

Summary

Roll-on Roll-off (Ro-Ro) is a way of transport by using rolling cargo. Ro-Ro is applied in different transport modalities. One of these modalities is the inland navigation.

Ro-Ro application in the inland navigation is limited to a number of successful concepts/companies: Harms-Interrijn, Rhine Ro-Ro, Van der Wees Watertransporten, Cobelfret and Willi Betz. These concepts are successful because of the offered adapted service.

Concepts, by which the applications of Ro-Ro have been failed are: Katoen Natie, River Sea Pusher System, Schwople Barge and Pacscat. The failing from these concepts is caused by the lack of cargo and a too strong competition of road transport and container transport.

Intermodaal transport with use of Ro-Ro inland navigation can be financially attractive in comparison with unimodal road transport. To obtain financial advantage some preconditions have to be favorable.

In the future, Ro-Ro will not increase under the same circumstances. To grow, Ro-Ro inland navigation needs an impulse from innovative concepts, political decisions or the increasing interest of the environment aspect.