Transport of Renewable Resources on Inland Waterways – solutions for bulk transport on the Danube

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Pellets Workshop, 28 June 2013
via donau is...
Established and owned by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit)

- via donau provides a reliable and safe waterway infrastructure
- preserves and enhances the Danube habitat
- supports environment-friendly navigation to strengthen Austria as a successful business location
- modernises and operates facilities aimed at protecting the population from floods

www.via-donau.org
Transport development – the role of via donau

- **Neutral platform** for contacts between supply and demand side as well as between logistics providers (including Business to Business platforms)

- Support logistics professionals by providing technical know-how regarding the Danube waterway, nautics and logistics

- Provide information on available funding schemes regarding inland waterway transport and Danube logistics

- Collect data and information on the Danube logistics axis and disseminate them to relevant stakeholders
State of the art in Danube Logistics

- Active addressing of players and lobbies as a strong signal of customer orientation (key account management)
- Information about logistics developments along the Danube and monitoring of success of projects
- Specific know-how and relevant network for the execution of projects in the field of Danube logistics and multimodality
- Bundling of knowledge and expertise in Danube navigation (incl. market analysis)
- Internet services on Danube Logistics

Photo credits: via donau, ILL
The Danube waterway
The international dimension of the Danube waterway

- Most international river of the world (10 riparian countries)
- 2nd longest river of Europe (2,850 km entire length)
- Navigable length of 2,411 km, whereof 1,156 km (48%) are border sections
- Riparian Canals:
  - Danube-Black Sea Canal (opened 1984) links the Danube to the Black Sea Port of Constanța
  - Main-Danube Canal (opened 1992): direct connection to the river Rhine, linking the North Sea with the Black Sea
North Sea
ARA ports Amsterdam Rotterdam Antwerp

3,800 km Rhine-Main-Danube axis

Constanța

Black Sea

Source: via donau
Transport volume on the Austrian Danube by commodity group 2012

Total

Agricultural sector 10,7 Mio. tons

Agricultural sector 2,2 Mio. tons

* NST/R = Standard Goods Classification for Transport Statistics/Revised

Source: Statistics Austria, table and diagram created by via donau

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Potentials for the transport of renewable resources on the Danube waterway
Advantages of Danube navigation for the transport of agricultural goods

- **Cost efficient transport solution**, especially for bulk cargo
- **High loading capacity** of Danube vessels compared to other modes of transport
- **Reliable partner** with longterm experience and well established transport chains
- High density of Danube ports with **efficient handling and storage facilities** for agricultural products
- Generally **good fairway conditions during the harvesting periods** and low specific weight in comparison to other goods
The Danube Region as economic area – Agricultural areas
The Danube Region as economic area – Forestry
Transport by inland vessel

Source: via donau
Transhipment

Source: Mierka Donauhafen Krems, via donau
Storage
Ports on the Danube Waterway for Agricultural goods
Danube ports and transhipment sites with regular transhipment of agricultural goods (1)
Danube ports and transhipment sites with regular transhipment of agricultural goods (2)
The Austrian Public Danube Ports

Photo credits: Port of Linz, Port of Enns, Port of Krems, Port of Vienna
Working initiative: „NAWARO“
What are renewable resources?

- Agricultural or forestry products
- for energetic or material use
- around 20% of the total transport volume on the Austrian Danube
- e.g. wood, wheat, vegetable oil and fats
Renewable resources

Separated in different product groups:

- Wood
- Vegetable oils and fats
- Starch
- Sugar
Austrian initiative on the transport of renewable resources on the Danube waterway

- Starting in the End of 2012 – running till 2014
- Detailed survey: potential of specific renewable resources for inland navigation (incl. expert interviews)
- National and international expert working groups (supply and demand side)
- Stimulation of concrete projects
- Further promotion of renewable resources during fairs and other cooperation events
Working Plan

- Information exchange during the workshops
- Different workshops dealing with product groups
  - Wood, Cellulose, Paper, Pellets
  - Oil seed, vegetable oils and fats, biodiesel
  - Grain, Starch, bioethanol
- Good practices and presentations from external experts
- Information about Danube Navigation
- Discussions of dedicated thematic questions in smaller expert groups
Working Status

two expert workshops already took place:

- Kick off: 6 December 2012
  - around 25 participants
  - All product groups discussed
- Expert workshop on Wooden products: 22 May 2013
  - around 40 participants
  - Focus on wood, paper, cellulose, pellets and other wooden products
Spotlight

- Great potential and interest on pellets, woodchips and the needed equipment for transhipment
- Renewable resources as a new opportunity for Danube navigation
- Inland navigation offers very low transport costs especially for bulk cargo
- Wood from Eastern Europe has potential (especially round wood and pellets)
- Pellets (A1, A2) to Austria and Germany, transhipment and storage in Danube Ports
Information on Danube Navigation
Everything to know about Danube Navigation

- Basic informationen
- useful downloads
- Facts & figures
- News & publications

www.donauschifffahrt.info
Details on our online platforms

- **Blue Pages** – Website with transport and forwarding companies operating along the Danube: [www.blue-pages.at](http://www.blue-pages.at)

- **Danube Ports Online** – Website with data and information on Danube ports and transhipment sites between Kelheim and the Black Sea: [www.danubeports.info](http://www.danubeports.info)
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