

Magnet systems fit feed

ECOVIA headquartered in Colmar, Alsace, eastern France, is a specialist in fuel budget control processes.

The company has launched its OPTI+4 system for ageing engines of 700 to 5000 hp where fuel consumption can reach 150 litres an hour.

Ecovia tells *FNi*: "The principle of Ecovia's OPTI+ fuel saver, which is attached to the engine's feed, is primarily based on the effect of magnets on fuel consumption.

"OPTI+ comes with a two-year warranty, is amortised within a year, and offers an average lifetime of eight years. Effective fuel savings range from five to 12%," claims the company.

Ecovia was established in 2005 to supply fuel consumption solutions to its clients in the shipping, road transport, farming and public-works sectors. It is now developing its distributor network.

New low-drag and high-lift seine

A HIGH-LIFT seine net which uses reduced amounts of netting is cutting fuel consumption for Icelandic vessels.

The reduction in cod quotas last year resulted in greater interest in fishing for haddock, as well as increased demand for high-opening seine net gear that would take haddock efficiently.

Hördur Jónsson of Grindavík-based VT Fishing Supplies says that the net loft has been particularly busy with seine net gear this past year as skippers look for high-lift gear.

He says: "We've been able to replace 800 mesh gear with 500 to 600 mesh fishing circle seine nets that don't fish any less than the larger gear." Minimising the overall volume of netting in the gear reduces both cost and resistance, with this lightening of the gear achieved partly through the use of improved twines and netting.

"We're using Cotesi Redline and Greenline in 2.20 and 2.80 mm, as well as some Hampidjan Magnet

netting in the same twine sizes. We are also using 140 mm full mesh, rigged to open well and, with less netting, there is less resistance and a lower fuel bill."

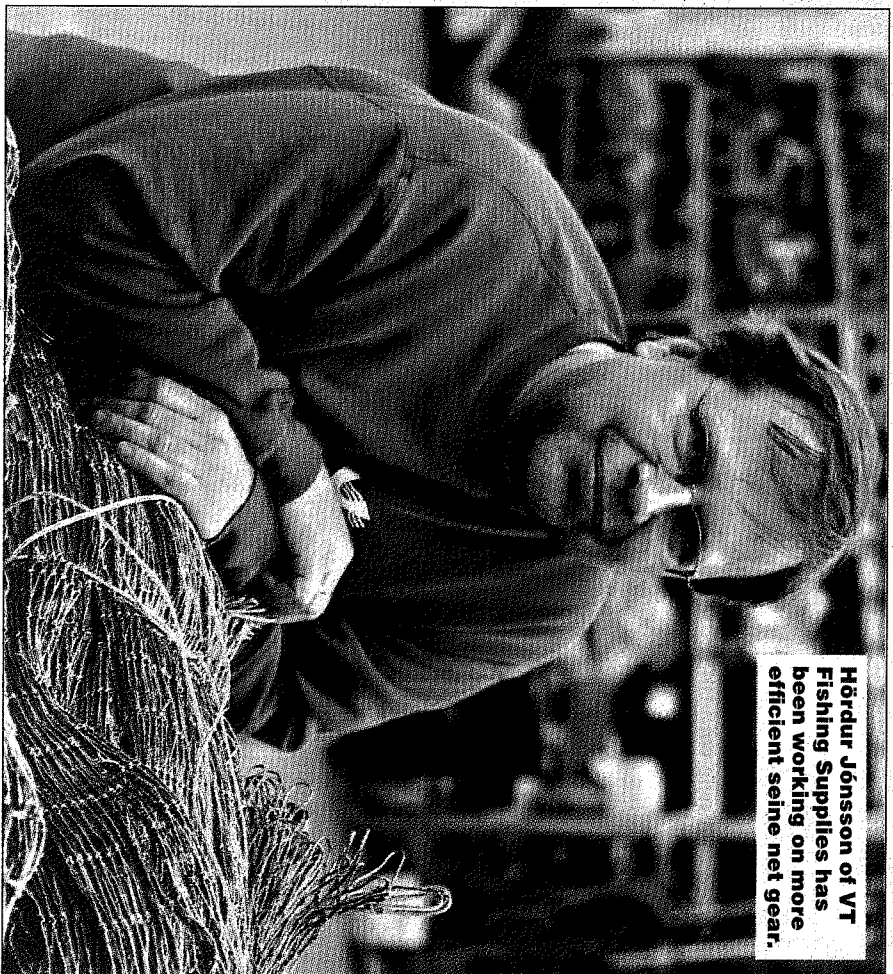
Hördur Jónsson says that many of these seine nets are rigged with light rockhopper footropes with 7 to 10 in. discs and up to 12 in.

"This is still light gear. We have a lot of hard ground around here so, for a lot of the skippers, the trick is to shoot the gear on to harder ground with the ropes leading off onto soft ground.

"Then the gear is hauled, towing the seine off the hard ground on to the soft and passing over the different grades of sand and gravel along the edges.

"We have also tried seine nets with plate footropes and this does work well, although it's not so easy to use and needs to be watched all the time.

"The plates can be rigged with a small inward angle to give a slight lift to the gear so it's lighter over the ground."



Hördur Jónsson of VT Fishing Supplies has been working on more efficient seine net gear.