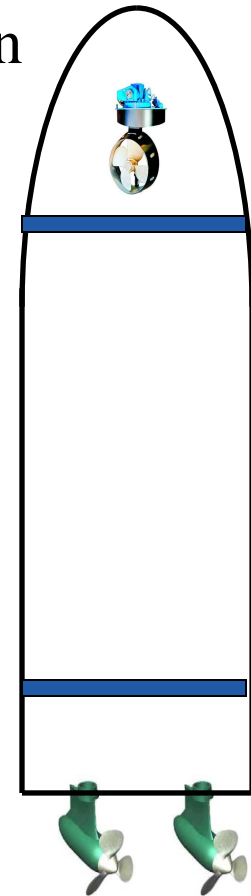
- L_{pp}
 - L_{oa}
 - Breadth
 - Depth
 - Front and abeam wind exposed area
 - Front and abeam submerged area

Can be submitted in form of a GA drawing in scale.

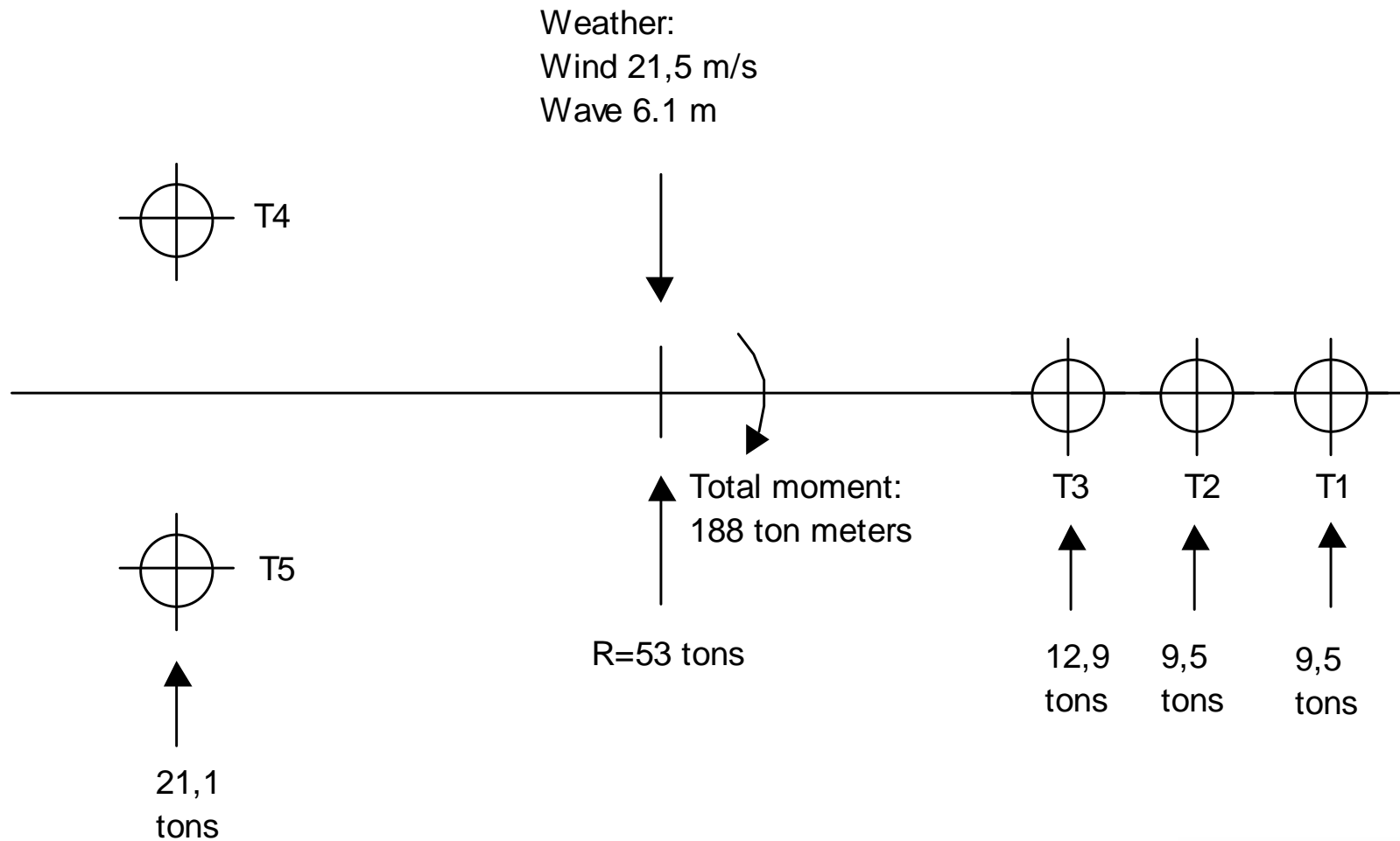
- Thruster configuration

- Thruster type, tunnel, azimuth, conventional propeller and rudder
 - Power
 - Maximum thrust

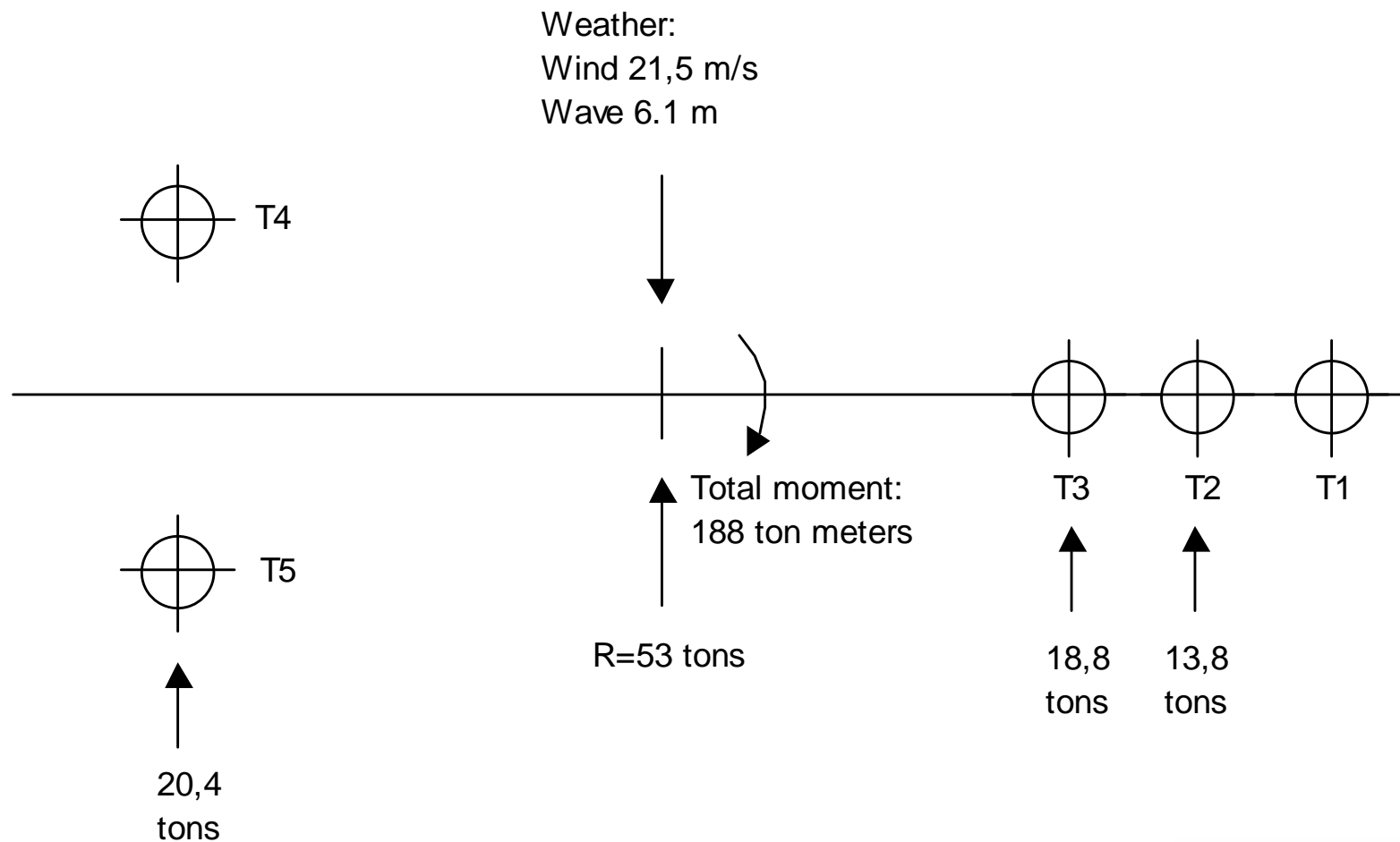
- Possible power limitations



ERN (first number)



ERN (third number)



FMEA

Failure Mode and Effect Analysis

FMEA- Failure Mode and Effect Analysis

- Required for class notations AUTR and AUTRO
- The main purpose is to assist in the assessment of the redundancy of the DP system
- Show that the position keeping ability is maintained after a single failure
- Assumption: Everything that can fail, will fail
- An ongoing process starting at the first design review and continue throughout the lifetime of the ship
- The FMEA should be a complete document including all necessary drawings and descriptions

FMEA- Failure Mode and Effect Analysis

- Description of FMEA systematic may be found in IEC Publication 60812 and IMO HSC Code, Annex 4.
- FMEA must contain:
 - system description
 - block diagram of the DP system
 - description of each physically and functionally independent item and the associated failure modes
 - description of the effects of each failure mode on the overall dynamic positioning system.
 - summary, conclusions and recommendations
 - corrective actions
 - operational restrictions

FMEA- Failure Mode and Effect Analysis

The FMEA and test program is often submitted by a consultant/designer.

– FMEA work sheets can be very useful:

Equipment name	Function	Ident. NO	Failure mode	Failure cause	Local failure effect	End failure effect	Failure detection	Alternative provisions	Failure probability	Criticality level	Remarks
Azimuth thruster no.1	Produce thrust in any direction	xxx.xx	Stop	Any mechanical or electrical failure	Stop	Operational	Alarm	Select alternative thruster		II	Loss of a single thruster will not be critical, assuming all others are available
Gyro compass	Heading reference	xxx.xx	Failure of 24V input	24V bus fault	Loss of heading info	Not operational	Alarm	Switch to manual heading control		IV	Heading info is essential, loss of power on bus yyyy is a critical fault

Testing

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Testing

- Test program submitted by manufacturers of DP & Joystick systems. Accuracy of position keeping.
- Offset inputs for each position reference system and relevant sensors in the dynamic position control system should be verified (spin test).
- The capacity of the UPS batteries shall be tested.
- Manual override, it shall always be possible to gain manual control of the thrusters
- Test of signal failures in thruster control cabling, a single failure in the thruster control system shall neither cause significant increase in thrust output nor make the thruster rotate
- A duration test shall be carried out for at least 8 hours with the complete automatic system in operation
- Redundancy tests for DYNPOS-AUTR and DYNPOS-AUTRO. Specific conclusions of the FMEA for the different systems shall be verified by tests.

Testing

- Redundancy tests are extensive and will normally imply:
 - Partial black-out of the main- and emergency switchboards
 - Stop of one or more engines at the time
 - Loss of distribution boards or equipment with dual power supply
 - Loss of (black-out) each battery and UPS distribution.
 - Loss of signals (control, feedback, sensors, reference systems, etc)
 - Dependant on the actual design, other tests might be required. For AUTRO, simulated fire or flooding in areas will be tested.

THE END

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