

# WÄRTSILÄ PROPULSION CONTROLS UPGRADES

Maximise the reliability  
and lifespan of your  
transverse and steerable  
thruster controls system



All vessels need a safe, reliable and easy-to-use control system for manoeuvring – but after years of use, the elements of any system will deteriorate and spare parts become scarce or even obsolete. This can lead to unplanned maintenance, high operational costs and off-hire. In answer to these challenges, Wärtsilä's propulsion controls upgrades for transverse thrusters (TTs) and steerable thrusters (STTs) maximise vessel uptime and reduce operating costs while ensuring reliable performance.

#### Technical concept

TTs and STTs are frequently used in oil rigs, offshore supply vessels and special vessels – all places where equipment reliability and availability are critical. However, contacts and capacitors will deteriorate over time due to factors such as moisture, humidity, vibration and temperature. This leads to rising operational costs resulting from investigation of failures along with high spare-part costs. Spare parts for older systems will also eventually become obsolete and out of stock, meaning unscheduled repairs often take longer.

Wärtsilä's propulsion controls upgrades for TTs and STTs vary from an in-cabinet solution via a standard retrofit to a complete customer retrofit. Wärtsilä thrusters are supplied with propulsion controls systems that also include the bridge interface. We can provide a range of control upgrades according to your vessel's lifecycle. The replacement propulsion control system is quick, easy and safe to install, keeping downtime to a minimum.

#### KEY BENEFITS

- Offers full support for the entire control system lifecycle
- Ensures reliable thruster control with trouble-free operation
- Ensures the latest technology is used whenever possible
- Offers access to the same control system as new builds
- Enables functionality add-ons during retrofitting, including adapting to e.g. changes to vessel profile
- Improves fuel efficiency



### A lifecycle approach

Wärtsilä's lifecycle strategy supports customers with solutions for spare parts, upgrades and full retrofits during the vessel's lifetime. Wärtsilä propulsion controls upgrades for TTs and STTs encompass a variety of services and upgrades based on the vessel lifecycle. The service consists of a three-stage approach:

1. Parts services
2. Midlife (in-cabinet) upgrades
3. Control system replacement

Initially, Wärtsilä maintains sufficient stocks of replacement components for the first 10 years of the product lifecycle. As electronic components are always subject to obsolescence, Wärtsilä strives to offer direct replacements wherever possible and upgrade kits with the latest technology when required. At any point, customers can purchase a replacement control system with equivalent or customised functionality.

### Scope of supply

The scope of supply will depend on the kind of upgrade or service being offered, which in turn is based on the lifecycle stage. The upgrades range from standard equipment to fully customised options and are also compatible with third-party thruster control systems. Regardless of the generation of control system you are currently operating, we have a solution that fits.

An example scope is an in-cabinet solution where the original controllers and input/output are replaced with the latest hardware and technology. The advantage of an in-cabinet solution is that it doesn't require replacement of the existing cabinet, saving time and costs.

This service also covers obsolescence management of starter and variable-speed drives, grid power capacity and operational management, and starting current and harmonic distortion management.

### Why choose Wärtsilä?

Wärtsilä is a leading supplier to the marine industry with a global service and support network. Wärtsilä supports its customers throughout the entire lifecycle of the supplied equipment, and we strive to maximise the useable life of our customers' equipment investments. Wärtsilä can provide thruster services for planned inspections or in case of emergencies. We can also take full responsibility for the maintenance of your vessel's propulsion equipment for its entire lifecycle.



