

Press release

15 December 2023

Scandlines electrifies Fehmarn Belt link

In recent years, Scandlines has cemented its position as a green frontrunner with a wide range of initiatives, an investment in a new zero direct emissions freight ferry and ambitions to make the Puttgarden-Rødby route emission-free by 2030 and realise the zero direct emissions vision by 2040. Now the ferry operator electrifies two ferries on the Fehmarn Belt.

Climate and environmental issues have long had top priority on Scandlines' agenda. As early as 2013, the ferry company invested in hybrid ferries with battery banks, and in 2024 the first zero direct emissions ferry Futura will be deployed on the Puttgarden-Rødby route. Only six years later, in 2030, the ambition is to operate the entire route without direct emissions. With the objective of making the entire company emission-free by 2040, Scandlines is setting itself higher targets than the COP28 agreement, which aims for transition away from fossil fuels and zero emissions by 2050.

Scandlines closely monitors technological developments and continuously optimises its ferry operations in terms of energy efficiency. Since 2013, the company has invested more than EUR 400 million in green technology such as new hybrid ferries for the Rostock-Gedser route, rotor sails and new centre propeller blade for the Rostock-Gedser ferries, new highly efficient and low-noise thrusters for the Puttgarden-Rødby ferries and algae-repellent silicone paint, which saves energy compared to conventional types of bottom paint.

Scandlines is now taking the next big step on the green journey, converting two of the four passenger ferries operating the Puttgarden-Rødby route into plug-in ferries so that they can charge green power both in Puttgarden and Rødby. On average, the batteries of the ferries will be charged in just 12 minutes with at least 80 percent of the energy needed for a crossing.

To make this possible in just 12 minutes, Scandlines is investing in the following:

- Large energy storage system on board both ferries
- Charging facilities on board
- Solar panels on board both ferries

The total investment in electrification of the Fehmarn Belt ferries amounts to EUR 31 million. The German Ministry of Transport has awarded the project financial support as part of a funding programme covering sustainable modernisation of coastal vessels to reduce emissions, covering up to 40 percent of the conversion costs.

Scandlines expects to sign a contract on the conversion in early 2024. Subject to the final delivery time of equipment, the ferries will be converted in the beginning of 2024 till 2025. Thus, Scandlines is well on the way to achieving its vision of making the Puttgarden-Rødby route emission-free by 2030. Already in 2030, Scandlines will have reduced the company's total direct CO₂ emissions by around 60 percent compared to 2008. The goal remains zero direct emissions for the entire company in 2040.

"We are now electrifying two of our Fehmarn Belt ferries and moving much closer to our goal of making the route emission-free in Scope 1 by 2030. This is what our customers want, and it will significantly strengthen our competitiveness. The combination of our unparalleled reliability, continued investment in our unique green profile as well as the tailored traffic machine and excellent retail offerings, forms a competitive foundation for our business, also ahead of the planned opening of the Fehmarn Belt fixed link," says Scandlines CEO Carsten Nørland.

Data on Scandlines' electrification project:

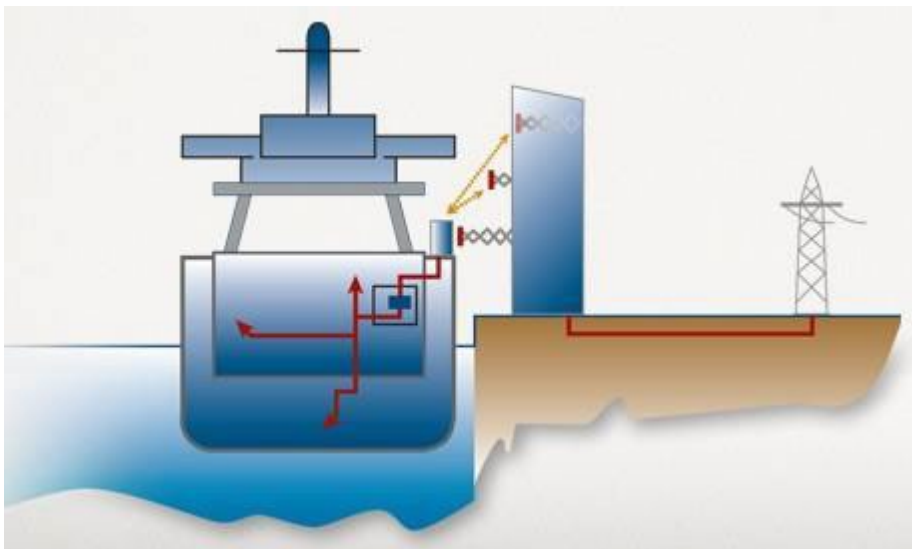
Electrification of two of the four passenger ferries operating the Puttgarden-Rødby route

Service speed: 18.5 knots

On-board energy storage system: 10 MWh on both ferries

Charging in port (Puttgarden and Rødby): 12 minutes

Investment: EUR 31 million



About Scandlines

Scandlines is a modern and innovative ferry operator with a green vision for the future. We have a proud culture based on strong German-Danish cooperation and maritime history dating back to 1872.

Scandlines operates two ferry routes with high capacity and frequency. Six of our ferries are hybrid ferries, and two are furthermore fitted with an innovative rotor sail – and that contributes to making our ferries greener.

Our core business is to provide an efficient and reliable transport service for both passengers and freight customers. The focus for all our activities – on board the ferries as well as in our BorderShops – is to give our customers a great experience.

With more than 38,000 departures on seven ferries, Scandlines in 2021 transported over 3.6 million passengers, 950,000 cars and around 720,000 freight units on the routes Puttgarden-Rødby and Rostock-Gedser.

Read more about Scandlines at www.scandlines.com. High-resolution press photos can be downloaded [here](#).

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