



Newsletter October 2020

ETA Autumn Virtual Conference Towards a more resilient and greener future

ETA will hold its 3rd Autumn conference virtually, in the morning of the 19th of November. The event theme shall be "Towards a more resilient and greener future - the changing world of the Tug sector in a time of COVID and the future we can anticipate".

The conference will bring together ETA members to discuss the many ways Covid-19 has changed how we do things in the towage industry. The scope will be to look into the new challenges the sector is currently facing and the essential steps it has to take to secure a greener, smarter, safer and more resilient future.

Confirmed speakers:

Jurgen Bjerre, Deputy Head of Ports European Commission DG Move.

Lamia Kerdjoudj, Secretary General Feport.

Vicente Boluda Ceballos, ETA Vice-Chairman and Boluda Corporación Marítima Executive Vicepresident.

Kasper Friis Nilaus, Svitzer global CEO.

Frank De Lange, Damen Shipyards Commercial Director.

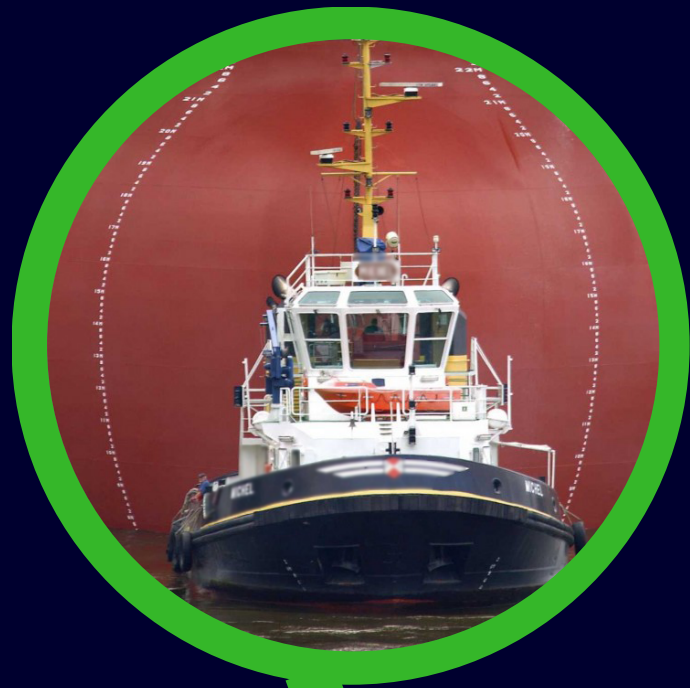
Willem-Jan Hamers, Redwise Managing Director.

Ali Gurun, Sanmar Projects Director.

Danae Bezantakou, Navigator Shipping Consultants.

Steve Dougal, Managing Director of Century Marine Services will be the event's moderator.

You can find more information [here](#)





The EC launches new actions to help limit the spread of COVID-19

The Commission has proposed to extend the Green Lane approach to ensure the efficiency of multi-modal transport. The Green Lanes were designed and implemented at the EU level to guarantee the fluidity of freight traffic and they have helped to maintain the supply of goods and the economic fabric of the EU.

With this measure, the EC aims at limiting the pandemic impact on the logistics chain as Member States impose new partial lockdowns.

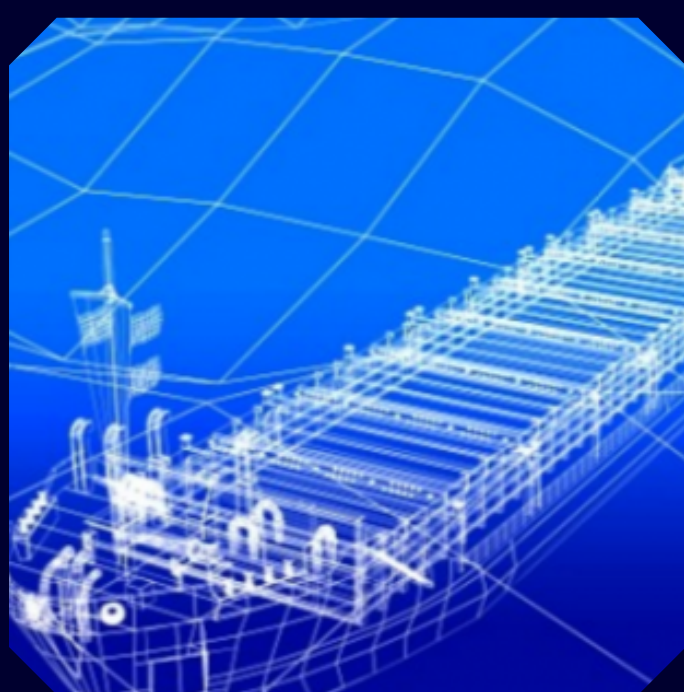
The guidelines, which include rail and waterborne freight and air cargo recommend the designation of transport personnel as essential workers and thus, they should "continue to be treated in a non-discriminatory manner, irrespective of the origin, destination, country of registration of the vehicle/vessel or of the nationality of the driver/crew". The document underlines as well, the need to facilitate crew changes in EU ports.



Karima Delli, EU Parliament Transport Committee chairman presents her report on cleaner maritime transport

The European Parliament Transport Committee (TRAN) discussed the new report on technical and operational measures for more efficient and cleaner maritime transport. The rapporteur Karima Delli, Chair of the TRAN committee aims, with this file, at enriching the debate on the development of a EU strategy for a greener maritime industry.

In her report, MEP Karima Delli asks for more budgetary resources to support a modal shift and the decarbonisation of the shipping sector, highlighting the essential role of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) as the right financial tool to finance that transition. Moreover, Ms Delli underlined the importance of short-sea shipping and called for more EU support to make this option a sustainable alternative to goods and passenger transport by road and air.



ETA participates in STEERER Green Shipping Expert Group

Amidst of the challenging times due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ETA continues its effort to support the interests of its members. By having Dirk Degroote participating in the Green Shipping Expert Group (GSEG) on behalf of ETA, the Association will be able to share the developments and innovations in the towage sector and bring forward the towage industry's opportunities and challenges with regards to zero-emission shipping. Also, it will be able to present its members with pre-competitive developments regarding green transport.

The GSEG is to be the core body of the Waterborne Technology Platform STEERER project, which is set up to coordinate the establishment and communication of a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and an implementation plan towards zero-emission waterborne transport. The GSEG will provide recommendations regarding the pathways towards zero-emission waterborne transport, in terms of defining R&I priorities, necessary policies, regulations as well as investment priorities.