



Battling Biofouling in the Offshore Industry: its characteristics, consequences and control

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MI@NUS Sustainable Management of Marine Fouling Workshop
Singapore, 17 June 2014



Marine Biofouling

“a process of adsorption, colonisation, and development of living and non-living material on an immersed substratum”



Marine Biofouling



Global Biofouling

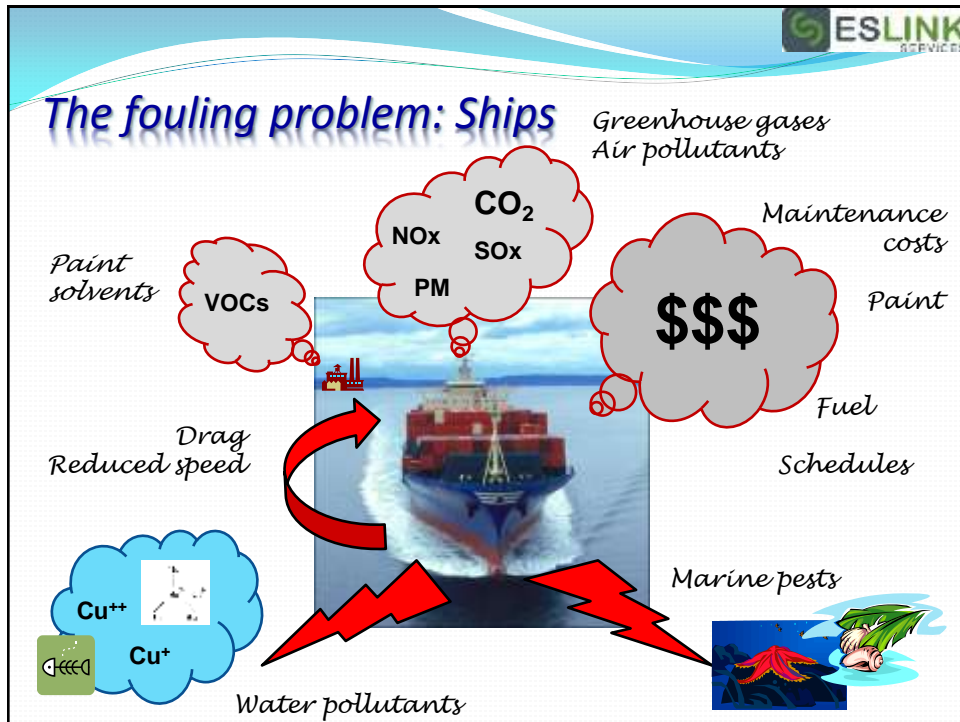



The World map shows areas of highest fouling risk. A higher performance product is recommended for these areas.

- High risk of fouling
- Above average risk of fouling
- Average risk of fouling


Source: Chogoku







Air emissions



The latest information has international shipping contributing approximately 2.7% of global carbon emissions. Even considering the effects of the global financial crisis, predicted growth in global trade and likely future emissions reduction from land based industries, means that in real terms and in terms of percentage, the industry's contribution is likely to significantly increase.

MEPC measures address GHG emissions

IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) has agreed to disseminate a package of interim and voluntary technical and operational measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from ships, as well as a work plan for further consideration of market-based instruments to provide GHG-reduction incentives for the shipping industry.

Energy efficiency regulations enter into force

new regulations aimed at improving the energy efficiency of international shipping entered into force on 1 January 2013.


Photo: Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA) - Photo: Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA)

performance-based mechanism that leaves the choice of technologies to use in a specific ship design to the industry. As


Photo: Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA) - Photo: Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA)

for the control of emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulphur oxides (SO_x) and particulate matter under regulation.

Photo: Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA) - Photo: Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA)



LIFE MATTERS



Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP)

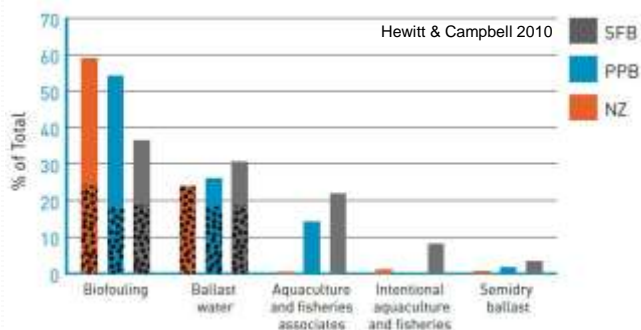
SEEMP template for owners and operators

3.	Measures for hull and propeller optimisation	Implementation actions	Monitoring and recording actions
3.1	Hull resistance optimisation	<p>a. Hull condition is assessed on a quarterly basis during port stays where this is practical through in-water inspection.</p> <p>Responsible Person(s): Head Office Company procedures: [insert #]</p> <div style="background-color: #f8d7da; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>b. In water hull cleaning is performed on a 1-year basis, in port stays where this is practical, in areas identified during inspections.</p> </div> <p>Responsible Person(s): Head Office Company procedures: [insert #]</p>	<p>a. Keep records of in-water inspections and identify areas for underwater cleaning.</p> <p>Responsible Person(s): Head Office</p>

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Shipping vectors



NZ Survey:

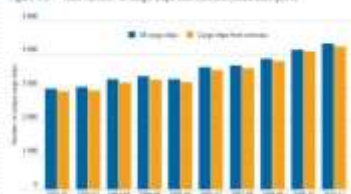
~70% of 500 commercial vessels had macrofouling
 187 species identified; 128 non-indigenous, 10 cryptogenic
 94 NIS not recorded from NZ
 Non-NZ NIS on 30% of vessels



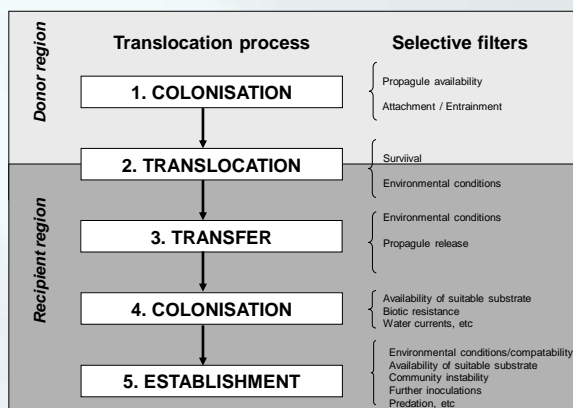
The Challenge



Figure 4.1 Total number of cargo ships that called at destination ports



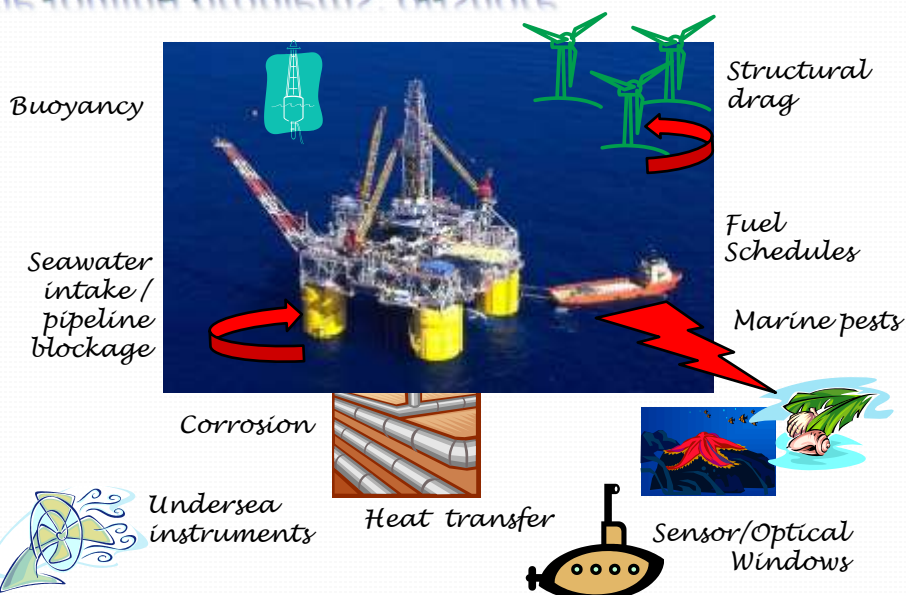
Translocation Process



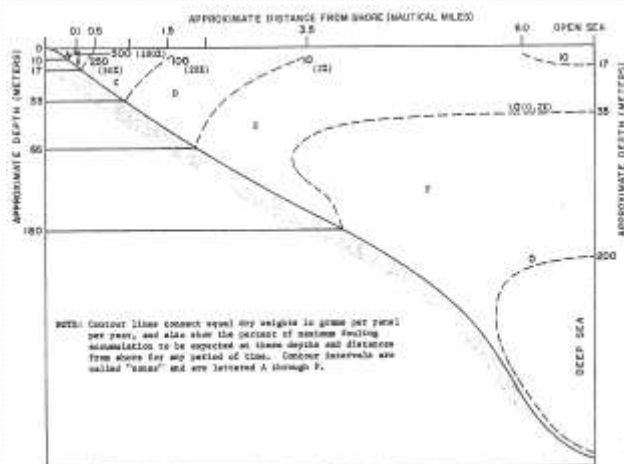
**Prevention is Better than Cure
...and less costly**



The fouling problems: offshore

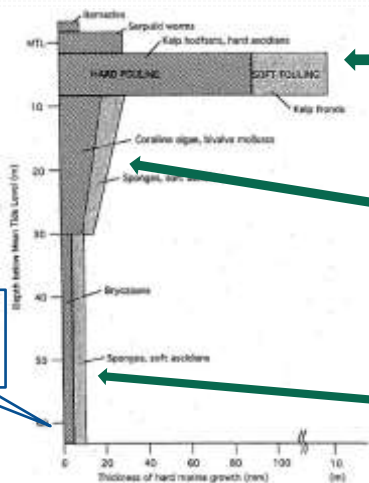


The Offshore Fouling Environment

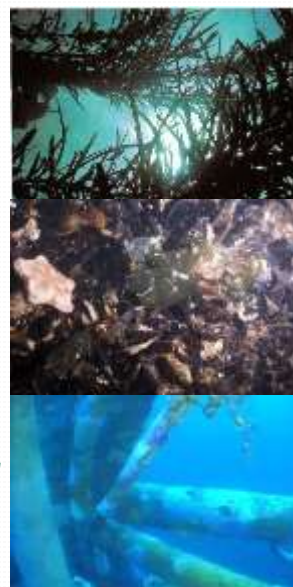


DePalma 1972: "Fearless Fouling Forecasting"

Platform Fouling Growth Profile



Currie & Jenkins 1994



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Deep water communities - Bass Strait

20 m



01/12/2008 00:14:24

57 m



01/12/2008 00:14:24

60 m



01/12/2008 00:14:24

90 m



01/12/2008 00:14:24

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Invasive Marine Species

Ocean Patriot






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Biofouling management

- Antifouling coatings
 - Biocidal (Toxic)
 - Foul release
- Cleaning
 - Careening
 - Slipping/dry-docking
 - In-water
- Isolation
 - Dry-berthing

Historically, biofouling management is a response to economic & operational impact:

- Cost/benefit basis: docking intervals, fit for purpose (not necessarily best for purpose)
- Focus: (tolerable) hull fouling

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Antifouling paint development

		Effective life
• Pre-18 th C	Beaching, careening, pitch & tar	
• 1758	Copper sheathing	
• 1860s	Copper "paints"	
• 1950s	Copper, mercury, arsenic paints	
	Soluble matrix, Contact leaching	18 – 24 mth
• 1960s	Organotin biocides	
• 1970s	Self-polishing copolymer paints	
• 1990-2000s	TBT banned	
• 1990s	Foul release coatings	36 – 60 mth*
• 21 st C	Copper SPCs, safer co-biocides	

* Except for aluminium hulls

*Copper has been a mainstay of antifouling for 250 years

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Antifouling biocides

Copper leaching threat to Milford Sound marine life

Home > News > Region
Fri, 25 Jan 2013
The Region: Southland

After several years, California legislation targeting copper-based antifouling coatings has just one step to go before becoming law.


But that law would be far less aggressive than its unsuccessful predecessors, which sought an outright ban on some of these coatings.

The California State Legislature has sent to Gov. Jerry Brown AB 425, a bill by Assembly Majority Leader Toni Atkins, to require the state to address water pollution caused by copper-based anti-fouling hull paint on recreational vessels.

The bill directs the state's Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to complete by Feb. 1, 2014, its work to evaluate and recommend whether the paint should be subject to increased state oversight and how best to mitigate its potentially harmful effects on aquatic environments.

Paint polluting Antarctic

Toxic ships foul the ocean floor



International Antarctic Treaty Parties are to meet in Hobart, Australia, to discuss the impact of paint pollution on the environment.

$$\begin{array}{c}
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 \text{Bu} \quad \text{Cl}^{\ominus} \\
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Paint and Coatings Industry News

CA Antifouling Bill Nears Finish Line

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

More Area for Coating Materials

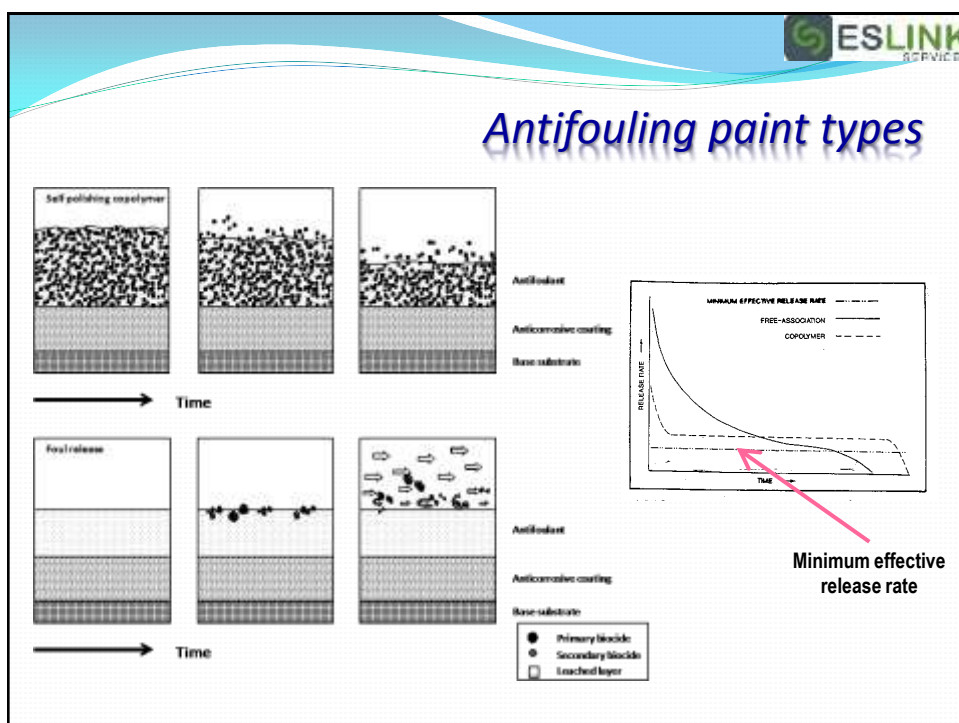
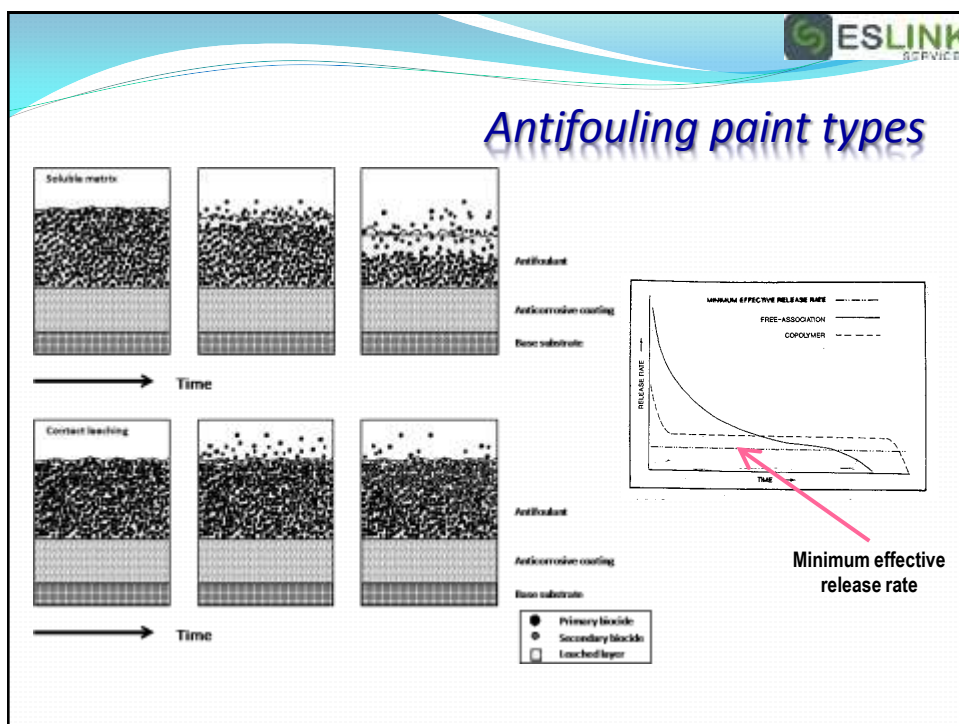
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Antifouling biocides need to be:

Toxic,	yet non-toxic
Stable ,	yet unstable
Broad spectrum,	yet not too broad
Leachable,	but not too fast, nor too slow

Co-biocides:

Diuron, Irgarol, DCOI, ZPT, CPT, Dichlofluanid, Tralopyril



Non-toxic, foul[ing] release coatings

- Also known as minimally adhesive coatings
- Surface character prevents adhesion or minimizes adhesion strength of fouling organisms
- Based on silicone or fluorinated polymers
- Only suitable for continuously active, higher speed (> 15 knot) vessels
- Prone to abrasion damage, problematic to clean in-water



What is an effective antifouling?

Biocidal:

- Continuous copper release rate from stationary hull:
 - $\geq 10 \mu\text{g Cu/cm}^2/\text{day}$
- Short half life co-biocide (algaecide/slimicide)

Non-biocidal:

- Self-cleans @ ≥ 15 knots on high activity vessels

*Hull niches cannot always be effectively antifouled



Niche fouling



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Natural Antifouling ??

- Minimal adhesiveness
- Microtopography
- Mucous secretion
- Sloughing
- Hydrophobic or hydrophilic?
- Filtration
- Chemical deterrence
- Toxic metabolites

Natural product antifoulants:

- classed as biocides
- registration cost £ 7-9 million
- registration process ~10 yrs



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Novel methods for biofouling control



Natural products from mussel shells:
Potential for novel antifouling coatings



Nano-scale superhydrophobic coatings
Extreme water repellency copied from nature – For rapid drain down



Air bubble curtains to protect vessels in dock



Biomimetic surfaces
a-f - Surface microtopographies on marine molluscs; source: Scardino, 2006.
g, h - Bioinspired shark skin topography; source: Schumacher et al. 2007.



Fouling control using vibration effects – PZT embedded panels deter barnacle cyprids at specific frequencies




Bubble zone control



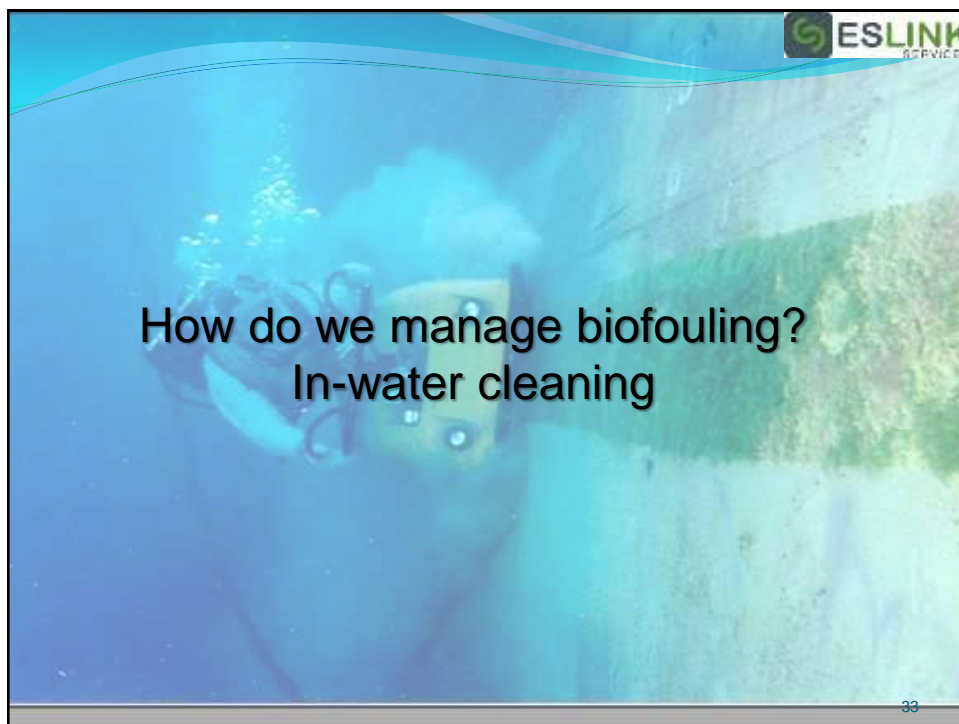
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Antifouling Options – Paint type

Paint Type	Effective life (months)
Copper-based conventional	12 – 24
Copper-based erodible	36
Copper-based SPC	60
Biocide-free fouling release	> 60 but....
Novel technologies "natural products", fibre coatings etc.	unproven




*except for aluminium





In-water cleaning of ships' hulls

Australia & New Zealand Environment Consultative Council (ANZECC Code, 1997):
No part of a vessel's hull treated with antifoulant is to be cleaned in Australian waters.....



“On 26 June 2013, the Standing Council on Primary Industries endorsed the “Anti-fouling and in-water cleaning guidelines”:
Controlled in-water cleaning:





To clean or not to clean?

“When do the environmental costs of releasing non-indigenous species and chemical contaminants during in-water cleaning outweigh the risks of no action?”

Fisheries Occasional Publication No. 314, 2013



Report 1

**In-water hull cleaning and filtration system:
In-water cleaning trials
26-28 November 2012**



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fisheries



How do we manage biofouling?
Marine Growth Prevention Systems



10/06/2013

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Marine Growth Prevention Systems..

- Direct chemical dosing
 - Sodium hypochlorite
 - "Antifoulant" solution
- Electrochemical dosing
 - Copper (+aluminium) anodes
 - Hypochlorite generation
- Other
 - Ultrasound

Questions:

Do they work?
Should they work?
How should they be worked?
How do they compare?



How do we manage biofouling?
Rules & Regulationx



Regulations & requirements

IMO

- Biofouling Management Guidelines (2011)

Western Australia

- Ministerial conditions on projects (Current)

California

- Biofouling management regulations (2015)

New Zealand

- Craft Risk Management Standard (2018)

Australia

- Sectoral guidelines
- Quarantine Act ["Quarantinable pests" / Species of concern] (??)
- Marine Growth Risk Assessment

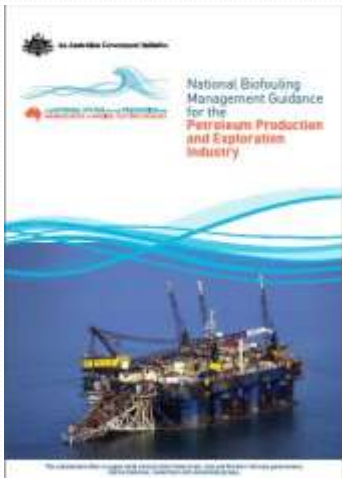



What is antifouling & biofouling management best practice?



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Vessel Biofouling Management

www.marinepests.gov.au

IMO biofouling management guidelines



Objective: “a clean ship” = slime layer only [?]



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How are risks best reduced?

Proactive antifouling prevention:

- External- Effective antifouling coatings
- Internal- Marine Growth Prevention Systems / antifouling material (e.g. CuNi)
- Prescribed dry-docking intervals

Additional hull husbandry

- Controlled in-water cleaning
- Internal- Chemical (acid, disinfectant), physico-chemical (temperature, salinity, deoxygenation)

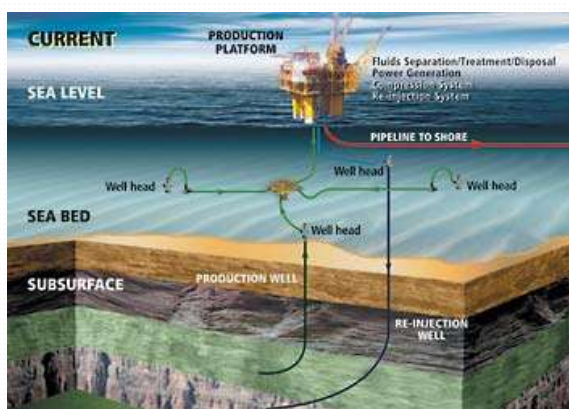
Good biofouling management is not a single strategy, but a combination of strategies



How do we manage biofouling? Offshore



Subsea coolers



Offshore Gas Fields

- Well heads remote from production platforms
- Gas flow recovered @ ~80°C ; corrosive within standard pipelines
- Coolers on well heads to reduce temperature
- Heat exchange through cooler walls critical
- ~ 100 m depth
- Projected cooler life- 25 years

To coat, or not to coat...

Why coat?

- Corrosion protection
- Biofouling reduces heat transfer/cooler efficiency

But...

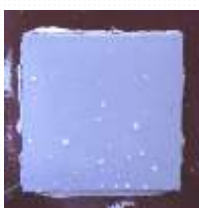
- Thick coatings also reduce heat transfer/cooler efficiency
- Heat will kill/prevent biofouling?

However...

- No heat during wet storage /down time
- Growth on "cool" end



Coating Options

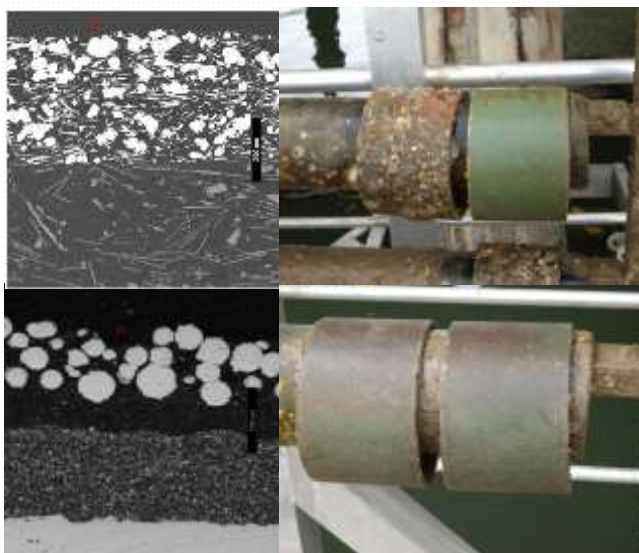


Paint Type	Effective Life (months)	Cost	Suitability
Soluble matrix/ablativ	24-36	\$	✗
Contact leaching	24	\$	✗
CDP	36	\$\$	✗
SPC	60	\$\$\$	✗
Metallic copper epoxy	120+*	\$\$\$\$?
Foul release	60 +	\$\$\$\$\$	✗
Mechanically resistant	3**	\$\$	✗

* scattered biofouling may occur

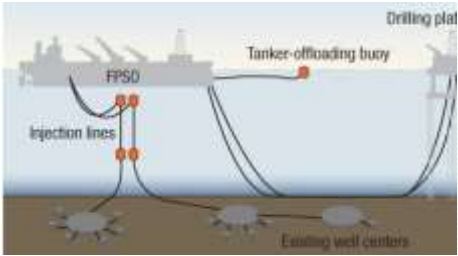

** coatings are durable and long life is achieved through regular cleaning

Metallic Copper / Epoxy Coatings



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The Burden of Biofouling

MARINE FOULING AND ITS PREVENTION

ORDERED FOR
BUREAU OF NAVAL SUPPLY DEPARTMENT
BY
WOODWARD OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION
NAVAL OCEANIC, BANGOR, ME.

JULY 1951
NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION



UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE
ANAPOLIS, MARYLAND
1951

Specific density
 Conventional wisdom:
 Soft fouling 1.0
 Hard fouling 1.4
 Calcite = 2.7
 Measured:
 Soft fouling 1.06
 Hard fouling 1.74

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How do we manage biofouling? ...better!




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Needs, wants, uncertainties

- Coatings:
 - Better, safer, cheaper
 - Niche areas
 - Structures
- Maintenance practices:
 - Hull/structure husbandry
- Engineering design:
 - Prevention (not accommodation)
- Offshore:
 - Growth rates & characteristics
- In-water cleaning:
 - Waste capture
 - Efficiency
 - Safety
- Regulations:
 - Certainty, uniformity
 - Uptake



Thank you

...over to you

