



TECHNICAL FEATURES

- Thickness of top plate covering: 2.5 mm (0.1 inch) standard; 3 mm (0.12 inch) optional
- Thickness of side wall: 4 mm (0.16 inch) standard; 5 mm (0.2 inch) optional
- Horizontal part in tread plate
- Top plate covering is profiled to obtain a rigid sheet pile wall profile
- Top plate covering is mounted on 4 mm (0.16 inch) thick aluminum side walls with inside supports
- EPDM seals prevent water from seeping in
- Stainless steel wheel housings in side walls with double bearing wheels and stainless steel axles
- Lock recesses are made entirely of stainless steel
- Solid wind hooks are present on each hatch cover (also available in stainless steel)

ADVANTAGES OF ALUMINUM COVERS

- Aluminum is a **lightweight material** that can cover large spans without affecting the loading capacity
- Covers require no more than **one or two people** to operate
- A barge with aluminum covers can be opened **within minutes**
- **Safe operation** from the side deck, eliminating the need to climb on the coaming and/or hatches
- **Hardly any maintenance** needed – just change the wheels every 10 years to ensure the smoothest possible operation
- **No extra cranes** or **storage space** are **needed** to open the barge
- The life span of aluminum hatches is **more than 30 years**
- Strong enough for a **span of up to 15 metres (49 ft)**
- **No electricity** needed, except if an electrical winch is used
- The covers are **recyclable**, and production does not harm the environment or workers



Partnership with SMI

Blommaert has recently entered a partnership with Ships Machinery International (SMI), a US-based company that delivers innovative marine technology and the best heavy-duty marine equipment available while ensuring unsurpassed quality & reliability in products & service. SMI will act as a local agent assisting us in the expansion of our Delta sliding hatches in the United States.

Partnership Blommaert and SMI



References

- Amaggi
- Cargill
- Dann Marine Towing
- Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC)
- U.S. Waterways Transportation LLC

WWW.BLOMMAERTALU.COM



DELTA SLIDING HATCHES

Stainless steel wheel case



Stainless steel locking case



BLOMMAERT
ALUMINIUM CONSTRUCTIONS

Stokerijstraat 35
2110 Wijnegem, België

Ophemertstraat 42
3089 JE Rotterdam

T. +32 (0)3 353 26 89
F. +32 (0)3 353 35 90



BLOMMAERT
ALUMINIUM CONSTRUCTIONS



ALUMINUM SLIDING HATCHES FOR BARGES

Our Delta sliding hatches are light, self-supporting and easy to operate for spans of up to 15 metres (49 ft). They can be **easily moved by hand or operated by an electrical winch**.

The reason why our hatches are so strong is their self-supporting sheet pile wall – but this does not make them excessively heavy. Moreover, they consist mainly of welded plates with few mechanical parts, so hardly **any maintenance is needed**.

The sturdy construction allows us to build hatches with a span up to 15 metres (49 ft). Our standard version is a Frisian hatch model with double-lift cam. The horizontal part is provided with anti-slip material designed for workers to walk on.

The plates consist of 2.5 mm (0.1 inch) thick sheet pile walls in aluminum alloy AlMg3 welded to one another. These plates are mounted onto side walls with a plate thickness of 4 mm (0.16 inch), curved and strengthened by means of curved supports on the inside. The side walls comprise:

- Four detachable stainless steel wheel housings with two cast iron and two nylon flat wheels per cover, with dust-proof grooved ball bearings and four stainless steel shafts
- One handle bucket and one stainless steel locking bucket
- Wind hooks to protect against wind

SAFETY AND QUALITY

Vigilance, discipline and compliance with safety regulations in our production area are not just goals, but requirements for Blommaert. Safety and quality are of vital importance, and we see timely investments in the latest safe machines and personal protection equipment as an ongoing concern, not extra expenses. They ensure the safety of our employees as well as the safety of all our solutions.

SAFETY AND RELIABILITY ARE KEY



Wind hooks for safety measures

VERY LIGHT
BUT WITHOUT
COMPROMISING
STRENGTH



INNOVATION ABROAD

Brazil and the United States

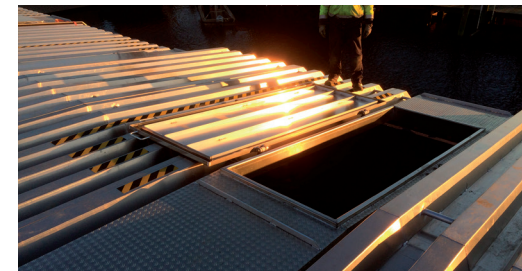
In 2013, Blommaert expanded into the Brazilian market with its Delta sliding hatches. Our major market are **barges in the north of Brazil** which transport soya, grain, fertilisers, wood pellets and similar materials. Every barge has a capacity of approximately 2,000 tonnes of grain, equivalent to some 70 fully-loaded trucks.

The success of our Brazilian venture is currently being continued in **North America**. We recently supplied Dann Marine Towing, a fifth-generation family company in Norfolk, Virginia, with two sets of Delta sliding hatches for their barges. Each of the two solutions included a **personalised loading hatch** which can be opened at any time. This allows cargo to be loaded and unloaded very efficiently without being influenced by weather conditions.

Fully automated

In Brazil, barges tend to arrive at terminals in convoys of around 20 at a time, all of which need to be loaded or unloaded as quickly as possible. As the weather there can go from sunny to stormy in a matter of minutes – and time is money even in the best of circumstances – it is crucial that the hold can be opened and closed quickly.

If requested, our sliding hatches can be delivered with a system for completely flexible automatic operation. The system can be controlled via a panel or a remote control, depending on the customer's preference. The control panel is designed to be installed on a push boat or a terminal and can control one barge at a time. The automation system allows a barge of around 60 metres in length to be opened in less than two minutes. If desired, we can also provide customers with a toolbox so they can carry out minor repairs themselves.



REALIZED PROJECTS



Barge with aluminum covers



Close-up sliding hatch



Ready for transport



Barge



Convoy on the Amazon, BR



Close up



Sliding hatches in Brazil

