



Engagement

AutoFerry.eu: Autonomous Ferry for Coastal Passengers Commuting

Countries	Project value (€)	% by EPSILON	€ by EPSILON	Engagement	Funding by	Date	Partners
CY, DE, MT, GR, UK, EL, ES	9.600.000	6%	480.000	HORIZON	EU	31.01.2018	DANAOS,ATLANTEC, AVIONTEK,BALANCE, ENGITEC, EPSILON, MND GR, LR, METIS, NTUA,NEPTUN, NOKIA, PPA, RAYTHEON, SIEMENS, TSI, TWI,UoS

Description

The Autonomous shipping industry is under extensive research in Europe with promising results. Driven by automation, the maritime community studies issues surrounding autonomous ships, acknowledging their significant potential impact on ship design, maritime efficiency and safety, and the overall economy. Most of the RTD focuses on remote operations of large vessels in open seas, while limited advances have been made for small autonomous passenger ships or commuter ferries.



EPSILON and the AUTOFERRY Consortium have invested in a proposal for a passenger ferry for commercialization via an EEIG that will operate a registered Passenger AutoFerry (50+ passengers) for short sea coast-to-coast commuting and offer a testbed for RTD and business cases after project closure.

AUTOFERRY comprised a range of autonomous-driven technological and societal innovations. To realize such a holistic approach for automation, AutoFerry was aimed to advance:

- Eco-vessel perception through the implementation of novel sensors and systems for vessel surveillance.
- Connectivity solutions among ships and between ships and the infrastructure.
- Infrastructure capabilities by installing sensors (and performing data fusion) to monitor ship movements and provide shared decision support for traffic, along with cybersecurity mechanisms to verify the accuracy and integrity of transmitted data.

Outcome

EPSILON and the Consortium proposed to:

- Conduct feasibility analysis, design /engineering, and manufacturing specifications.
- Deliver the ferry according to project specifications, with DANAOS Shipping.
- Conduct Systems Mock-up Tests (pilot-1) in Germany.
- Register and test (pilot-2) the AutoFerry in Greece.
- Transfer ownership of the AutoFerry to the Hellenic Navy for long-term operation on the same commuting route.
- Invite passenger ferry companies to exploit the advantages of AutoFerry.
- Established an EEIG.

