

Atlantic Blue Ports Newsletter #5

December 2020

The Atlantic Blue Ports project is aiming to improve the port based services for the discharge and treatment of ships effluents including oil and ballast water. The project's goal is to create awareness and motivation to stop discharge at sea using the Atlantic Area as a support platform to prototype, test, demonstrate and communicate activities. The project has gathered together a consortium of 28 partners and associated stakeholders representing ports, PRF operators, public authorities, SMEs and universities from across the Atlantic Area.

For more information on the project, its aims and objectives, achievements and partners please visit www.atlanticblueports.com

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Visit of a EU member of Parliament



From left to right: M. Karleskind, Chapalain, Cagnard and Le Mouillour in front of 'InvaSave'.

At the beginning of October 2020, the Chamber of Commerce in Brest welcomed Pierre Karleskind, Member of the European Parliament in charge of maritime affairs, to the port of Brest. Discussions were held with representatives from the port of Brest (CCIMBO and Brittany region), Damen and Blue Water

Shipping companies that covered the environmental challenges of the European Green Deal, the Atlantic Blue Ports Project as well as a presentation of the InvaSave system.

The European Commission's Green Deal sets ambitious environmental objectives, particularly for maritime transport. As a result of the discussions a working session with the inter-parliamentary group 'searica', which is dedicated to maritime issues has been scheduled for 10th December 2020. Pierre Karleskind is also a member of the 'searica' inter-parliamentary group.

Virtual Project meeting in November 2020

The partners held their 6th progress meeting virtually on 19th November 2020, with almost all partners on board; despite Covid constraints. The project entered its last implementation phase on 1st September 2020 (and will end on 30th June 2021). The meeting enabled an animated exchange on the progress achieved and the work still to be done before the end of the project as well as legacy follow on actions. The team is concentrating on the pilot actions, which allow testing solutions, tests of new treatment technologies, sea water monitoring, and recommendations to the IMO for the regulation on Ballast Water Management Convention and to the European Parliament on main conclusions of the project and suggested actions.(see below).

Testing new treatment technologies for oily waste: nano-filtration

The management of complex oily effluents such as bilge and sludge (water polluted by oil, chemicals and nano/micro-particles) is currently an issue especially when small volumes are discharged in the Port Reception Facility. Classical treatment processes (e.g. decantation) are not efficient in terms of time, cost and water quality after treatment. For these reasons, the port of Brest has selected a quite new technology, nano-filtration, for its prototype treatment system for sludge and bilge. The system developed by the company Micfil will be tested between January and June 2021.

Ballast water management White Paper

Following the IMO International Ballast Water Management Convention, it is reported that the number of ships installing and commissioning ballast water management systems has risen steeply, particularly in the last 9 months.

SGS Global Marine Services group, conducts commissioning testing of ballast water management systems (BWMS) to determine compliance to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) D-2 discharge standard following the commissioning guidelines as set out in BWM.2/Circ.70. They have published a white paper summarizing the data collected from 95 ships. To see the results of their testing programme please follow [this link](#). The white paper highlight the urgency to ensure commissioning testing for new installations is carried out as soon as possible to protect the environment and the shipowners.

Working meeting with representatives of the EU Parliament

The Parliamentarian "Seas, Rivers, Islands and Coastal Areas" intergroup ("searica") works in a transverse/ cross cutting manner on EU policies and initiatives related to maritime topics such as the Blue Growth

Strategy, the Framework for Maritime Spatial Planning, the Integrated Maritime Policy, as well as the different Sea Basin Strategies and, more recently, the Green Deal. It reflects the EU awareness of the importance of seas and oceans for a sustainable economic growth of the European Union.

The Atlantic Blue Ports project addresses some of the key topics of the sea-ica intergroup: protection of the marine environment and marine biodiversity, reduction of marine pollution, development of sea water monitoring, etc, considering all facets of the issues including regulations.

The Blue Port consortium, together with the Conference of Maritime Peripheral Regions is preparing a final exchange session with the sea-ica members on the main recommendations for future actions.

The session will be online and is open for participation of any interested organisation; full details below.

Managing ships effluents in the context of the European Green Deal

INTERGROUP



Seas, Rivers, Islands & Coastal Areas

On **10th December 2020 from 10.00 to 12.30 CET** SEARICA is organizing a webinar dedicated to “Managing ships effluents in the context of the Green Deal” with the support of the [Blue Ports Project](#). The discussion will be hosted by SEARICA's Vice-Chair Pierre Karleskind.

This event will be a great opportunity to learn more about the achievements of the project and exchange views on potential next steps to be taken at the Atlantic and European level. There will be three sessions dedicated to the three main issues tackled by Blue Ports:

- Facilitating the implementation of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention
- Monitoring and protecting marine water in ports
- Fostering the development of cutting-edge port services for ships effluents

To register to attend this event please visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3n2bsf6>

For more information on the sea-ica group please visit: <http://www.searica.eu>

Contact us / join us

The project partners have created an interest group for anyone interested in the project. Joining the group is not engaging: any organisation can join to monitor the activities, to contribute to the studies of the Interest Group or to ask for implementing more concrete actions such as tests, recommendations to the IMO and EU decision making bodies, or to submit any idea that would help implementing the EU and international regulations related to ship effluents and waste. Join the interest group [here](#).

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Project Partners:



Partnership

