Behavior of different trawl codend concepts

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The overall objective of this study was to evaluate the behavior of different codend designs to provide basic information that is relevant for implementing technical management measures, improving selectivity and catch quality, and reducing energy consumption. Six different codend designs were evaluated: a traditional diamond mesh codend; a T90 codend (meshes turned 90°); a Bacoma codend with diamond meshes in the lower panel and square meshes in the upper panel; a Bacoma codend with the square meshes orientated in the T0 direction; a two panel square mesh codend; and a four panel square mesh codend. The codends were tested in a flume tank with flow of 1.8 knots/h. A simulated catch of 500 kg was placed in the tested codend. A motion tracking system was used with four track markers placed on each of three successive cross-sections and a single marker at the end of the codend. This made it possible to assess and compare the movements of the codend and the netting in three dimensions. The drag of the codends also was measured and compared.