

New Development Fish Mincer – The ANDAR Offal Hogger

In an effort to find a solution to the seabird by-catch problem ANDAR Holdings Limited have developed and trialled a unique and innovative solution to the handling of offal and non-quota discards to reduce seabird attraction.

Aimed at mitigating the attraction of seabirds through reducing the feeding frenzy around the offal discharge by reducing the particle size. The reduction of available offal in this area as a result of the use of the ANDAR Offal Hogger has been proven to reduce the number of birds attracted to the vessel and the frequency of associated warp strikes.

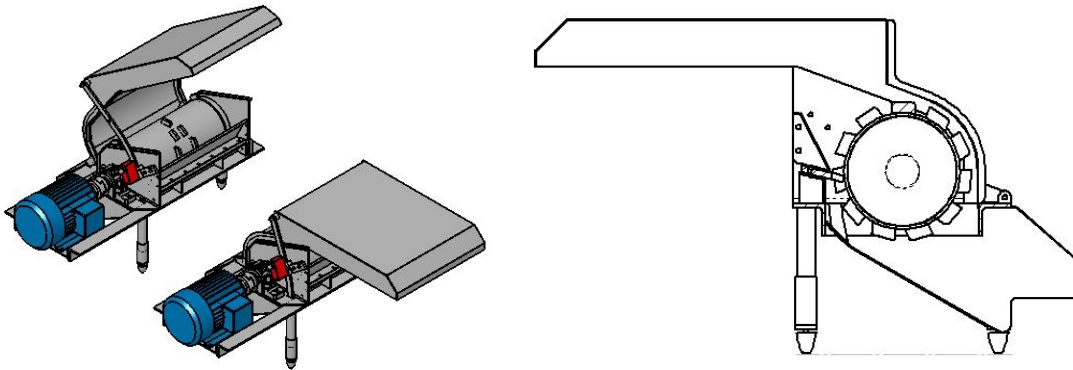


Fig 1 - Overview of ANDAR Offal Hogger

In addition it is believed that this approach may also reduce the catches of shearwaters, which come off the islands late in the squid season. Their attraction to the fishing fleet as an easy source of food is well known.

The equipment is small enough to fit within the confined spaces of any trawlers factory and can easily cope with the large volumes of waste throughput required.



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Trials To Date.

The ANDAR Offal Hogger concept has been well proven on board the Sureste 709 operated by South East Resources Limited (SERL), with an independent observers report highlighting the following points;

The ANDAR Offal Hogger can cope with all species, with larger species such as OSD and RSK because of the size needing to be cut on the heading saw (generally into half's or thirds) to be able to fit into the hogger at a steady flow rate. Water needs to be added with bony species to prevent flying fragments.

Most product came out of the ANDAR Offal Hogger as mulch this included the more abrasive OSD with SPD being a more benign species within this group.

The exceptions to this were;

- 1) LIN Heads with the skin tending to come out in strips
- 2) Bony heads LDO and STA came out with some larger fragments
- 3) Cartilage from various species was seen, but mainly mulched.

Throughput.

Despite the units relatively small size the ANDAR Offal Hogger will process 7 – 10 tonnes per hour of offal and non-quota discards.

Individual batch runs were also trialled on various species in an effort to gauge the machines limitations, all species were handled with ease, including giant squid, RSK frames and large OSD with the hogger handling any reasonable throughput associated with most vessels maximum production rates.

The cutter pump on board the Sureste 709 worked constantly throughout the trial period. The discharge from the cutter pump could be best described as a pale pureed liquid form.

Observers Comments Regarding Bird Attraction.

The foremost change in bird behaviour observed was the absence of the feeding frenzy around the discharge. A change was also noted in the species types with XSL's normally predominant, outnumbered by XSS mainly the Cape Pidgeon.

At haul back through to gear set the usual numbers of birds were observed at 300 approx.

Half an hour after gear set and with full factory production, numbers decreased to between 5 and 20 birds.

For more information and a quotation, please contact:

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Fig 2 - View of Hogger undergoing shore based initial trials



Fig 3 - Internal details of Hogger showing teeth and upper lid assembly



Fig 4 – Hogger prior to installation on Sureste 709



Fig 5 – Internals of Hogger following trials

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