



Newsletter June 2022

59th European Tugowners Association Annual Meeting

ETA's 59th Annual Meeting is fast approaching. This year's edition, hosted by Boluda Towage, will take place between the 6th and the 9th of September on the Canarian island of Tenerife, Spain at the outstanding Gran Hotel Bahía del Duque. This luxurious hotel offers superb rooms, spectacular views, 5 swimming pools and several restaurants and bars that will make delegates' visit memorable. A number of events like the ETA Conference and the gala dinner will take place within the premises of the hotel complex.

Furthermore, This year, the ETA Secretariat has decided to add an extra day to the official agenda, Tuesday the 6th, which will be reserved to organize a new edition of the ETA gulf tournament during the afternoon. Full ETA members will enjoy an exclusive dinner on that evening at the picturesque waterfront of La Caleta.



In addition to this, ETA delegates will enjoy a very special welcome dinner hosted by Boluda Towage. This time ETA members will indulge in the best food and drinks in a pretty casual atmosphere in an exclusive beach club.

This year, the Conference's theme will be *Trends impacting Towage Operations* and focus on current issues affecting our industry supply chain logistics.



Our gala dinner will take place in the beautiful lush gardens of Gran Hotel Bahía del Duque, with a view on Duque beach and La Gomera island. ETA delegates will sample the best Spanish gastronomy, savour the finest wines and enjoy the Canarian way of celebrating life and thus, understand why the Canary Islands are called the Fortunate Isles. The Annual Meeting's last day, the 9th of September, is as every year reserved for the social day, but this time it will be quite special.

ETA delegates will visit the top of a dormant volcano, mount Teide, the highest peak in Spain and the third largest volcano in the world.





Port of Antwerp-Bruges launches world-first hydrogen fuelled tug

ETA member, Port of Antwerp-Bruges launched the world-first hydrogen fuelled harbour tug. Hydrotug 1 is at the moment performing testing and sea trials. The delivery is planned by the end of this year and the Port of Antwerp-Bruges authorities expect Hydrotug 1 to be fully operational at the beginning of 2023. The tug consists of two BeHydro V12 dual fuel medium speed engines that can run on hydrogen or traditional fuel. The new tug developed by a division of the Belgian shipping company

Compagnie Maritime Belge (CMB.TECH), is some 12 metres wide and 30 metres long and can store 415 kilograms of compressed hydrogen, eliminating emissions equivalent to 350 cars. This Hydrotug will play an essential role in the transition to a sustainable, climate-neutral port by 2050.owners

Hydrotug 1 is part of a greening programme for the Port of Antwerp-Bruges fleet. Port of Antwerp manages a fleet of 32 vessels, consisting of tugs, dredgers and support vessels. This fleet is responsible for almost 85% of Port of Antwerp's total CO2 emissions. The port is striving to integrate the most environmentally friendly technologies and as a matter of fact, it is in the process of converting a tug to methanol propulsion, another world-first. This 'methatug' is part of the European Union-funded Fastwater project, which aims to demonstrate the feasibility of methanol as a sustainable marine fuel.

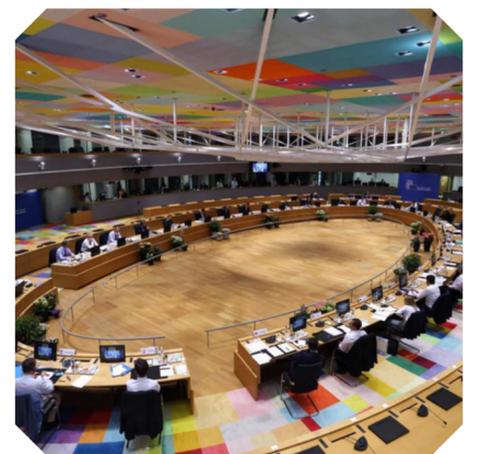
EU Commission publishes €300bn plan to substitute Russian fossil fuels and speed up the green transition

The European Commission (EC) presented its new REPowerEU strategy that will help the EU eliminate Russian energy imports by 2027. This plan worth €300bn would require a massive deployment of renewable energies and short-term investments in new fossil fuel infrastructure to replace imports of Russian oil and gas.

The plan has three major elements: energy efficiency, boosting renewable energy production and diversifying European supplies of oil and gas.

The strategy includes new legislative proposals to raise the EU's renewable energy target to 45% by 2030, up from the 40% target tabled last year. This would imply new initiatives and rules on the housing sector in order to make it greener like, for example, supporting the rapid and massive deployment of heat pumps or making solar panels mandatory for public and new residential buildings by 2025 and 2029, respectively. Furthermore, the plan also aims at boosting the production and import of green hydrogen and biomethane.

In addition to these actions, the EU will keep on working with international partners to find alternative energy supplies that can replace Russian oil and gas. This initiative would also entail massive investments in the European energy systems like new gas pipelines, LNG terminals and hydrogen infrastructure that should help EU countries substitute Russian gas and oil.



Next events

6-9 September 2022

Tenerife - Spain

ETA 59th Annual Meeting

28 - 30 September 2022

Istanbul

26th Intern. Tug & Salvage Convention

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