Innovative Danube Vessel:
Innovative vessel and technology solutions with high potential for implementation

- Study commissioned by PAC 1a (via donau) on behalf of DG REGIO
- Overall objective: **Elaboration** and **development** of **innovative vessel** and **technology solutions** with high potential for implementation on the Danube
- Analysis of **solutions** derived **from existing R&D projects** with respect to their potential for implementation and further development in the Danube region
- **Provision** of **recommendations** for further **technology development** within the framework of the Danube Region Strategy
- Project concluded within December 2013

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DST

ÖIR
Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning

SDG

УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ У БЕОГРАДУ | UNIVERZITET U BEOGRADU | UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE
МАШИНСКИ ФАКУЛТЕТ | MAŠINSKI FAKULTET | FACULTY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

SCHIFFBAUTECHNISCHE VERSUCHSANSTALT IN WIEN GMBH
VIENNA MODEL BASIN LTD

Project coordinator: Dipl.-Ing. Thomas Guesnet, DST

´**“INNOVATIVE**” is understood in this case to be

“BETTER than the existing fleet”,

both in terms of

ENERGY EFFICIENCY and

COST EFFICIENCY.

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1. Introduction
2. Cost and performance calculation
3. Calculation setup
4. Calculation results
5. Conclusions
6. Recommendations

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The project considers mainly the ships types that are transporting the largest cargo shares on the Danube, as these are:

Transport commodity	Volume year 2010
Iron ore	22.7 million tons
Agricultural products	9.2 million tons
Refined petroleum products	3.4 million tons
Fertilizers including chemical products	3.3 million tons
"Other goods" -incl. high valued finished goods and containers	2.0 million tons

Container ships and RoRo ships will probably have only a marginal importance at mid-term range – and they are not different on the performance point of view.

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The identification and selection of promising technical and operational solutions is based on performance indicators reflecting economic efficiency and environmental performance.

Calculations performed with a software developed by DST to compute cost and performance of an IWS transport. This tool is able to use comprehensive data bases:

- **Information on river depth and current speed for different Danube sections**
- **Economic Ship properties for fixed and variable cost**
- **Ship powering demand in function of water depth, draught and speed**
- **Water depth scenario for longer time periods**

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Comparison of basic ship types

Short name	Remark	Length	Breadth	Design Draught
		L [m]	B [m]	T [m]
SMV	“Europe” ship class IV	85.00	9.50	2.80
A15	Increased Breadth, low draught	105.00	15.00	2.00
GMS	GMS class V	105.00	11.40	2.80
XGMS	“JOWI” Type	105.00	15.00	2.70
PB	Convoy class VI, push boat + 4 barges	210.00	22.80	2.70

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Comparison of basic ship types

For each basic ship type, specific properties are attributed:

- Speed/power curves for a complete range of water depths and draught, derived from reference ships.
- Payload at small draught and maximum draught.
- Investment cost for a new ship.
- Crew cost for 24/24h operation.

The operation of a motor vessels were also calculated as a convoy in combination with one coupled barge.

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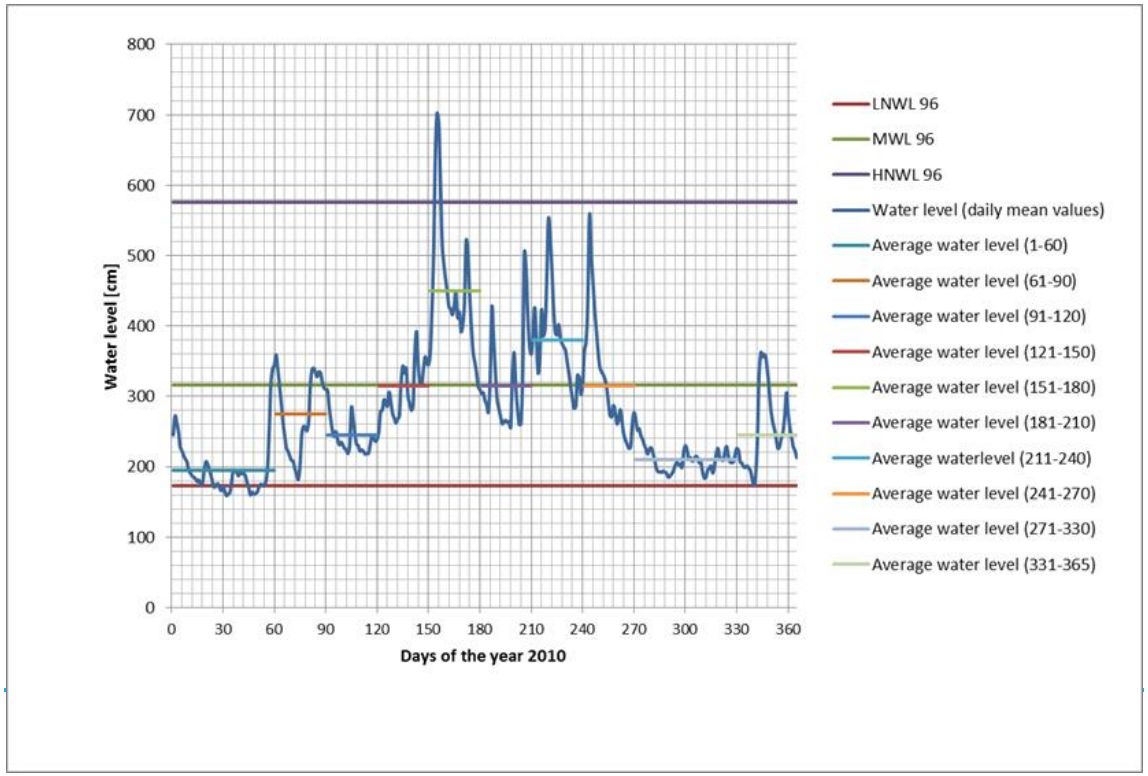
Operation scenario

- A simplified Danube river model was defined, with 23 sections in different water depth and the corresponding current speed.
- A operation scenario on the waterway with low, normal and high water periods was defined.



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Ship performance calculation

- The year 2010 was used as reference year with normal waterway conditions.
- As ships with a beam of 15 m may have more waiting times in locks, the lock passing time was increased from 1 to 1.2 h for these ships.
- Only the loaded upriver voyages were taken into consideration.
- For each voyage, the ship draught was selected according to the water depth that could be expected in the relevant time period. A minimum keel clearance and the influence of squat were taken into account.
- Ship speed and turnaround time was set according to practicable experience.

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Ship performance calculation

Calculation results are obtained for each single voyage of the time period and as cumulated exploitation sum for the complete year.

Results are expressed as:

Criteria	Unit
EEI : Energy efficiency index	$grCO_2$/tkm
Fuel consumption per year	t / year
Total Cost per year	€ / year
Total Load per year	t / year
Co	

The numerical values for cost have to be considered as indicative, as fuel cost, investment cost and crew wages are subject large and unforeseeable changes. Also risk and benefit margins, insurance etc. are not considered. The main use of these figures is the **comparison** between different ship types**.**

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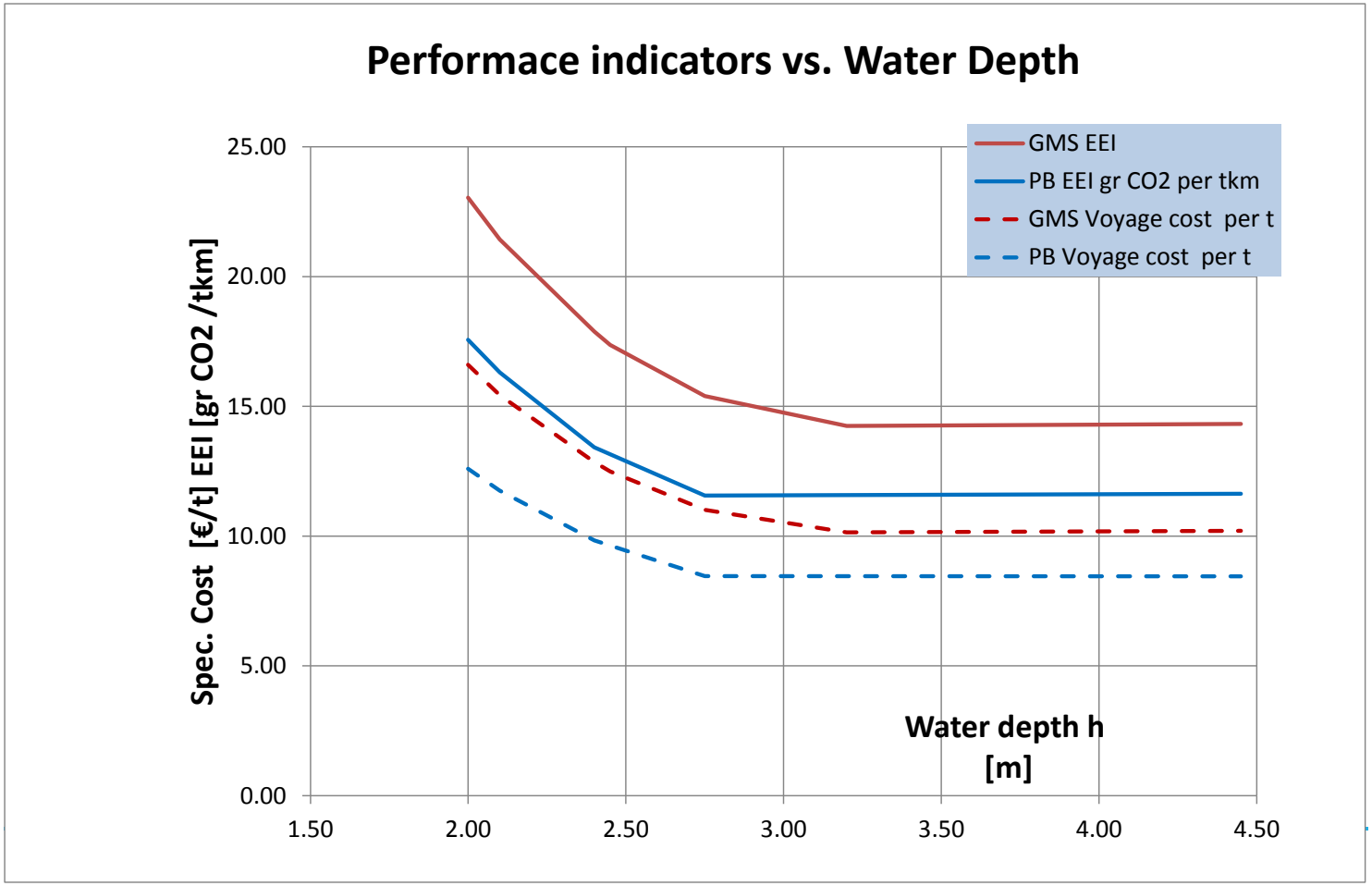
Results:

1. Ship performance depends mainly on the available water depth



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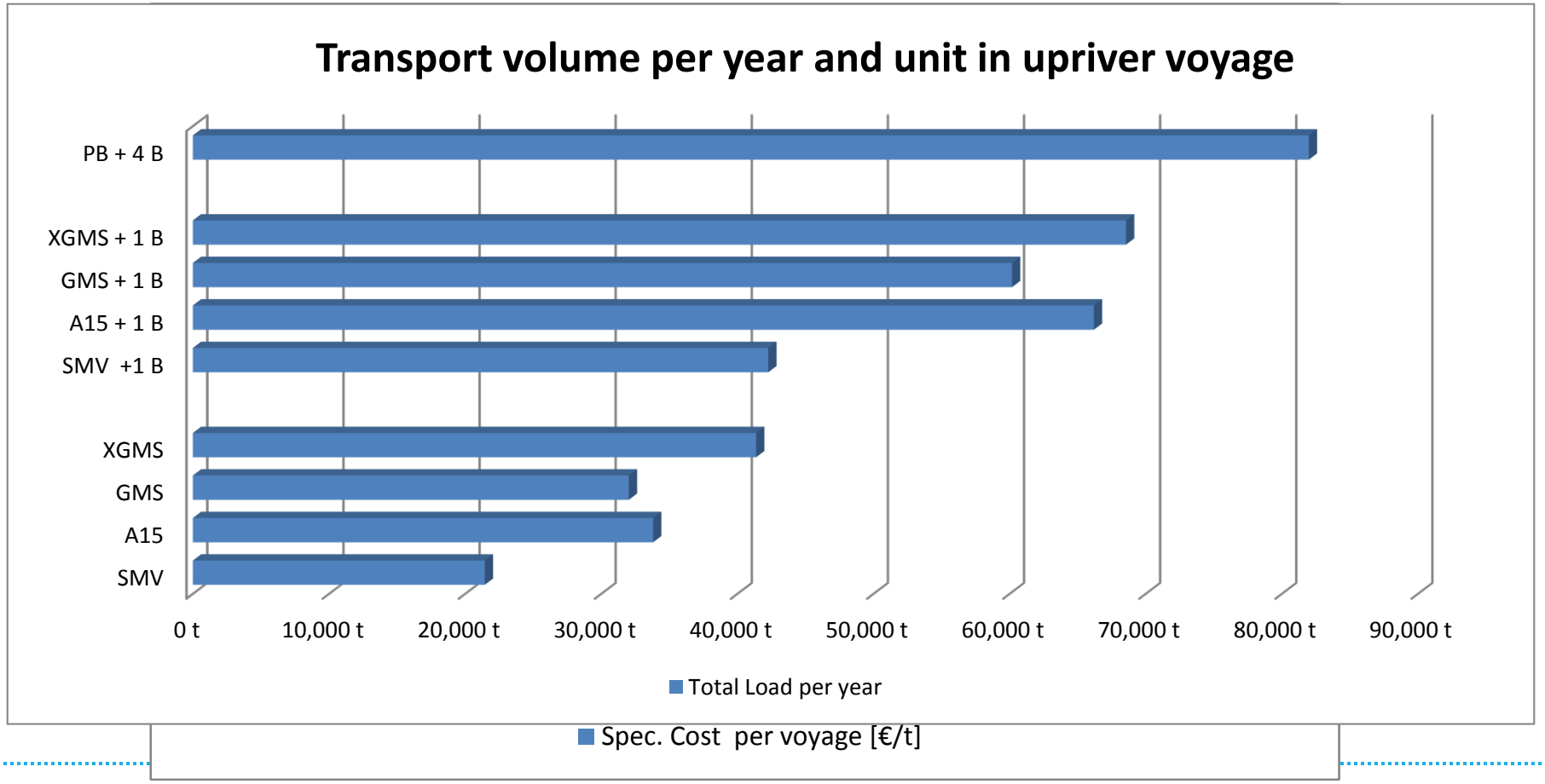
Results:
2. Basic ship types reach different performance.



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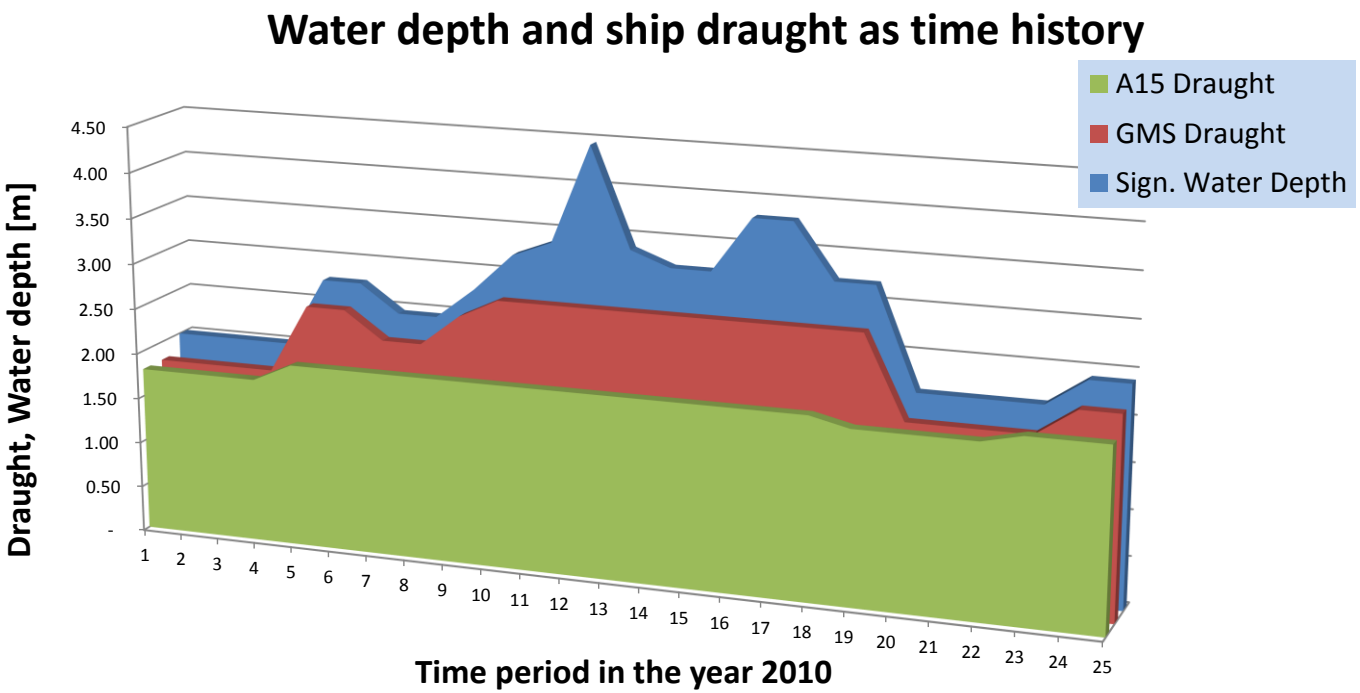
Results:

3. Ships with a limited design draught are disadvantaged in transport performance



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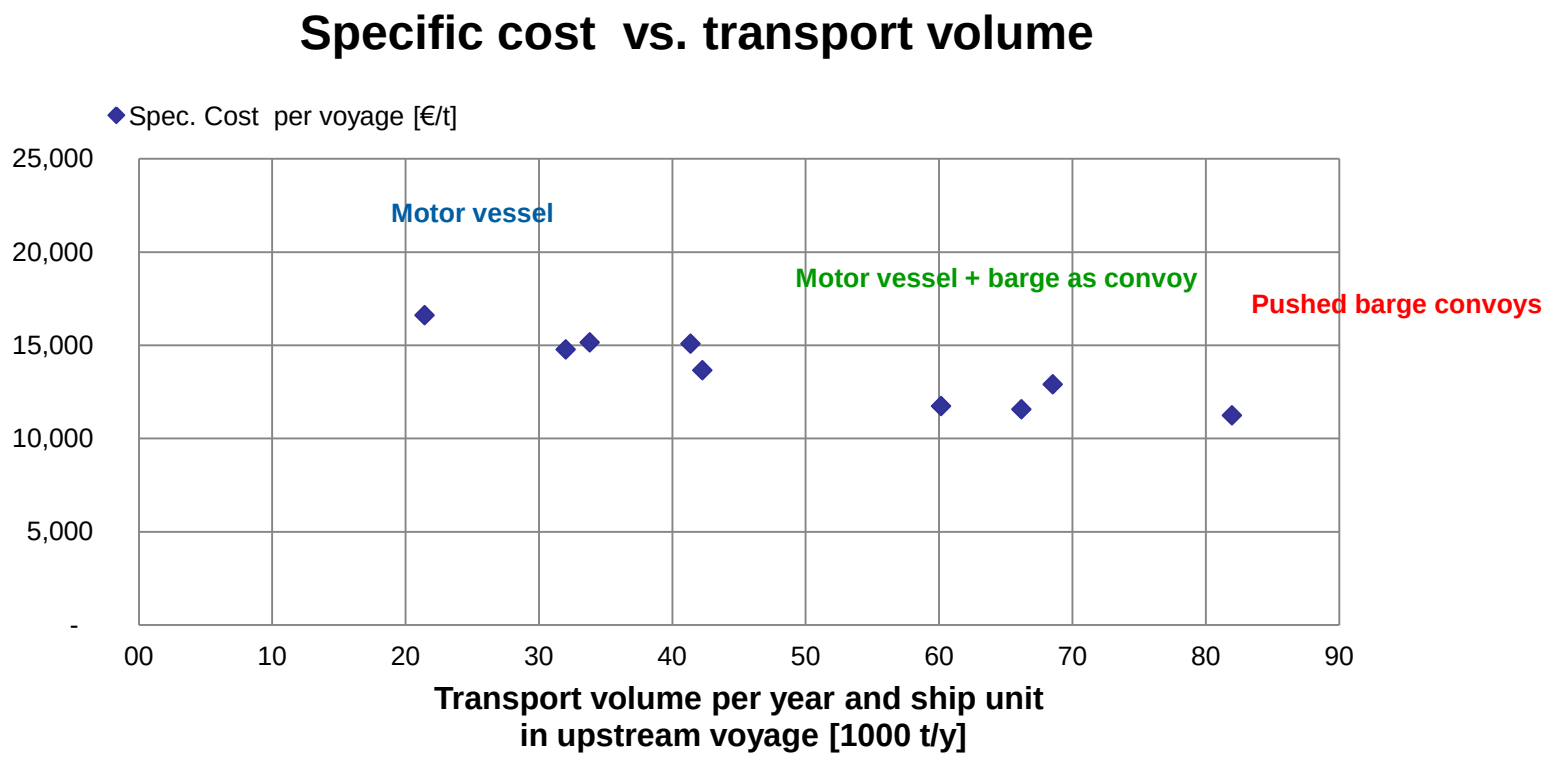
Results:
4. The pushed barge convoys have excellent performance



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Results:
The pushed barge convoys have excellent performance in cost and energy efficiency, and there are clear reasons for this:

- **Dump barges are of light construction and reach high payload at low draught.**

- **The configuration of the convoy is easily adopted to voyage and fairway conditions.**

- **The convoy takes best advantages of the specific Danube infrastructure:**
  - **Locks with class VII dimensions in 33 m and 24 m (upper Danube) breadth,**
  - **The fairway is at locations shallow, but always large.**

- **At any water depth, the pushed barge convoy reaches the highest possible payload compared to all other ship types.**

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Recommendations:
Innovative designs have to be prepared for different ship types:

A) The self-propelled motor vessel

Viable option for the commodities available in lower quantities – e.g. containers, agricultural products, manufactured goods.

Requirements on new designs:

- **Fully operational at a draught of less than 1,60 m**
- **Highest propulsion efficiency**
- **Essential: Ability to push a single barge, or even three barges**

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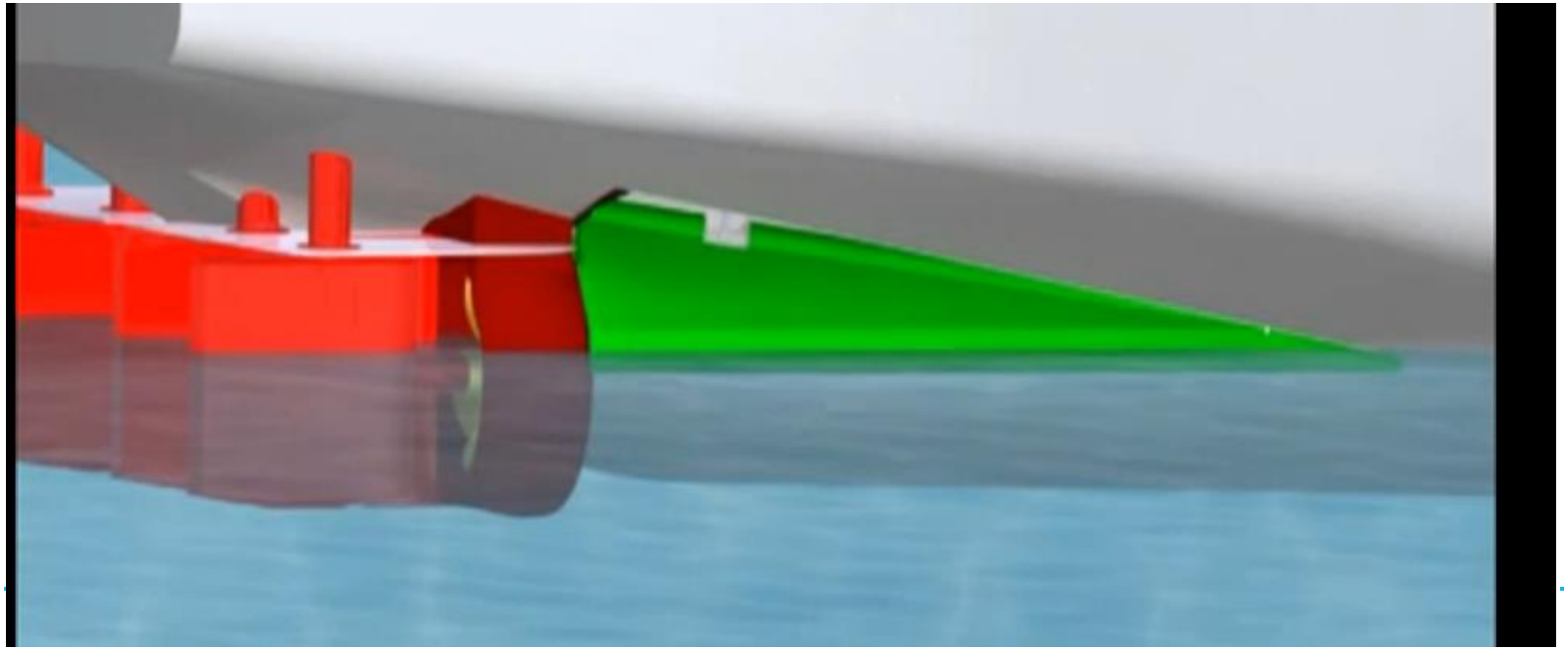
From the shortlist, 3 innovations appear to be the most promising:

1. Adjustable tunnel at the propellers, a product of Van der Velden Marine Systems /NL

May be applied to all types of self-propelled barges.



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From the shortlist, 3 innovations appear to be the most promising:

2. Air lubricated ship, promoted by Damen Shipyards Group /NL

Air lubrication can reduce fuel cost and improve energy efficiency. An application of the device on pushed barges should be investigated with priority.

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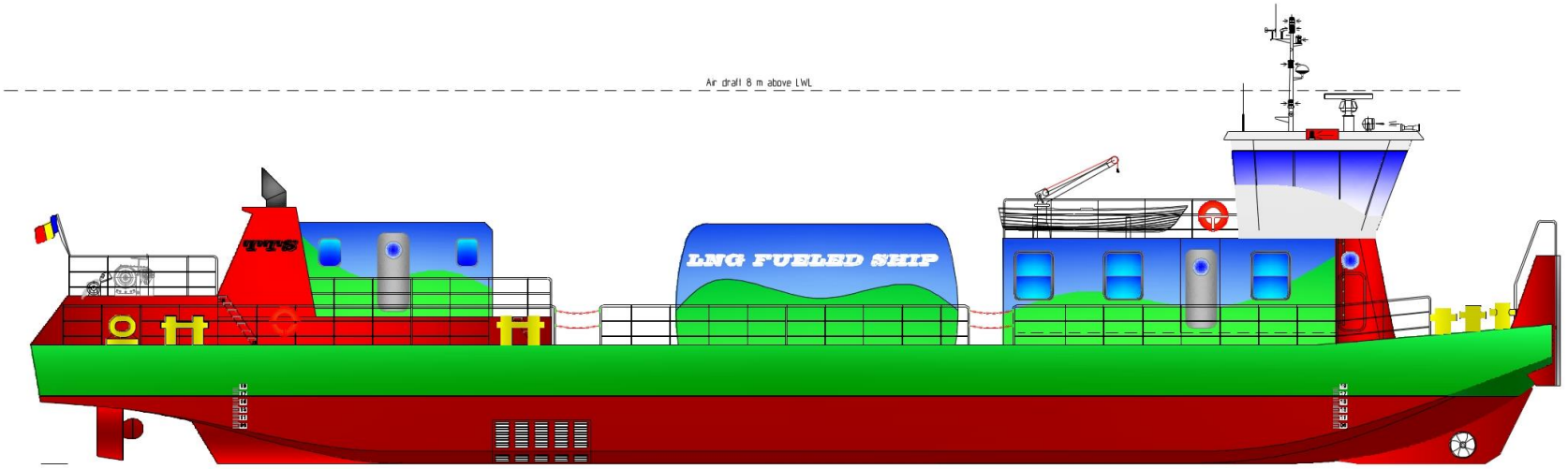
From the shortlist, 3 innovations appear to be the most promising:

3. LNG as fuel for inland navigating vessels

Even taking into account the additional investment, important fuel cost savings and savings in emissions are expected.

Best impact on reduction of emissions, especially NOX, SOX, and soot particles.



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Recommendations:
Innovative designs have to be prepared for different ship types:

C) The push boat

The push boat keeps the essential role in bulk transport

Requirements on new designs:

- **100 % fuel stores at a draught of max. T = 2**
- **Full performance and min sto = 1,60 m**
- **Highest propulsi**
- **Esse 8 barges on the lower Danube**

New push boats bring the best improvement in cost and energy efficiency to inland waterway transport on the Danube.

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Recommendations:
Innovative designs have to be prepared for different ship types:

B) Optimized barges

- Optimized convoy dimensions with regard to available lock size and push boat size.
- The steel structure of the barges should redesigned for lower weight at reduced building cost.
- Maneuverability of convoys enhanced by steering devices at the bow of the convoy.

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Further Recommendations:

- Optimized barges
- Voyage speed optimization
- River information systems (RIS)
- Energy efficiency benchmarking

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Conclusion

- Under regular waterway conditions, Danube vessels can reach an excellent cost and energy efficiency for the transport.
- Innovative devices and optimized ship designs will even improve this situation.
- Sufficient water depth is essential for energy- and cost-efficient ship operation.
- Any improvement on the Danube waterway conditions pays off in cost and energy efficiency.
  - Or reversely:

    Ship design and technology will not compensate insufficient waterway conditions.