

A common European database for underway data from FerryBoxes

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Since the beginning of FerryBox activities in the Baltic Sea in the '80s and on an European level with the FP5 project "FerryBox" (2003-2005) there has been a continuous increasing of FerryBox lines as well as ongoing activities on harmonization of operation. However, progress in visibility and accessibility of FB data has been lacking even if there exists long-term FB data sets in the Baltic and North Sea that would be of greatest interest for scientists and the general user of marine data and information.

FerryBoxes on ships operating on fixed routes are a valuable tool for monitoring purposes. Within the European JERICO-NEXT project the idea arose to develop an European database to gather data from all available FBs and to increase the visibility and accessibility. At the Institute of Coastal Research at HZG such a database had already been established within the coastal observatory COSYNA (www.cosyna.de) which fulfills most of the requirements. This database will be expanded to enable all available European FB routes to use this database. The talk will present the data model of the database and the possibilities for visualising the data. The concept of importing FB data will be shown as well as first results from different European regions. The connection of this database with the European marine data management activities of EMODnet and CMEMS and links with the EuroGOOS ROOSs will also be demonstrated.

Proposed Scheme for a Common European FerryBox Data Management

