Press Release
MAN Truck & Bus

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MAN Engines expands its systems expertise: integrated drive solutions now also with POD systems

- **Portfolio Expansion with POD Drive Systems from ZF**
- **Coordinated system solution consisting of MAN engines, ZF POD drives, control system and software**
- **Fewer interfaces, more efficient processes and convenient operation for shipyards and owners**
- **Power ranges for V12 engines up to 1,470 kW (2,000 hp)**

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MAN Engines is continuing to advance its position as a holistic systems provider and is expanding its portfolio for the first time to include integrated POD propulsion systems for yachts. Under the guiding principle of "from helm to propeller", the company offers end-to-end coordinated solutions – from drive levers, joysticks and displays to control and propulsion systems to propellers. In this way, MAN Engines is reducing complexity for shipyards and owners and strengthening its position as a supplier of propulsion systems in shipbuilding.

At the heart of the expanded portfolio are modern POD systems, which MAN Engines offers in close cooperation with ZF as part of a coordinated powertrain. The combination of MAN engines, POD drives from ZF, control system and software creates a closed system with high efficiency, precise maneuverability and convenient operation. Customers benefit from clear responsibilities, fewer interfaces and high reliability throughout the entire life cycle.

MAN Engines is building on many years of experience in the integration of central system components. The company has its own solutions and comprehensive expertise in operating and control concepts for marine applications. The POD systems are equipped with control levers, joysticks and displays from ZF; their coordinated and proven interaction with MAN engines, control systems and software enables consistent and convenient operating logic on board – from intuitive control to precise power delivery.

MAN Truck & Bus is one of Europe's leading commercial vehicle manufacturers and providers of transport solutions with an annual sales revenue of around 14.1 billion euros (2025). The company’s product portfolio includes trucks, buses and coaches with diesel and zero-emission drives, vans, diesel and gas engines along with services related to passenger and cargo transport. MAN Truck & Bus is a company of TRATON GROUP and employs some 32,000 people worldwide.

The POD systems complement this understanding with a key technology in modern yacht building. The controllable underwater units work without a classic rudder and generate propulsion via directional thrust. In combination with counter-rotating propellers, a modern propulsion concept is created that, with optimal design, offers advantages in fuel consumption and complements the other propulsion systems.

The POD systems are designed for high power ranges: The ZF POD 4600 covers the engine outputs of the twelve-cylinder V-engines up to 1,213 kW (1,650 hp), while the ZF POD 4900 expands the range to up to 1,470 kW (2,000 hp). This allows high-performance applications in which performance and efficiency are paramount to be flexibly equipped with integrated drive solutions.

As a system provider, MAN Engines coordinates the engine, POD drive, control system and software. This reduces planning effort, simplifies installation and can speed up commissioning. Shipyards benefit from more efficient processes and lower integration risks, while owners benefit from high system efficiency, reliability and an international service network. "With POD systems, we are expanding our portfolio specifically to meet additional requirements for boat propulsion. Shipyards and owners receive powerful, efficient and convenient propulsion solutions from a single source," says Claus Benzler, Head of Marine MAN Engines.

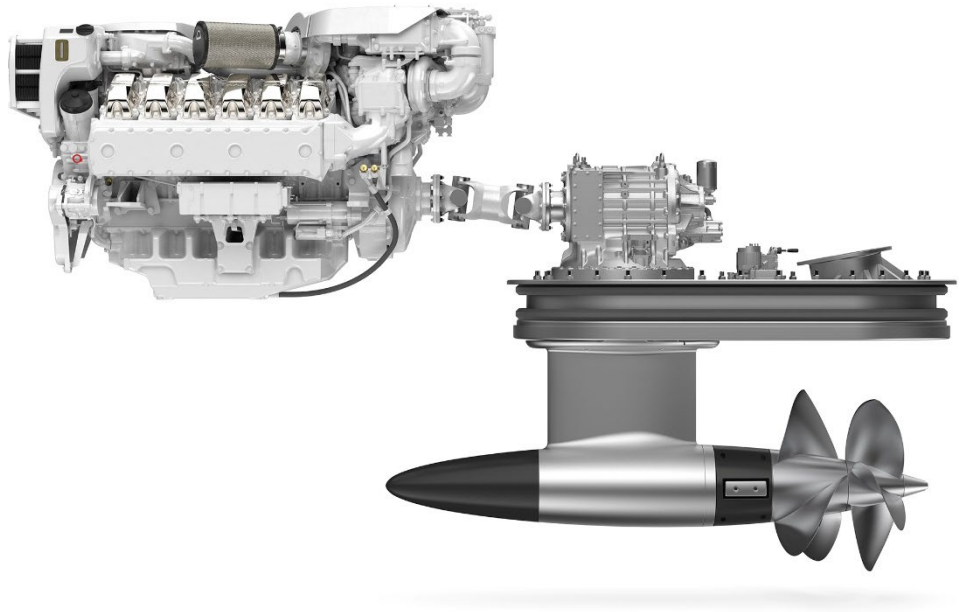
The integrated solutions also offer advantages in operation. The coordinated system architecture creates good conditions for demand-based fuel consumption and can – depending on the design and application profile – contribute to lower emissions and operating costs.

Another component of the system strategy is the range of hybrid solutions. With the first applications of the "MAN Smart HYBRID Experience" on the market, MAN Engines will be showcasing its range of alternative drive concepts that combine the advantages of combustion engines and electric motors.

The approach as a system provider stands for a clear value proposition: MAN Engines not only supplies products, but also assumes responsibility for the entire drive system. From design to integration to worldwide service, the company accompanies all project phases. Digital diagnostic options and a global service network with high spare parts availability ensure reliable operational readiness. The system solution is available for new projects with immediate effect.

From November 17 to 19, 2026, a model of the ZF POD system with a MAN engine will be on display at METSTRADE at RAI Amsterdam. Visitors to the joint booth 08.321 will have the opportunity to meet with MAN Engines' representatives for the Benelux, MAN Rollo, and Italy, Ranieri Tonissi S.p.A.

Picture:



Integrated propulsion solution for yachts: MAN V12 engine with a ZF POD system.