

PRESS INFORMATION



No embargo

“Energy Observer” fits Bruntons Autoprop Eco*Star propellers

The first vessel to be self-sufficient in energy, “Energy Observer”, recently completed her first trans-Atlantic passage with high praise given to her newly fitted Bruntons Autoprop Eco*Star propellers. The propellers replaced the vessels original four blade fixed pitch propellers and have been partly responsible for a significant improvement in her performance since a refit was carried out last winter.

Energy Observer has also been fitted with two Oceanwings to further enhance her energy saving abilities; a change which turned her overnight from a purely power driven vessel to a kind of motor sailor, even though the surface of each automatic wing is only 30 m². It was also obvious to the team running the project that fitting propellers more suited to a motor sailing vessel would offer considerable further improvements, increasing the vessels speed by reducing propeller drag when sailing and optimising hydro-generation.

After exploring the available options the Energy Observer team took the decision to fit Eco*Stars, assessing them as being the best option to work with the crafts new “wings”. They are delighted with the results; “The wings and new propellers, in particular, enabled the boat to reach 14 knots in heavy seas.”

Autoprop Eco*Stars work by using their unique auto pitching abilities to match the constant torque that the electric motors provide throughout their rev range. This ensures that the craft is always obtaining the most efficient propulsion in terms of propulsive energy and economy and both at the same time. When purely sailing, and if maximum speed is not essential, the Eco*Stars can be left to turn in the vessels wake providing additional charging for the batteries.

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About Energy Observer. (Information supplied by Energy Observer)



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Energy Observer is the first energy self-sufficient vessel, with zero CO₂ emissions, zero fine particles, and zero noise, producing its own hydrogen onboard from seawater using a mix of renewable energies. This vessel of the future has already traveled more than 20,000 nautical miles around the world.

Designed as a floating laboratory, Energy Observer experiments and validates all sorts of embedded soft mobility innovations. This real floating smart-grid, prefiguring the energy networks of tomorrow, draws its energy from nature without damaging it or wasting its resources.

She sails around the world, stopping in many iconic cities to meet the pioneers of the ecological and solidarity transition, but also elected officials, decision-makers, ship owners and major economic players. Energy Observer demonstrates on a daily basis that fully carbon-free, decentralized and digitized energy has become a reality within everyone's reach, applicable at various scales (remote sites, districts, cities...).

Next to its innovation program, Energy Observer is developing a mission of general interest to help raise awareness on the challenges of the ecological transition among all audiences, through its audio visual productions, exhibitions, and meetings with scientists. Like as a modern day Calypso, the boat and her crew relate their journey around the world, in an original documentary series called, "The Odyssey for the future ". Energy Observer also produces a web-series "Solutions" with a permanent focus on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, allowing as many people as possible to discover new concrete solutions for the future.

Energy Observer has received the High Patronage of Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic. French ambassador for the UN's sustainable development goals, supported by the Ministry for Ecological and Inclusive Transition, UNESCO, the European Union, Irena, Ademe, and all the institutions concerned with ecology, Energy Observer is the inspiring and positive voice of the vital ecological transition.

More information can be obtained from the Energy Observer website at:-

<https://www.energy-observer.org/>

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The Autoprop Eco*Stars on Energy Observer

Below is an image of one of Energy Observers two Eco*stars



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Download a higher resolution image here:-

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/90rlux7bwynsh3n/Autoprop%20on%20Energy%20Observer%201.jpg?dl=0>

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