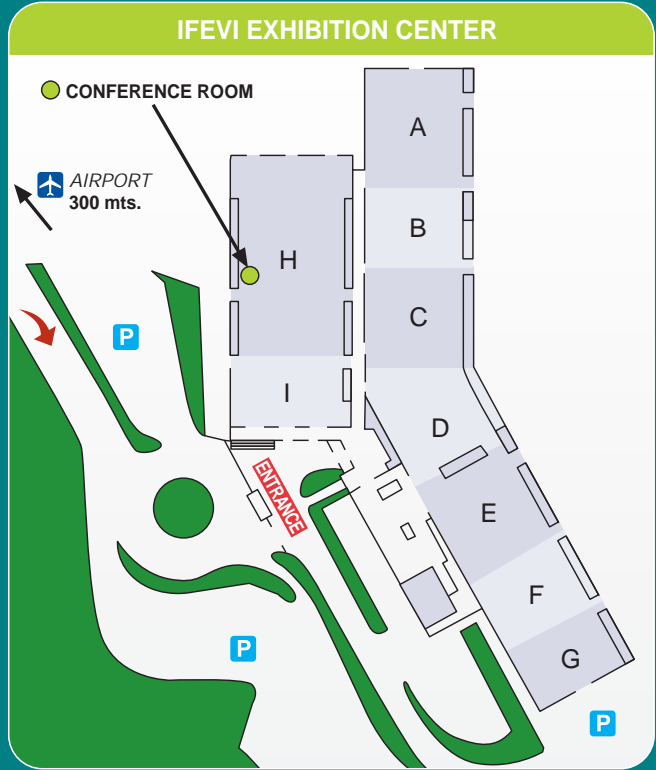


The original aim of **e-fishing** is to be an international forum on fishing vessels energy efficiency, by opening a series of biannual seminars, in which experts and researchers from different countries could present their latest innovations for the optimisation of the use of energy on board of fishing vessels, and openly discuss these new technological solutions with fishermen, shipyards and the rest of the industry.

The actual and still un-ended energy crisis characterised by long periods of time with fuel price at record levels, together with an international economic crisis that favours a general down trend in fish prices, is having a devastating effect on the strongly oil-dependent catching sector, jeopardising the long term viability of the worldwide fishing fleets, but especially of those in the developed world, where, tight regulations prevent the possibility of compensating those increased costs with additional catches.

This situation however, has stimulated in many countries an unprecedented research activity covering all aspects of the fishing industry and its particularities, of which it can be considered a first result the confirmation of a general absence of an in-deep knowledge of the real working conditions in which fishing occurs, favoured by the internal competitiveness among the owners, that very often works in the wrong direction, by making fishing almost a secret activity.

In a very short time we got papers from 15 different countries, all with a very good technological level, and dealing with a wide range of topics: General design, Hull forms and appendages, Propulsion, Alternate energy sources, Fishing gear and nets, New fishing technologies, etc. It can be appreciated a strong accent on the trawl, that is of course the most affected technology, as well as on the ecologic side, that takes care of the atmosphere and marine environment, and that would also benefit from a better efficiency in the use of the energy.



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We want to thank very much to all the participants for its contribution but, as it is impossible to examine during these few days all the received papers, we have selected a representative group of them, and we hope that this would be enough to shown a good perspective of all the research work that is being developed at international level around the energy efficiency on fishing vessels, and reflect the effort of all the people involved.

Finally, it can be seen that similar initiatives are being developed independently in different places, and that confirms again the opportunity of the organisation of this seminar, in which we can examine together the development of new solutions and systems, that no doubt will ensure a brighter future and the long term viability of the fishing industry.



www.e-fishing.eu

1st International Symposium on Fishing Vessel Energy Efficiency

PROGRAMME



Vigo, Spain, 18th - 20th of May 2010

