



EUROPEAN TUGOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter July 2024

10 EU members call for urgent measures to prevent the negative impact of ETS on European ports

The Spanish delegation at the EU Council shared in the meeting of the 18 of June its concerns about the need for action to adequately monitor the extension of the EU Emissions Trade System (ETS) to maritime transport. These views were also supported by the governmental representatives of Cyprus, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal and Romania. This joint position confirms the growing concerns regarding the application of this European legislation in the shipping sector.



The Spanish delegation warned about the high risk of diversion of shipping routes from peripheral EU terminals to third country ports such as Tangiers Med. In the official note shared at the last meeting of the Transport Council, the signatory Member States called upon the European Commission (EC) to urgently implement actions to ensure the effectiveness of the mechanisms included in the EU ETS Directive in order to prevent its negative impacts in peripheral EU ports.

The joint position proposes the following measures:

- Incorporate a risk assessment in the monitoring mechanism included in the EU ETS Directive, moving beyond retrospective tracking and including predictive criteria to anticipate potential route deviations.
- Immediately start the review process of the Directive and begin designing measures with Member States and the EC to address route deviations preemptively and enable prompt action to prevent such deviations.
- Establish a network of focal points in the Member States to exchange information on the analysis and monitoring at national level of the application of the EU ETS to the maritime sector, so that the EC can periodically share information and any plans, initiatives or measures





The EU Council adopts conclusions on a maritime industrial strategy

The Council adopted on the 24th of May a set of conclusions calling for a competitive European industry driving the EU's green, digital and resilient future. Among these conclusions, the representatives of the 27 Member States agreed on asking the EC to develop a maritime industrial strategy to enhance the competitiveness of the sector.

The document underlines the strategic relevance of the maritime industrial sector, as a catalyst for the continent's digital and green transition. This potential strategy should give priority to the EU's "unique strengths and to taking the lead in technology areas where Europe needs to secure a key position and that are critical for the EU's economic security".

These set of conclusions aim at developing a comprehensive and proactive European industrial policy framework, which is aligned with the EU's long-term environmental priorities. Thus, the Council's conclusions urge the Commission to prioritize the European industrial and competitiveness policies into its agenda for the next mandate. Moreover, the EC is invited to monitor the implementation of European legislation in order to guarantee it strengthens the competitiveness of EU firms, assess the impact of future legislative initiatives and apply the 'think small first' principle to support SMEs.

Nemeca Z and AST Reygar join ETA

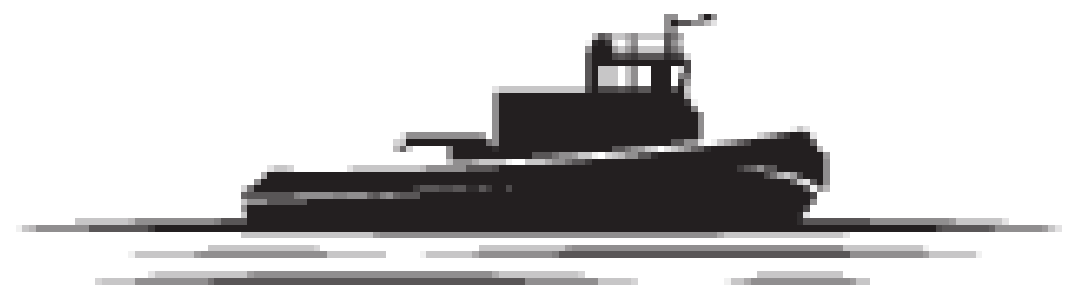
The Greek firm Nemeca Z has joined ETA as a full member. This company, based in Piraeus was formed in 2020 by four firms, Group Neri, Cafimar, Rimorchiatori Reuniti and Zouros Group.

Nemeca Z offers harbour towage services in the ports of Piraeus, Thessaloniki and Kavala with a fleet of 11 tugboats.

Besides, Nemeca Z provides open sea towage and salvage services in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea and gives support to offshore operations such as cable laying operations, rig moves and heavy lift operations. Nemeca Z is the sixth member from Greece, making a total number of 81 full members in 26 European countries.

Furthermore, the ETA EXCOM approved the incorporation of AST Reygar as associate member. This British firm provides fully integrated performance monitoring and control solutions for crewed and uncrewed vessels.

Founded in 2012 by Chris Huxley-Reynard and Felix Francis, who applied their extensive combined experience in offshore renewables, maritime operations, and new marine technologies, creating a solution to support vessel operators running fleets more effectively and efficiently. In March 2024 they partnered with industry leading satellite network solution provider, AST Networks.



NEMECA Z

Next events

14 November
Edinburgh

BTA Safety Seminar

28 November
Brussels

FEPOR 8th Stakeholders' Conference

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Rue des Colonies 11/ Koloniënstraat 11
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