

Propulsion partnership

Two established European companies with a shared vision have come together as one entity and will jointly develop next-generation propulsion solutions

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Italian company Transfluid has acquired IDTechnology, owner of the well-known Bellmarine brand, to expand and develop its range of electric propulsion products.

Transfluid offers a complete range of hybrid and electric propulsion systems and also designs and manufactures permanent magnet electric machines. Bellmarine is a leading Dutch brand in electric propulsion, well established in the European market. Bellmarine will continue to operate from the Netherlands, maintaining its distinctive brand identity. Marien Schoonen, founder of Bellmarine, will continue with the company's mission, focusing on the development of sales and products.

The increasing market demand for alternative propulsion has called for simple, reliable products that meet the needs of customers who are gradually becoming more aware of these new technologies. As Transfluid notes, requests will inevitably continue to grow and it is therefore essential to be prepared and structured in this market, which will become central to the nautical industry of the future.

Transfluid will now be able to offer the market solutions in electric and hybrid powertrains for vehicle, boat and ship applications. The marriage between the two companies enables them to complete the range of solutions, from small or very small power applications with the Bellmarine pure electric propulsion systems, through to higher power applications with the proven range of parallel hybrid solutions from Transfluid.

The Bellmarine portfolio covers hundreds of solutions for private and work boats in the Dutch market. The company aims to expand in worldwide markets with Transfluid's global sales and assistance network.

Through the acquisition, Transfluid also aims to expand into the Netherlands and acquire skills for applications for small power

solutions, in which simplicity and ease of installation are basic requirements to compete on a large scale.

Bellmarine electric propulsion systems are ideal for inland water applications where small power solutions and limited autonomy are required. In addition to cost efficiency, they have a low environmental impact and operate silently and free of vibrations.

Transfluid hybrid solutions combine the flexibility of traditional diesel propulsion with the advantages of electric for applications such as fishing, sailing into protected areas and sailing in ports.

Among the most recent and significant of projects undertaken by the two companies was one for Lovers Canal Cruises in Amsterdam, on several passenger boats (from 15 to 25m in length) equipped with Bellmarine engines from 35-50kW, operating on the picturesque canals in the region. The second was for the Port of London Authority, with a pilot boat equipped with a hybrid propulsion solution from Transfluid providing 300kW of power. The unit propels the boat, which weighs more than 17 tons, up to 15 knots in electric mode for the duration of its



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1. Tourists enjoying the view of Amsterdam on a Lovers Canal Cruise. The boats equipped with Bellmarine engines rated 35-50kW

2. The Port of London Authority placed its order for the pilot boat, driven by a Transfluid hybrid system (300kW), back in June



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