EUROPEAN COMMISSION HORIZON 2020 PROGRAMME - TOPIC H2020-LC-BAT-2020

Solutions for large batteries for waterborne transport

GRANT AGREEMENT No. 963560



D3.2 – Integrated safe, modular & flexible battery system architecture

Report details

Deliverable No.	SEABAT D3.2	
Deliverable Title	Integrated safe, modular & flexible battery system architecture	
Deliverable Date	30/06/2022	
Dissemination level	Confidential – member only (CO)	СО
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Document History

Version	Date	Editing done by	Remarks
V01	20/05/2022	Jonathan Baake	Draft for internal review
V02	01/06/2022	Jonathan Baake	Revision after internal review
V1.0	15/06/2022	Jonathan Baake	Draft for external review
V1.1	30/06/2022	Jonathan Baake	Final deliverable
V2.0	01/07/2022	Cor van der Zweep	Final editing and for final
			submission

Project Abstract

The goal of the SEABAT project is to develop a full-electric maritime hybrid battery concept that is based on:

- Modularly combining high-energy batteries and high-power batteries,
- novel converter concepts and
- production technology solutions derived from the automotive sector.

The modular approach will reduce component costs (battery cells, convertors) so that unique ship designs can profit from economies of scale by using standardized low-cost components. The concept will be suitable for ships requiring up to 1 MWh of storage or more.

Public summary

The main goal of SEABAT is to develop a cost-effective hybrid energy storage system (HESS) architecture for large marine applications that is scalable to 1 MWh and beyond and validated at a level of 300 kWh. For this purpose, a suitable system architecture is required for a mix of high-energy and high-power batteries that allows a balanced compromise between ship energy and power requirements. Based on deliverable D3.1, that compared different hybrid topologies, the novel power converter concept was selected by all SEABAT partners at the first year general assembly meeting. This concept incorporates a low-voltage DCDC-converter for every battery module in the system, allowing these units to be placed in series to achieve a controlled DC-voltage and in parallel lines to scale total HESS energy capacity.

Within this deliverable, the description of the chosen HESS topology is expanded to a detailed HESS architecture. The architecture will be outlined by means of high-level and domain specific requirements. For each domain, a motivation will be given that elaborates on the specific architectural decisions that were taken.

The architecture as developed has considered TCO (total cost of ownership) and scalability on all domains. Electrical component placement as well as DCDC-converter design has taken production costs into consideration. Scalability of current and energy capacity, cooling and mechanical configuration of the system have been evaluated while establishing the architecture. Special attention was given to the control architecture, which can pose a critical limit to system scalability. This risk was mitigated by using several levels of controllers in the implementation. In the developed architecture, no practical HESS sizing limits exist for the developed control architecture.

For reliability and safety of the HESS architecture, the safety requirements were queried across all domains to ensure they were met across domains.

With the detailed description of the architecture now outlined, all necessary information is available to proceed with the preliminary design of the HESS realization within the SEABAT project. This preliminary design, along with its design decisions and cost-evaluation will be presented in the upcoming deliverable D3.3.

1 Acknowledgements and disclaimer

The author(s) would like to thank the partners in the project for their valuable comments on previous drafts and for performing the review.

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 963560. The information and views set out in this publication does not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Commission. Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf, may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained therein.