# WARTSILA LLC SYSTEM EXPLAINED



## 1. Introduction - History

- Wartsilas origins for Electrical and Automation Systems, starts in the 1970s with the supply of electrical distribution to vessels & platforms in the North Sea.
- During the 1990s, vessels operating in the oilfields needed capability for maintaining position with a high degree of accuracy. This in turn increased the demand for thrusters driven by electric motors and as a consequence, operators started to move away from vessels with conventional diesel mechanical propulsion towards diesel electric ones where propulsion engines were displaced by diesel gensets delivering the power to the thruster & vessel hotel load.
- The control of the electric motor is done by a device called a Variable Frequency Drive which controls both frequency and voltage. Thanks to this, both the speed and the power of the motor can be controlled.
- To meet such requirements, specifically for the Marine / Oil and Gas market, Wartsila developed their own range of Low Voltage Variable Frequency Drives starting from 800 kWe going up to 5500 kWe.
- These drives are avialable in 2 formats: Active Front End and Passive Rectifier.
- The success of such drives lead to the development of Wartsilas Medium Voltage drive which is rated for up to 10 MW for installations requiring much higher electric motor powers.



## 1. Introduction - Design Approach

Working with vessel owners and ship designers, Wartsila established 4 principle requirements which later became the cornerstone for Wartsilas approach to the design of the drive and the distribution of energy on the vessel:

## 1. Compact with small foot print

Space being a premium on vessels, the drive had to be as compact as possible. Working on the pacakging of the power electronics in the drive, Wartsila set about developing a drive to be the smallest available in the marine energy market.

#### Dedicated for Marine

The drive had to meet Classification Requirements, not require a seperate cooling skid and be capable of using the the fresh water from the ships main cooling system.

## 3. Reliable & easy to maintain

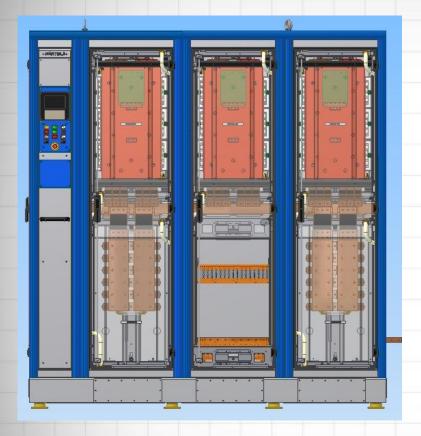
The drive had to be built from proven relaible components and need minimum maintenance. This paved the way for common power modules that in the unlikely event of a failure, could be changed out within 30 minutes by a ships crew. This feature also benefitted the shipyard during vessel construction where the cabinet could be installed early and the power modules being installed as late as possible.

## 4. Efficient & Programmable

Using IGBT technology, the drive should be able to run the e-motor in a wide range of configurations to meet the opertaional requirements of the vessel whilst having the highest efficiency achievable.



# 2. Variable Frequency Drive



Power @ 690V	H mm	W mm	D mm	Wt kg
0,8 MW	2231	900	1000	800
1,5 MW	2231	900	1000	900
2,7 MW	2231	1500	1000	1400
3,8 MW	2231	2100	1000	1900
5,5 MW	2231	2700	1000	2300

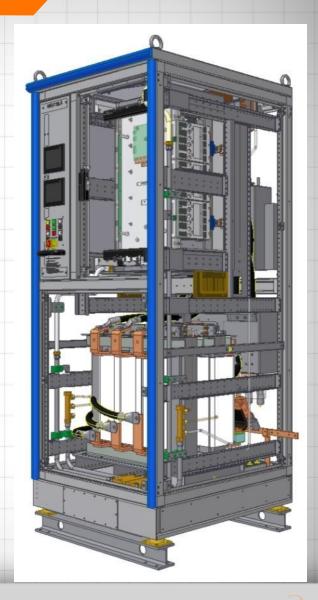
- Fault in one converter will not effect the other converters due to our own developed DC breakers based on Wartsila transistor technology
- Regenerated power can be used by one of the other converters
- Option for AFE available on all models



# 2. Variable Frequency Drive

## Features:

- Very compact design
- Interchangeable modules. Modules used in Active rectifier are the same as for motor inverter
- Critical parts that are used in Active rectifier are the same as used in Passive rectifier.
- Competitive cost
- Connected to ship fresh water cooling system
- All knowledge and "know-how" are in-house
- High efficiency and reliability





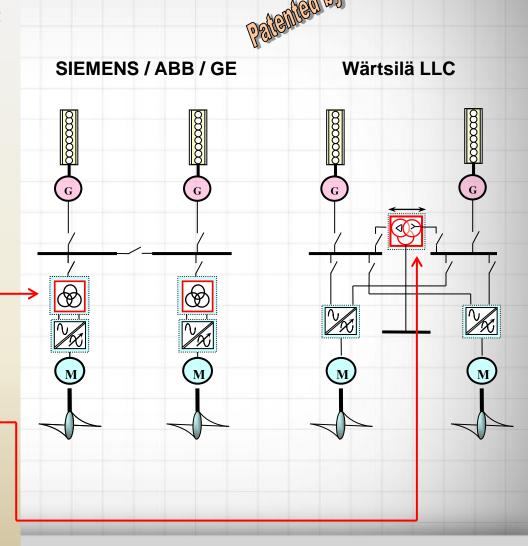
# 3. System Design

- Throughout the development phase, owners & operators reinforced their need for vessels that could be equipped with electrical distribution having robust components with the lowest installation cost but also offer highest possible availability for DP operations in the North Sea.
- Wartsila focused the next development phase of integrating the drive into the electrical distribution system whilst keeping the core values of the operators and owners in mind : -
  - Small foot print
  - Lower Losses to give optimum fuel efficiency
  - High Availability and Redundancy
  - Low Cost 4.
- Meeting the smallest footprint of the total system with the maximum flexibility for installing the equipment inside vessel would also be an advantage for the Ship Designer since this would free up space inside the vessel that could otherwise be used for equipment and services required for meeting the owners specification.
- The logical next step was to focus the system design around the drive with the smallest footprint but not forgetting most importantly that all frequency drives by their inherent nature, create unwanted harmonics onto the ships electrical network.



# 3. System Design

- Frequency drives by their inherent nature (for all manufacturers) create unwanted harmonics that are thrown into the electrical network / bus.
- Harmonics cause disturbances for the network and loads, and impair the performance of the vessel. They should be reduced to an absolute mininmim so that the Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) has no influence on the ships operation.
- The most common way of reducing harmonics is to place a 12 pulse transformer between the frequency drive and the switchboard. One transformer for every drive is required.
- Along the way, Wartsila devised an ingenious way to over come this problem by splitting the distribution bus into 2 sections and placing the transfomer between the 2 buses = Low Loss Concept ( LLC ).
- This gives a total reduction in transformers
  (lower footprint) for installations with more than
  2 x drives connected (often the case).





# 3. System Design

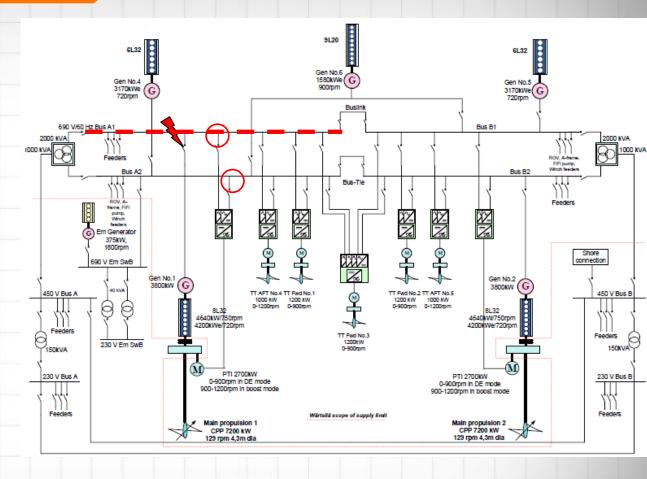
Where more than 2 x drives are installed, the advantge for reduced no.s of transformers becomes even more important.

As shown in the SLD, the total number of drives = 6 + 2 = 8.

A conventional system would require 8 x transformers where as with LLC, only 2 are required.

Fewer transformers = less electrical losses in the system hence lower fuel consumption for any given engine configuration.

Real estate on the vessel is saved thanks to less installed equipment.



As power distribution is split into 2 x equal top and bottom sections with the drive connected to both, 50% of the power comes from 1 source with the other 50% coming from the other. This means that in the case of <u>failure in one of the switchboards</u>, the drive can continue to operate unaffected albeit with reduced power.



# Case Study LLC for VS 485 PSV Mark III





# 4. Case Study (LLC for VS 485 PSV Mk III)

The following part of the presentation will show how the benefits of the LLC system were featured in the Ship Design VS485 MkIII.

#### Benefits were: -

- Smaller foot print and hence design optimistaion of the vessel
- Lower weight of total installed equipment
- Fewer electrical losses & hence reduced fuel consumption
- THD below class limits
- Choice for owner to have: -
  - Higher redundancy & ERN no. compared to other systems on the market with same power installed

or

Reduced amount of installed power to achieve equivalent DP plot when ii. compared to other systems on the market



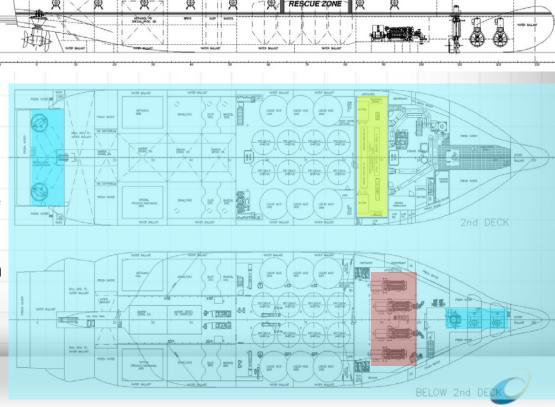
# 4. VS 485 PSV – General Arrangement

## **Significant** savings in space and weight

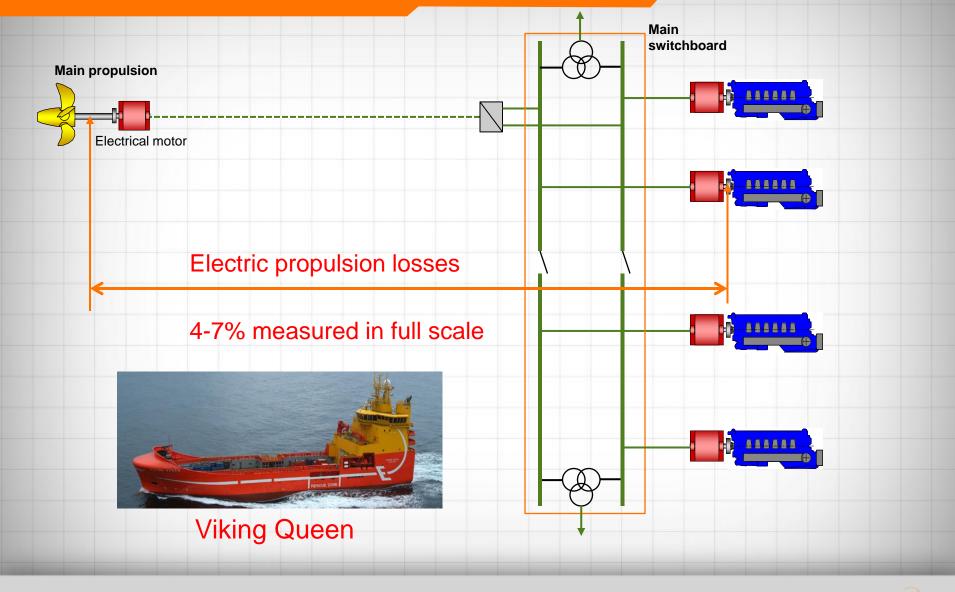
- No transformers/converters in propulsion area
- Low voltage system makes more flexible switchboard room
- Less components saves weight

## Easier and safer operation

- Centralised placing enables easy and secure commissioning, operation, control and maintenance
- Lower Short circuit level
- Total harmonic distortion lower than 5%



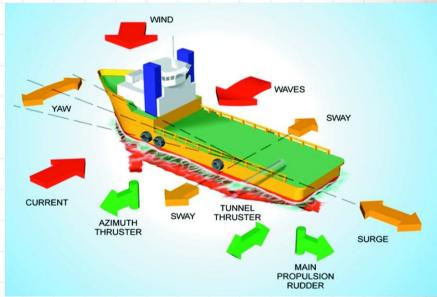
# 4. Wärtsilä LLC – Measured Losses





# 5. Environmental Regularity Number (ERN)

- ERN is a method developed to rate a vessels station keeping capability during Dynamic Positioning
- ERN consist of four numbers ranging "the probable regularity for keeping position in a defined area"
- ERN number is based on wind speed and wave height impacting on worst angle on the vessel
- Format : ERN (a,b,c,d)
  - a: Optimal use of all thrusters
  - b: Minimum effect of a single thruster failure
  - c: Maximum effect of a single thruster failure
  - d: The effect of the worst case single failure
- Highest possible ERN rating: (99,99,99,99)
- Required ERN impacts on size and number of gensets and propulsors





## 5. LLC impact on ERN

## LLC gives lowest impact of worst case single failure

→ Highest 4<sup>th</sup> ERN number = highest DP capability in case of single failure

## What does this mean for the vessel:

Less installed power and thrusters are needed to achieve same performance in case of single failure

or

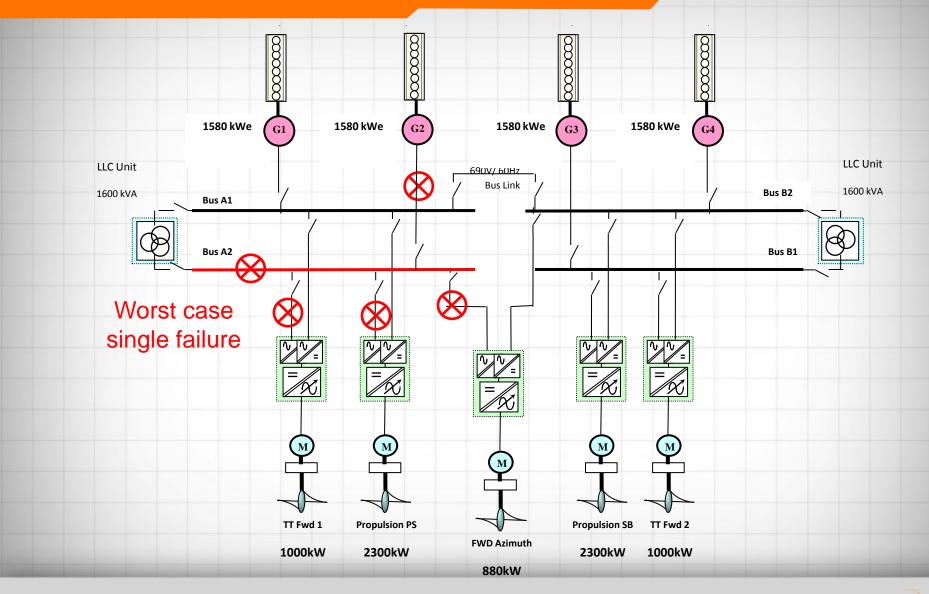
Higher performance with same machinery as Non LLC Solutions

## **Advantages:**

- Less installed power → higher loading of engines = better efficiency & lower emissions
- Less gensets in operation → higher loading for better efficiency & less accumulated running hours= less maintenance
- Reduced sizes of thrusters



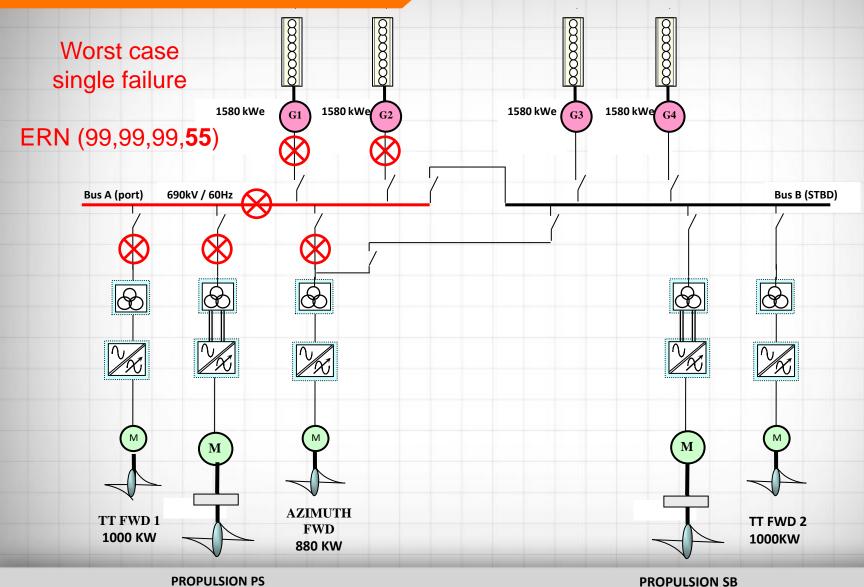
# 5. Wärtsilä LLC – ERN (99,99,99,99)





15 © Wärtsilä

# 5. Conventional 2-split system

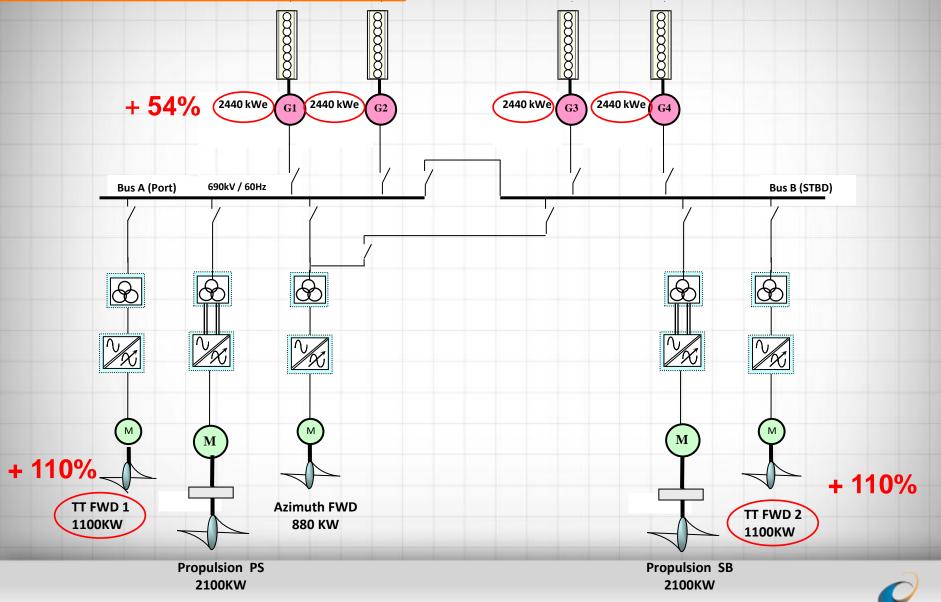




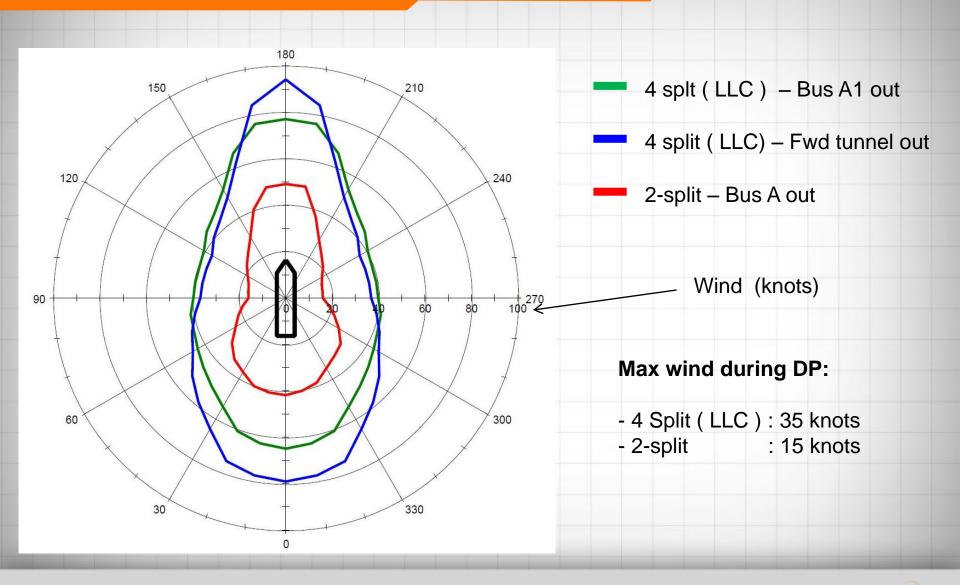
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2300KW

# 5. ERN (99,99,99,99) with 2-split system



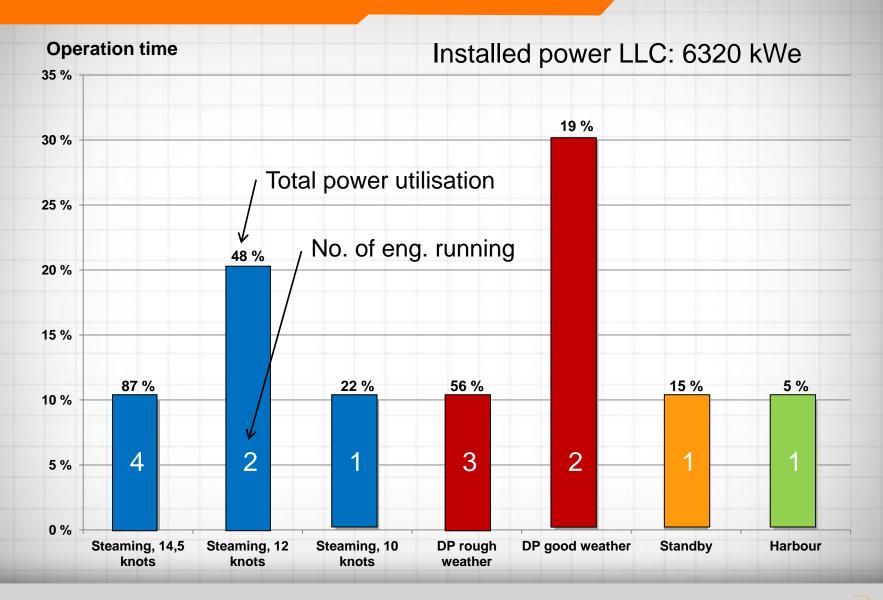
## 5. Alternative method - DP Plots





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# 6. Typical PSV Operation Profile

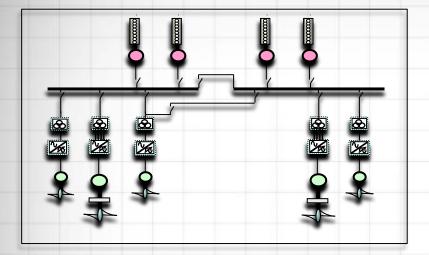




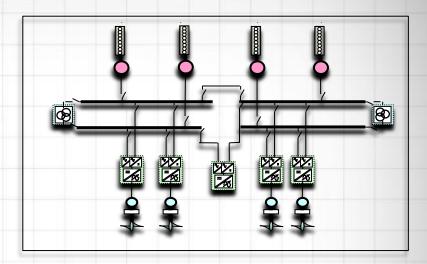
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# 6. Comparison of fuel consumption

2- Split SWB - 9760 kWe



Wärtsilä LLC - 6320 kWe



4000 t/year

3700 t/year (- 9%)

- 9% fuel saving and reduced emissions caused by:
  - Reduced electric losses in the Wärtsilä LLC
  - More optimum (higher) individual engine loads during operation (gives better fuel efficiency)



# 7. Reference LLC & ERN (99,99,99,99)



VS 485 PSV MK III for Vestland Offshore



VS 485 PSV MK III L for Atlantic Offshore



VS 4412 PSV DF for Remøy Shipping



VS 4411 PSV DF for Siem Offshore



# 8. Why Select Wartsila LLC? (1/3)

#### i. High redundancy – High availability – Reduced Power plant installation

- Redundancy AUTRO switchboard individual 4 parts, a single switchboard failure reduce propulsion to 75%, all propellers running
- Any fault gives minimum operational consequences
- Due to less consequences of major faults, the required maximum power plant capacity can be reduced according to DP requirements

## Instant power restoration – superb electric dynamic qualities

- All transformers remain connected during blackout, enables instant restart of frequency converters after blackout
- Network disturbances (voltage or frequency) are dampened by the LLC transformers connected in series

## iii. THD - Total Harmonic Distortion

LLC transformer size(kVA) and impedance (apprx 3%) to secure a max THD of 5%



# 8. Why Select Wartsila LLC? (2/3)

## iv. Safer operation

- Centralized location of the vital equipment (in one room) enables easy and secure commissioning, operation, control and maintenance
- A significantly reduced short circuit level increases personnel safety, also added safety by arc detection device

#### Significant savings in space and weight ٧.

- No transformers / converters in propulsion area, more cargo room available
- Low voltage system allows a more flexible compact switchboard room
- Less and smaller components saves weight when LV components can be chosen instead of MV components

## vi. Fuel savings

- Power feed directly from generators to converters saves fuel. Eliminates transformer losses
- Total electric losses reduced to 5,5-7%, which is 2-3% lower than competing concepts



# 8. Why Select Wartsila LLC ? (3/3)

## vii. Short circuit current limitation

 LLC transformer facilitate reduction of generator contribution and peak sc-current, by 15-20% compared to other solid busbar solutions

## viii. Redundant power generation - load transfer

 The power of one generator to be transferred across the LLC transformer enabling optimal and a "free" choice of generators to be running

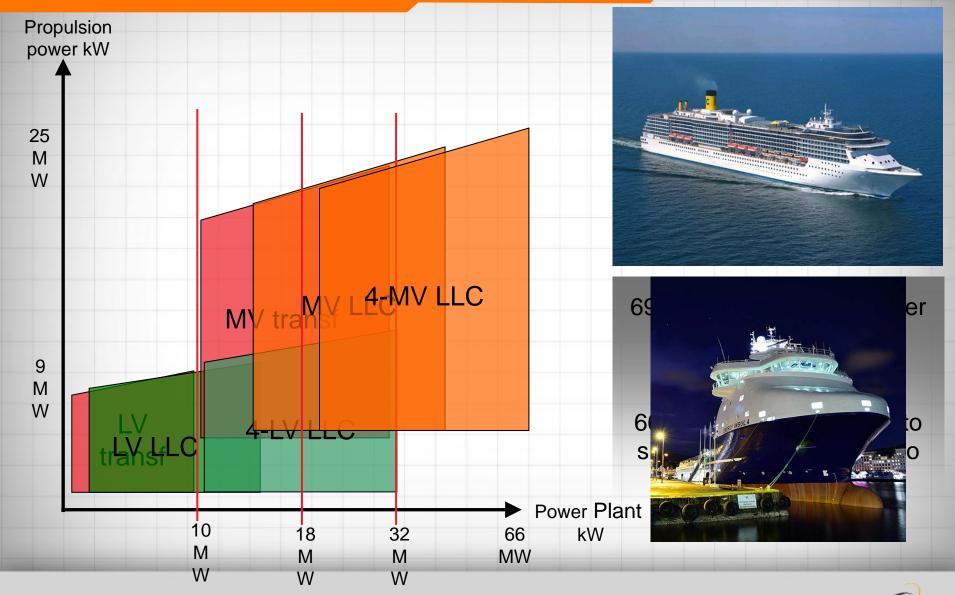
## ix. Increased network stability

 Transformer impedances reduces the impact of a large failure in the network, such as major voltage disturbances (Short circuit on or close to the main busbar) or frequency oscillations

2006 to 2014 - 115 Systems Sold



# 9. Wärtsilä LLC – Concept & Power Rnge



# Thankyou for your attention WÄRTSILÄ

