

NEW EMSA STUDIES ON SAFETY ASPECTS OF HYDROGEN AND AMMONIA

EMSA has published two new studies on the safety aspects of alternative fuels for shipping, part of an ongoing series of activities on various safety aspects of maritime decarbonisation and sustainability. The first study, on [mapping safety risks for hydrogen-fuelled ships](#), has been developed as the first part of an overall EMSA research series investigating the safety of hydrogen as fuel on ships. The study analyses hydrogen's main characteristics in order to frame which safety hazards, system threats and risks should be considered and mitigated when using hydrogen as ship fuel. Natural gas – for which the IGF Code has put internationally recognised safety barriers in place to ensure its safe use – is used as a benchmark, and the report reviews established principles for mitigation and control and lessons learned from hydrogen accidents, as well as validating hydrogen modelling techniques and tools. The report also reviews statutory regulations and classification rules, standards, and best practices relevant to hydrogen-fuelled ships. [The second report is](#) also the first part of a study series on the safety of ammonia for use in ships. It contains an extensive analysis of ammonia's properties and characteristics, and how these are applicable as marine fuel, as well as an analysis of the toxicity and exposure limits of ammonia, including comparing several regulatory frameworks. The report also investigates the general behaviour of ammonia and includes a review of the current onshore and offshore regulatory framework related to its use and transport. The studies follow on from the [Potential of Hydrogen as Fuel in Shipping report](#) and the [Potential of Ammonia as Fuel in Shipping report](#), already published by EMSA. The new reports, and [EMSA's report series on alternative fuels and sources of power, can be found here](#).



The two new reports are now available to download on EMSA's website, along with further research and guidance into alternative fuels and sources of power for shipping.

VISIT OF EUROPEAN COMMISSION VICE-PRESIDENT MARGARITIS SCHINAS TO EMSA

On July 4, European Commission Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis Schinas, paid a visit to our EMSA headquarters in Lisbon. Vice-President Schinas was welcomed to our premises by our Executive Director, Maja Markovčić Kostelac, and her senior management team. After hearing more about our mandate and activities, the Vice-President saw our work first-hand in our Maritime Support Services centre. Vice-President Schinas, who was deeply involved in the work and negotiations that resulted in EMSA's foundation nearly two and a half decades ago, ended his visit by addressing the Agency's staff in the EMSA conference centre, where he recalled his previous role.



Our Executive Director greets Vice-President Schinas outside our EMSA headquarters.



Vice-President Schinas's tour of EMSA began with an encounter with our Executive Director and her senior management team. He continued to our Maritime Support Services centre (MSS) before giving an address to EMSA staff members.

EMSA PARTICIPATES IN OPERATION BREEZE

On 12 July, in the vicinity of Burgas, Bulgaria, EMSA participated in the operational exercise Breeze 2024 organised by the Bulgarian Navy together with the Bulgarian Maritime Administration and attended by the President of Bulgaria. EMSA mobilised the stand-by oil spill recovery vessel Galaxy Eco, based in Varna, Bulgaria. The vessel simulated oil spill recovery deploying its sweeping arms. During this exercise, the Galaxy Eco also demonstrated its at-sea dispersant spraying capabilities. The onboard RPAS streamed video and data live to an observation vessel. EMSA also mobilised for Breeze 2024 the high-speed oil containment and recovery system Current Buster 4 from its Equipment Assistance Service (EAS) stockpile in Varna, Bulgaria, which was deployed at sea by the organisers



The Galaxy Eco takes part in the Operation Breeze exercise in Bulgaria, supporting the Bulgarian Maritime Administration and other stakeholders

security landscape. In view of this, the stakeholders reported about different ongoing exercises testing the use of CISE in real operational environments. Moreover, the start of the new phase will focus on building up the CISE Classified Network to enable the exchange of up to EU-Restricted information among civil and military actors. During the meeting, EMSA confirmed to continue performing the coordination role of CISE activities and providing technical support to the current and future users of the CISE network.



The 15th CISE stakeholders' meeting at EMSA also marked the start of the operational phase of CISE, a major milestone for the project.

CISE IS NOW IN ITS OPERATIONAL PHASE FROM 1 JULY 2024

At the 15th CISE Stakeholders Group meeting held on 18-19 June at EMSA premises and online, the Member States' authorities and EU bodies implementing CISE kicked off its Operational Phase. CISE enters the new phase with a strong community of stakeholders and with a robust tool for seamless and automatic information exchange in their hands. As highlighted during the meeting, CISE will contribute to the better preparedness and responsiveness of different maritime authorities facing increasing threats in ever-changing maritime

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VACANCIES: Reserve list for an officer - Vessel Reporting Services (06/08/2024); Reserve list for an officer - CISE implementation (06/08/2024); Reserve list for an officer - CISE technical support (06/08/2024) See website for more.

PROCUREMENT: Feasibility study on the data reuse within the European Maritime Single Window environment (26/07/2024); Framework Contract for Studies on Alternative Fuels as Marine Pollutants and Response to Accidental Releases (09/08/2024); Studies on promising technologies/ alternative fuels for sustainable shipping (28/08/2024); Support services EMSA Academy - Design and development for learning services, independent evaluation of learning services, recording of videos and pictures off-shore and on-shore (30/08/2024) See website for more.