

DUNKERQUE-PORT REWARDS CLEAN PORT CALLS ON ITS TERMINALS TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY

For more than 10 years, Dunkerque-Port has pursued a genuinely proactive policy in favour of sustainable development of the port. Implemented in 2014 by the roll-out of the Structural and Sustainable Development Plan (PA2D) which defines and supervises more than 150 operations in that respect, it has resulted in the use of good environmental practices especially in terms of dredging sediment management and preserving biodiversity. The mature strategy recently developed into an environmental management system, which obtained Port Environmental Review System (PERS) certification in 2018 as part of the ECOPORT network.

Marking the European Sustainable Development Week from 30 May to 5 June, and in order to accentuate the efforts made to reduce atmospheric emissions, in particular through the Regional Climate, Air and Energy Action Plan (SRCAE) backed by the Dunkerque Urban Community (CUD), Dunkerque-Port has launched an environmental reward system for low-emission vessels calling at Dunkerque. The initiative will help to improve air quality.

Air quality and a reduction in the emissions of sulphur, nitrogen and other fine particles have become international priorities. This is evidenced by the regulatory changes initiated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

The maritime transport sector, a contributor to atmospheric emissions, is making positive progress in this direction by offering ever more efficient, energy-efficient vessels and using fuels that have less impact on the environment.

To encourage this change, Dunkerque-Port has joined forces with the Environmental Ship Index initiative (ESI) initiated by the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), the principle of which is to assign a score to ships based on their atmospheric emissions. The higher the ship's rating, the cleaner its air quality.

Companies and charterers that call at Dunkerque are invited to join this responsible initiative by signing a charter. The latter is intended to underline the willingness of companies and charterers to use more efficient, low-emission vessels for their port calls in Dunkerque. In return, Dunkerque-Port undertakes to pay a financial reward at the end of each year. The latter is calculated on the basis of the number of clean port calls made by the company or the charterer, in proportion to the total

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number of clean port calls recorded in the port over one year. An annual envelope will be distributed among the signatories of the charter.

Dunkerque-Port is one of the 50 or so volunteer ports in the world that have already approved the initiative.

About Dunkerque-Port:

The largest French port complex (Calais-Dunkerque); the ninth largest port on the Channel and North Sea Range and France's third-largest port, Dunkerque-Port has built a reputation in many sectors: it is the largest passenger port in Europe (Calais-Dunkerque hub); France's largest energy hub; the country's largest LNG terminal; the leading French port for containerised fruit and vegetable imports; the largest French port for ore and coal imports; France's largest rail port; the region's largest waterway port; and the third-ranking French port for grain traffic. Dunkerque-Port is also a sustainable port. It is the trading port of the new Hauts-de-France Region, the largest agricultural region of France, the leading region for the rail industry, and the leading region for the car industry. 2018 Traffic: 51.6 Mt

About the ESI:

The aim is to encourage ship owners to reduce air emissions from ships and urge them to voluntarily go beyond purely regulatory requirements in order to improve air quality and the environment.

The ESI is used to establish, for each participating vessel, a score based on several parameters: the performance of its engine, its equipment on board and of course the quality of the fuels used.

The ESI is therefore:

- *An initiative that relies first and foremost on a pro-active, incentive-based approach to promote cleaner shipping.*
- *An environmental index constructed by ports that have set up financial incentive policies.*
- *An initiative that currently unites 56 ports of all sizes worldwide and concerns more than 8,000 ships of the global fleet.*
- *An approach followed by shipowners who have freely agreed to go beyond regulatory requirements.*
- *A way to attract cleaner ships.*

For further information, please see the dedicated website: <http://www.environmentalshipindex.org/Public/Home/AboutESI>

About the IAPH:

Founded in 1955, IAPH is a global alliance of ports today representing around 180 ports and 140 port-related organizations and companies in some 90 countries. On 16 April 2008, the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) tasked its Environment Working Group, in consultation with regional port organizations, to create a tool to support ports in the fight against climate change. That is how the World Ports Climate Initiative came into being. Carrying on from that, the participating ports have undertaken to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through the World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP). The ESI is one of the strategic priorities of the WPSP.

For further information, please see the dedicated website: <http://wpci.iaphworldports.org/>

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