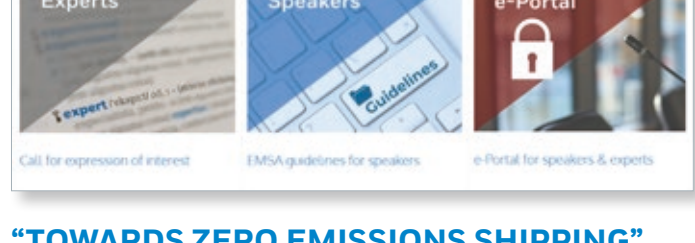


CONNECT YOUR EXPERTISE WITH EMSA: NEW E-PORTAL FOR EXPERTS & SPEAKERS

EMSA has just launched a new e-portal for experts and speakers that allows interested parties to register their details with a view to being contacted by the Agency to participate in future projects, training courses, events and seminars. There are two means of signing up depending on whether the interested party is an expert or speaker; experts apply via a call for expression of interest, while speakers enter their details directly into the e-portal for future use. In this way, EMSA has ready access to a database of maritime specialists whose experience can complement in-house knowledge and who might be able to contribute to the work of the Agency. Details can be found on the [dedicated page on the EMSA website](#).



“TOWARDS ZERO EMISSIONS SHIPPING” – EMSA WORKSHOP HELD ON EMD2021

Within the framework of European Maritime Day 2021, EMSA organised a workshop on the ambitious topic of “Towards Zero Emissions Shipping”. Representatives from authorities, industry and civil society actively engaged during the session. A panel discussion moderated by EMSA kicked off the discussions with highlighted interventions from Brigit Gijssbers (Director for Maritime Affairs in the Netherlands), Isabelle Ryckbost (ESPO Secretary General), Martin Dorsman (ECSA Secretary General) and Faig Abbasov (Transport & Environment Director of Shipping). The workshop touched on several topics related to the sustainability of maritime transport with a special focus on decarbonisation and the use of ‘zero emissions’ technologies. Issues such as the European Green Deal, the EU and IMO GHG reduction strategy, the uptake of sustainable alternative fuels and clean power systems, as well as market-based measures, including ETS for shipping, were discussed. The lively discussions that took place during the workshop, with interesting contributions and questions from the floor, highlighted the need for cooperation among all stakeholders to address the challenges and turn them into opportunities for the future.



CISE IN THE MARITIME DOMAIN – EMSA WORKSHOP HELD ON EMD 2021

More than 120 participants from various countries and sectors took part in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) workshop during European Maritime Day on 21 May. The member states already involved in CISE actively participated, sharing how the interoperability of existing maritime surveillance systems can lead to enhanced awareness and responsiveness at sea for each participating authority. During the workshop, DG MARE described how the concept of maritime CISE started in 2009 with the aim of ensuring increased cross-sectoral and cross-border exchange of information, which later became a key action supporting the implementation of the [EU Maritime Security Strategy](#). EMSA emphasized that the current [Transitional Phase of CISE](#) is evolving rapidly and highlighted that now is the time to join the CISE network for those who are not yet part of it. The workshop provided also a perfect opportunity to launch [CISE's new video](#).

BALTIC SEA COUNTRIES PARTICIPATE IN FIRST REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON CISE

On 28 April, representatives of more than 28 maritime authorities from the Baltic Sea region met to discuss the opportunities the [Common Information Sharing Environment \(CISE\)](#) could bring for regional cooperation in the maritime surveillance area. Representatives from the Finnish Border Guard and the Transport Infrastructure Agency explained how CISE could contribute to the enhanced maritime picture in the Baltic Sea, decreasing information fragmentation and improving cost efficiency at the same time. It was concluded that to reach its full potential, CISE should be recognised and implemented in the region and beyond. Workshop participants also heard of the funding opportunities available under the new [European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund \(EMFAF\)](#) for the participating states.



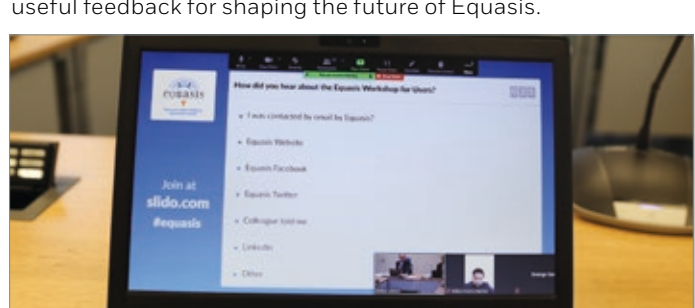
MARINE EQUIPMENT MED PORTAL NOW UP AND RUNNING FOR ONE FULL YEAR

EMSA is pleased to celebrate the first anniversary of the new marine equipment MED portal. The portal gives interested maritime stakeholders and members of the general public access to a database of all the products certified under the EU's Marine Equipment Directive 2014/90/EU. The portal also offers support to the work of the Technical Group of MED Notified Bodies (MarED Group) when developing technical harmonisation documents (Recommendations) for the implementation of the directive. It includes general information about the EU framework on marine equipment as well as the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with the USA. Over its first year of use, more than 4 300 users worldwide registered in the portal and more than 190 000 product records submitted by the Notified Bodies (NB) were successfully processed, including the registration of 20 000 new data sets. The new portal allows Notified Bodies to report and upload product information directly. In this way, the time between the issuance of new MED certificates and their visualisation by potential customers has been significantly shortened. Another advantage of the portal is that it can process and show the Declarations of Conformity as submitted by the manufacturers. This is an essential document for showing compliance with the MED, becoming a lawful commercial product in the EU Single Market, gaining access on board ships flying the flag of an EU member state and supporting Market Surveillance tasks. Finally, the portal is prepared to implement the use of the e-tag on a voluntary basis. EMSA would like to thank all the users, including the European Commission, member states, Notified Bodies, manufacturers and other stakeholders for their support and input in developing and running this portal to support the whole MED community.



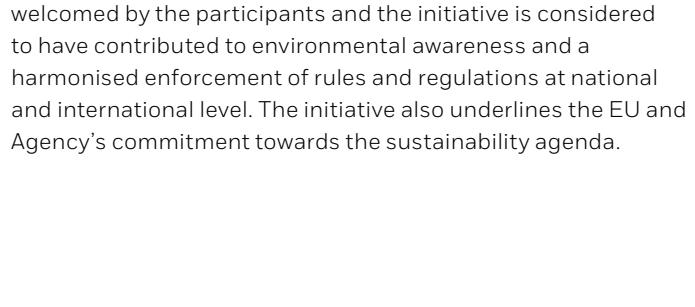
VIRTUAL USER WORKSHOP HELD ON FUTURE OF THE EQUASIS MERCHANT FLEET DATA SOURCE

On 21 April 2021, an Equasis Workshop for Users was organised by EMSA in remote mode. The discussion was focused on the results of the Equasis survey launched at the beginning of 2021 and on the future needs to ensure that Equasis is fit for purpose in the next decade. Equasis is a valuable source of safety and quality-related data on the world merchant fleet. The workshop had the active participation of more than 45 Equasis users remotely connected, located in different time zones on different continents (Europe, Africa, Asia, North America and South America, Oceania) and provided useful feedback for shaping the future of Equasis.



SIERRA LEONE PORT STATE CONTROL OFFICERS ATTEND EMSA TRAINING ON MARPOL ANNEX VI

Five Port State Control Officers from Sierra Leone have participated in a three-day training course given by the EMSA Academy following a request from the EU Delegation and an acknowledgement from the European Commission of the added value this would bring at EU level. The course was held on 19-21 May and covered: the Guidelines for Port State Control under Marpol Annex VI; sulphur control procedures during a PSC inspection; fuel oil; sulphur control procedures; and, reporting in the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS). Best practices for document checks and fuel sampling were shared, as well as explanations of how a PSC Officer could verify the presence of a ship with energy efficiency provisions, approved abatement methods and/or alternative fuels. The course was welcomed by the participants and the initiative is considered to have contributed to environmental awareness and a harmonised enforcement of rules and regulations at national and international level. The initiative also underlines the EU and Agency's commitment towards the sustainability agenda.



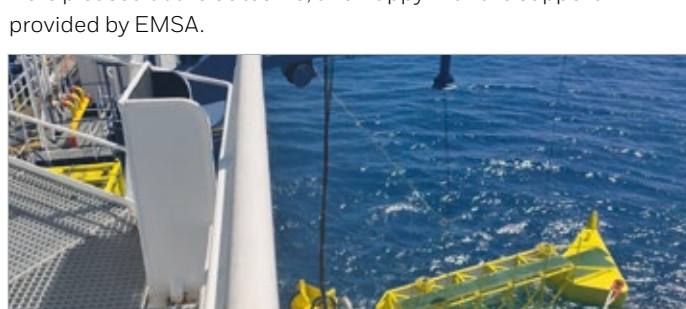
EU COMMISSIONER FOR BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION VISITS EMSA

On 28 May, EU Commissioner for Budget and Administration, Johannes Hahn, was welcomed to EMSA's premises for discussions on EMSA's work, activities and mandate. The visit also included a first-hand view of the Agency's maritime surveillance capabilities in the Maritime Support Services Centre.



REAL EXERCISES AT SEA FOR EMSA POLLUTION RESPONSE SERVICES START AGAIN

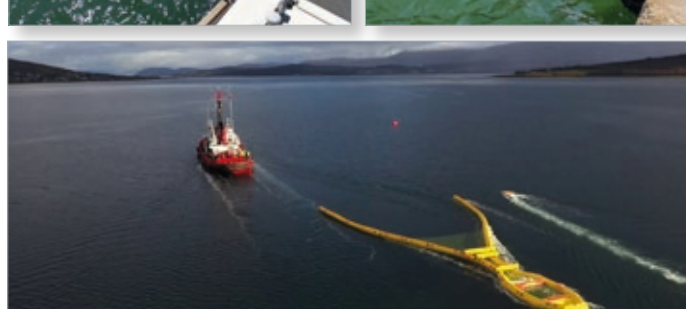
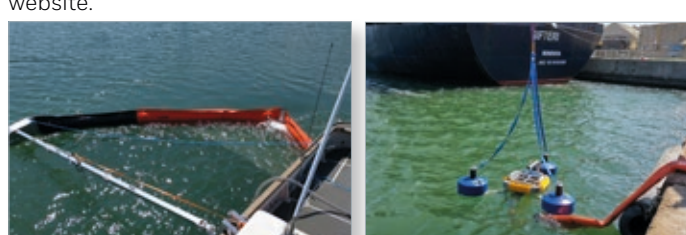
Following a year in which there were very few pollution response exercises at sea, national authorities are now keen to get back on the water and train their oil pollution response capacities in a practical setting. As always, EMSA is available with a range of services (vessels, EAS, RPAS and CleanSeaNet) to support these exercises, and has already received requests to participate in five exercises during 2021. The first of these exercises – the RAMOGEPOL – took place on 26-27 May off Corsica, with the aim of testing the coordination between the RAMOGE partners France, Italy and Monaco, and international/European resources at their disposal. The exercise simulated oil spill damage caused by an oil tanker at sea (26 May), subsequently washing up on shore (27 May). EMSA provided the services of the OPR vessel Brezzamare and lightweight RPAS launched from the French Navy vessel Pionnier. The exercise was successful, and all participants were pleased at the outcome, and happy with the support provided by EMSA.



View of Brezzamare using its sweeping arms system to recover the pollutant (rice husks)

NEW MEDIUM SIZE POLLUTION RESPONSE EQUIPMENT STARTS BEING DELIVERED TO EMSA EAS

Starting with the second quarter of 2021, EMSA has further enhanced its range of oil pollution response equipment, by adding three types of medium-sized equipment systems – high-speed integrated containment and storage system; low speed containment system; oil recovery skimmer – within its Equipment Assistance Service arrangements. These systems are meant to be operated by smaller vessels of opportunity, thus diversifying even further the toolbox available across European waters. These new equipment systems, given their more compact size, also allow for easier road and air transport, if needed. More [detailed information on these systems](#) is available on EMSA's website.



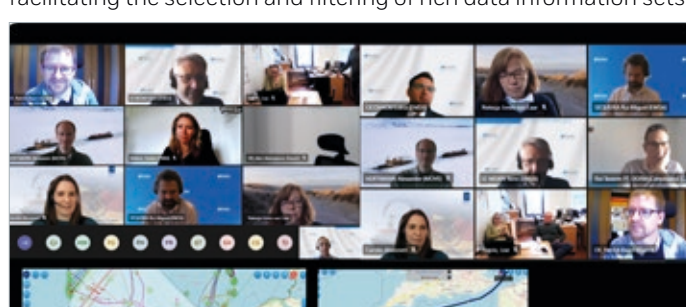
WORKING TOWARDS GREATER SAFETY IN THE CARRIAGE OF ALTERNATIVE FUELLED VEHICLES ON BOARD RO-RO SHIPS

EMSA is coordinating a working group charged with the development of a set of guidelines on the carriage of alternative fuelled vehicles (AFV) on board ro-ro ships. In this capacity, the Agency held a virtual meeting on 18 May together with RISE, the Swedish institute coordinating the EU-funded project LASHFIRE (a holistic study on fire safety of ro-ro spaces). The meeting was an opportunity to share knowledge in preparation for the development of the guidelines. More than 20 experts participated in the event and heard from RISE of their main findings in relation to AFV – with a particular focus on electrical and gas-powered vehicles. Several efficient and non-efficient firefighting techniques were presented together with videos of actual tests and their results. An important part of the RISE presentation was dedicated to batteries and the associated parameters, including fire detection, suppression and extinguishment efforts. In addition, the implications of the thermal runaway phenomenon and the ventilation effect were presented and discussed with the group. The session was a very positive step towards the development of the guidelines.



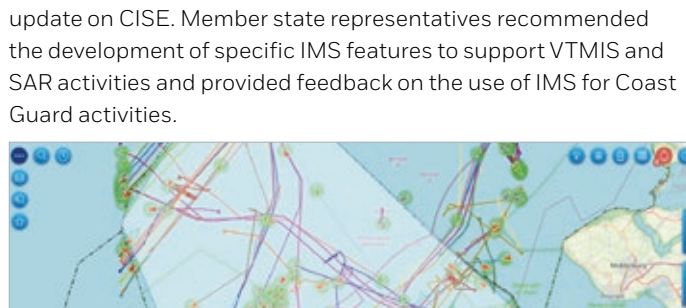
MEMBER STATE REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND VIRTUAL TRAINING ON KEY MARITIME DIGITAL SERVICES

Twenty-five participants from 12 member states, representing 19 different organisations participated in the virtual training course on Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) for Member States, SSN Ecosystem Graphical (SEG) User Interface and ABM functionalities on 21 May 2021. The training was organised around concrete, operational use cases for various Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System (VTMIS) users and communities. The focus was on the new features available in the graphical interfaces (SEG), including approximate calculations of speed and distance in SECA areas, management of the vessels of interest lists and new Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM) algorithms. Specific features were demonstrated including facilitating the selection and filtering of rich data information sets.



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF EMSA'S INTEGRATED MARITIME SERVICES FOR MEMBER STATE USERS – IN THE CONTEXT OF VTMIS AND COAST GUARD ACTIVITIES

EMSA held a virtual meeting with member state representatives and IMS points of contact to discuss how IMS can evolve within the context of VTMIS operational functions in the maritime domain. Among the topics discussed were: the new Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM) algorithms; the Advanced Analytics prototype; and, recent upgrades to the graphical interface (SEG). Participants actively contributed to further discussions on the potential for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning scenarios in IMS and reflected on pre-operational, cloud-based services for Long Term Storage (LTS) and historical ABMs, including a Global Detection of port calls. The meeting was also an opportunity to share the outcome of the IMS Correspondence Expert Group's gathering on 'Drift Modelling', and to give an update on CISE. Member state representatives recommended the development of specific IMS features to support VTMIS and SAR activities and provided feedback on the use of IMS for Coast Guard activities.



Features of new version of SEG include advanced filtering, ability to manage lists of vessels of interest and view clearer historical tracks

EMSA TAPS INTO SOLAR ENERGY FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Forty photovoltaic panels have been installed on the top of EMSA's west wing, covering an area of about 160m² of flat roof space. This development is part of the 'Greening EMSA Project' and is aimed at making good use of our host country's sunny climate. The energy produced will be fed directly into the internal electrical installation of the building, generating an estimated 17 MWh. In context, that should lead to an annual reduction of four tons of CO₂ per year, equal to planting 185 trees in a year, or offsetting 23 000 kilometres driven by a car.



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VACANCIES: Maritime Support Services Duty Officer (SNE) (28/6/2021); Maritime Experts in a Professional Team Autumn 2021 (30/7/21)

PROCUREMENT: Operation of a cafeteria for EMSA (14/6/2021); Call for Expression of Interest Database of Experts (18/2/2026). See website for more.