Detailed information

Powerful, naturally.
Environmentally acceptable and biodegradable lubricants for the marine industry
Attain both environmental and economic advantages – Powerful, naturally!

Reducing impacts from shipping operations on the environment is important to the shipping industry. As a shipping operator, you are aware of the expanding body of environmental regulations affecting your business. Additionally, a growing interest in ecological issues is driving your customers to ask you for environmentally sound operating practices.

At the same time, you also need to have a lock on your costs. You invest in ships for the transportation of goods and people or for offshore services and you seek a profitable return on your investments.

The lubricant – a small investment that can make a big difference

Selecting the right lubricant is critical to maximising the output of your marine equipment while minimising operational costs. In today’s environment, a lubricant that combines ecological and economic advantages is vital to the success of your operation. Klüber Lubrication environmentally acceptable lubricants are the perfect choice. We work closely with manufacturers of marine components to extend service intervals, lengthen component lifetime and increase operational reliability while meeting regulatory and market demands for environmentally sustainable practices. With specialty lubricants from Klüber, you save on total operating costs while you help save the environment.

Ecological challenges

Reducing the stream of mineral oil-based lubricants entering oceans, bays, harbours and inland waters from standard operational practices is a major challenge for marine operators. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, several million litres of lubricants are discharged into commercial harbours each year through stem tube leakages alone. Additionally, millions of litres more are estimated to be discharged through other on-deck and thru hull machine elements such as cranes, winches, stabilisers, and bow thrusters. Oils and greases are needed to operate your vessel and yet the next wave can sweep them away into the sea.

Legislation, Regulation and Compliance

The use of environmentally acceptable lubricants (EALs) receives more and more attention from legislators and regulators around the globe. In the USA, the use of EALs has become mandatory as defined in the US Environmental Protection Agency’s Vessel General Permit. Lubricants used for mechanical equipment subject to immersion and in oil to water interfaces (stem tubes, thruster shafts, fin stabilizers) must be biodegradable, non-toxic, and non-bioaccumulating as long as an approved EAL is available.

To be “Environmentally Acceptable”, a lubricant has to be:

- Non-bioaccumulative: the chemicals may not accumulate in the tissue of an organism and enter the food chain. Test Methods: OECD 117 and 110.
- Biodegradable: the constituent substances of a lubricant must break down naturally according to the required test standards. In general, at least 60 % of the formulation has to biodegrade within 28 days under the test conditions. Acceptable test methods include: OECD Test Guidelines 301 A-F, 306, and 310, and International Organization for Standardization 14593:1999.
- Non-toxic: the formulation must pass either OECD 201, 202, and 203 for acute toxicity testing, or OECD 210 and 211 for chronic toxicity testing.

Performance remains the key to lubricant selection

High performance synthetic lubricants, including the synthetic ester oils from which Klüber Lubrication’s biodegradable lubricants are designed, reduce friction and reduce operating temperatures thereby reducing energy consumption. As an example, in land based systems, a 1 % to 2 % reduction in energy usage has been documented by switching to a better lubricant in gear box systems. Klüber believes the same efficiencies gained in on-land applications can be achieved onboard vessels. Even a 1 % energy reduction would directly relate to fuel cost savings. Switching to high-efficiency gear lubricants could be a component of a Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan.

Just the best for you: tested quality

Klüber does not launch a new lubricant unless it has been put through extensive testing. To achieve this, we have developed a test bay that is un-paralleled in the industry. We simulate the exact loads lubricants are subject to in your applications: fluctuating temperatures, high surface pressure, micro movements, and/or salt air and salt water.

We work together in close collaboration with leading ODMs to design lubricants that maximise the performance of their products. You can achieve best operational practices through selecting Klüber lubricants.

If you have any questions regarding our products or if you wish to discuss a particular application, please contact us. Our specialists are nearby and happy to help.

An example: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Klüberbio AG 39-602, Klüber Lubrication’s new open gear grease, provides the combination of biodegradability and performance. The finished lubricant is formulated with more than 90 % renewable materials. The base oil of the grease was developed with new technology that yields a higher viscosity and considerably improved low-temperature behaviour compared to other ester type oils. Furthermore, Klüberbio AG 39-602 outperforms the wear protection of other biodegradable lubricants for this application. By extending the service life of pinions, large gears and tooth racks, this product contributes to energy savings and operational cost savings over the entire lifespan of the ship.

Modified FZG slow speed wear test acc. to DGMK 377-01

Klüberbio AG 39-602 shows lower wear rates than other open gear lubricants.
Speciality lubricants on board

This illustration shows the various applications of our marine lubricants. To show as many applications as possible in one illustration, we included components of the following ship types in this synthetic ship: Ferry, cruise ship, cargo ship, wind turbine installation vessel, anchor handling tug supply vessel.

Ro-Ro ramps
- Hatches, doors: Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9

Doors
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9

Hatch cover
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9

Ship crane
- bearings: Klüberbio BM 32-142
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9
- Steel wire rope: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Mooring winch
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9
- Gear: Klüberbio AG 39-602
- Bearings: Klüberbio BM 32-142

Life boats
- Bearings, steel wire ropes: Klüberbio AG 39-602
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9

Jacking system
- Tooth rack & pinion: Klüberbio LG 39-700 N/-701 N
- Gear: Klüberbio AG 39-602
- Planetary gearbox: Klübersynth GEM 2-320

Anchor handling winch
- Open gear: Klüberbio AG 39-602, Klüberbio AG 39-700 N/-701 N
- Enclosed gear: Klübersynth GEM 2-320
- Hydraulic motor: Klüberbio LR 9
- Steel wire rope: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Offshore crane
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9
- Bearings: Klüberbio BM 32-142
- Steel wire rope: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Fairleads
- Bearings: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Stern roller
- Bearings: Klüberbio LG 39-700 N/-701 N
- Klüberbio AG 39-602

Towing pins
- Klüberbio AG 39-602

Rudder
- Bearings and seals: Klüberbio LG 39-700 N/-701 N
- Klüberbio AG 39-602

Azipod
- Propeller shaft seal: Klüberbio RM 2
- Gear: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Thruster / rudder propeller
- Steering shaft seal: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Fin stabiliser
- Klüberbio EG 2
- Klüberbio LR 9
- Bearings: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Propeller stern tube
- Klüberbio RM 2

Rail crane
- Bearings: Klüberbio BM 32-142
- Hydraulic system: Klüberbio LR 9
- Steel wire rope: Klüberbio AG 39-602
- Rack & pinion: Klüberbio AG 39-602

Rack & pinion
- Klüberbio AG 39-602

Steel wire rope
- Klüberbio AG 39-602

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## Environmentally acceptable and biodegradable lubricants for the marine industry

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ISO viscosity class according to DIN ISO 3448, consistency grade according to DIN 51817, biodegradability according to OECD 301 F/B test after 28 days

¹ Complies with requirements for Environmentally Acceptable Lubricants as defined in Appendix A of the 2013 Vessel General Permit

² Available from 2nd half of 2015

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Klüber Lubrication – your global specialist

Innovative tribological solutions are our passion. Through personal contact and consultation, we help our customers to be successful worldwide, in all industries and markets. With our ambitious technical concepts and experienced, competent staff we have been fulfilling increasingly demanding requirements by manufacturing efficient high-performance lubricants for more than 80 years.