





EU has a strategic interest in ensuring the continuous performance of the Short Sea Shipping sector.

Short Sea Shipping is a vital component of the EU transport system, and will provide an important contribution to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU.

In line with the main objectives of the White Paper, the European Commission in 2012 mainly focussed on providing more administrative simplification to Short Sea Shipping, notably via the Blue Belt initiative and promoting Clean Shipping. In terms of Short Sea Shipping promotion, the European Commission consistently increased its involvement with the co-funding of the "ESN, the way forward" project. The action started on 1 September 2012 and will continue until 31 August 2013. The collection of data and information related to the short sea market and to new environmental regulations,

as well as the promotion of Short Sea Shipping are the main objectives to be pursued.

When it comes to the facilitation of Short Sea Shipping, significant steps forward were taken last year in the field of administrative simplification and single market. Considerable progress can indeed be noted in the work on the implementation of Directive 2010/65/EU on reporting formalities, as well as on the Blue Belt initiative and on Pilotage Exemption Certificates.

As regards Directive 2010/65/EU, emphasis will be put this year on defining the technical specifications, i.e. how the system should be built in terms of architecture, interfaces, data flows and performance requirements. The ultimate goal is to provide Member States with electronic notifications covered by the Directive via a single window, by 1 June 2015.

On the side of the Blue Belt initiative and as a result of the endorsement by the Transport Council in June 2012 to further continue implementation and development of the concept, the European Commission has committed itself to table a Blue Belt package with legislative and non-legislative proposals by June 2013.

As far as Pilotage Exemption Certificates are concerned, in 2013, the European Commission will propose a framework to facilitate the granting of such certificates by the Member States in all EU ports.

In the area of Clean Shipping, the European Commission continues its efforts in facilitating the Member States' compliance with the 0,1% limit for the sulphur content in fuels set by Directive 2012/33/EU from 1 January 2015. The first Sustainable Waterborne Transport Toolbox Progress Report will be released in April 2013, covering the period from September 2011 to January 2013. It will present the current state of implementation and the way forward.

Last but not least, and consistent with the objective of establishing an EU maritime transport space without barriers, the European Commission will continue to give an impulse to Short Sea Shipping with its support programmes, notably to Motorways of the sea projects, which represent the maritime dimension under the revised TEN-T guidelines.

With the support from the European Short Sea Network, particularly in the promotion of Short Sea Shipping, some major progress has been made possible in 2012. Therefore, the European Commission encourages the Short Sea Promotion Centres to carry on with the same valued motivation and professionalism in 2013.

Mr Fotis Karamitsos

Director Logistics, Maritime & Land Transport and Passenger Rights (DG MOVE.D)

Foreword Ireland

The end of 2012 saw a very welcome, and very necessary, development for the European Shortsea Network; the availability of funding from the EU. This is financing the project known as "the Way Forward", and its operation is described in detail elsewhere.

There are a number of work packages in this project, and one of the major results has been to put a clear definition on the effects of the low sulphur requirement for the SECA, basically the Baltic and North Seas and the English Channel. The limit of 0.1% sulphur comes into force in about 20 months time, as this is being written, and has been described by more than one shipping operator as "The Problem".

The ESN study has highlighted that at any one time, there are approximately 2,500 ships in the SECA, but there are fewer than 100 vessels available or on order with alternative technologies (LNG fuel or on-board Scrubbers).

This implies that the vast bulk of shipping in the SECA will move to low sulphur fuel, assuming of course that it will be available.

There will be consequences, and no doubt some of them unforeseen. Fuel price rises of the order of 50-60% have been envisaged, and this is unlikely to be limited to the shipping industry; a knock-on effect will almost certainly be felt elsewhere. In addition there will be an almost certain "backsliding" of freight away from shipping back to road transport.

This is certainly a topic to be followed.

The ESN has been developing in other ways too. This Office launched its first Short Sea Conference in Dublin in 2007, and has been successfully involved in running them annually since. They have taken place in Dublin, Liverpool and Hamburg, and a blueprint for success has emerged with this experience. This event has now passed to the wider ESN. The French Promotion Centre, BP2S ran SHORTSEA'13 very successfully this year in Paris with over a hundred delegates. SPC Portugal takes over SHORTSEA'14, and an early decision is promised on the exact date and venue for your diary. For 2015, the event will move to Denmark, with Ireland or Spain as possible venues for 2016. All of this bodes well for the future.

However, something less positive is the developments in the membership of the ESN. Despite the good work being done in successfully promoting Shortsea Shipping, as described in the following pages, financial support has been getting tighter overall, and in some Member States more than others. Due to lack of resources, the Italian membership lapsed some years back, and 2012 has seen the Netherlands, one of the founder members, withdraw for similar reasons.

While the EU contribution to "The Way Forward" is very welcome, with gaps in the ESN membership of such importance as Italy and the Netherlands, it is perhaps time for the EU to take a closer, harder look at how this valuable resource can be funded to guarantee its future.

Brian Richardson

IMDO – Ireland - President of the ESN

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Main action 2012:

• Conventional & project cargo:

the Shortsea Promotion Centre (SPC) focused on this commodity by organizing a specific workshop with 8 best practices. There were 140 participants. Also an article in a maritime magazine was issued at the occasion of the Breakbulk Conference in Antwerp.

Best practice:

Eternit opts for shortsea too

The manufacturer of building materials Eternit chooses shortsea shipping for the transport of palleted slates. In the middle of December 2012 a first ship was loaded with 1,800 tonnes of material destined for Brittany (France).

The goods were loaded on a coaster at the factory's quay at an inland canal. It is the intention to use 5 or 6 coasters per year for the shipments to Brittany, where a central stock is being built, from which the merchandise will be distributed further.

"After an initial information round with the shortsea promotion centre, we have looked at the complete picture together with our transport partners. Logistically it proved to be a positive story", says logistics manager Sonja De Wolf. "Additionally, the sustainability of shortsea transport is an asset that is very important to our company Eternit."

Focus 2013:

- 15th Anniversary: the SPC exists 15 years with events organized for the main target groups: 2 shortsea awards, an evening event for shippers etc.
- SME's: continued focus will be on the market approach to shippers, specifically small and medium enterprises. A workshop with the national Shipper's Association will be organized and the SPC will have a stand at the Transport & Logistic Trade Fairs in Munich and Antwerp.
- Sea-river: the SPC will focus on sea-river traffic on inland waterways, amongst others by organizing two workshops with target groups industry and logistic companies.

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SHORTSEA Bulgaria



Main Action 2012:

- European Port Community Systems Conference

 SPC Bulgaria organized an European Conference on Port Community Systems together with European Ports Community Systems Association.
- Organizing of National Business Council for Transport & Trade Facilitation.
 SPC Bulgaria together with Bulgarian Association of Ship Brokers and Agents were initiators and founding members of the National Business Council for Electronic Transport and Trade Facilitation.
- Establishment of National Export, Cargo Community & Port Community System

 SPC Bulgaria as Secretariat of NBCTTF is working to create National Export, Cargo Community & Port Community System.

 Pilot project of National Cargo Community & Port Community System will be ready in the second half of 2013.
- Establishment of Institute of Maritime Economics and Logistics- Bulgaria

 Establishment of Bulgarian Institute of Maritime Economics and Logistics-Bulgaria was started. SPC Bulgaria is planned to be a department/part of this new Maritime Institute and its trademark.

Best practice:

During the **eMaritime** - European port community systems conference SPC Bulgaria Board members exchanged best practices for organizing, funding and operating of cargo and port community systems with Dakosy, Soget, MCP, Valenciaport Foundation and CrimsonLogic- Singapore.

Focus 2013:

- Export, Cargo & Port Community system development: Continuation of activities to establish of the Bulgarian electronic system for trade, port and transport.
- Emission control workshop together with Maritime Administration:

 Workshop regarding preparation of the Bulgarian maritime industry for adoption and implementation of International and European requirements for shipping emission reductions
- Support of shippers and intermodal logistics companies: for organizing of Multimodal Corridors-including Motorways of the Sea, to East Black Sea and East and South Med.

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SHORTSEA Croatia



Main action 2012:

· Intermodality:

SPC Croatia is continuously working on the development and promotion of intermodality in the Croatian transport sector. Accordingly, SPC Croatia organized an international conference and info day with the aim of promoting intermodality and SSS as a sustainable and environmentally friendly mode of transport. To this end, SPC Croatia is also working on development projects funded from EU (currently, SPC Croatia is engaged in 6 EU projects).

Best Practice:

"Go Rail - Go Green"

Financing of the project "Go Rail - Go Green" is approved by the Marco Polo II programme. Before the establishment of the project, 70% of containers from the port of Rijeka to Serbia were transported by road which contributed to air pollution, traffic congestion and increase in the traffic risks. Project supports modal shift from the road to railway and refers to the establishment of an environmentally friendly, block train from the Port of Rijeka (Croatia) to the railway terminal in Belgrade (Serbia).

Focus 2013:

- Promotion of SSS and intermodality: organization of SSS and intermodal conference, participation in numerous conferences/ workshops, publication of promotive materials for entire intermodal transport sector in Croatia, keeping an up-to-date website where interested parties may find data about intermodality and shortsea shipping, publishing articles about best practices in these areas.
- Introducing ICT in SSS and intermodal transport system: triggering of an open dialogue in order to implement T&T system in entire Croatian intermodal transport service with fully operated and integrated electronic data exchange in all logistic and administrative processes.
- R&D projects: generation of numerous R&D projects, holding consultations and providing active support to members.

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• ESN Presidency:

At the second semester of 2012, CSPC held the Chairmanship of the European Shortsea Network (ESN) in the context of the Cyprus Presidency of the European Council and organized the ESN meeting of the second semester of 2012. Moreover, it participated at the Joint Shortsea Shipping and Motorways of the Sea Focal Points (FoPs) and the Shortsea Promotion Centres (SPCs) meeting, on the 21st and 22nd of November 2012 in Brussels, where it presented, on behalf of all SPCs, the main SPCs' activities within 2012.

Best practice:

Act as the focal point for the **promotion** and improvement of shortsea shipping connections in Cyprus in order to enhance the contribution of the maritime sector to the local economy and Cyprus' cohesion with Europe and its neighbors, in line with the "Blue Paper" of the European Union for an "Integrated Maritime Policy" and the "Limassol Declaration" on a Marine and Maritime Agenda for growth and jobs.

Focus 2013:

- Offer Maritime Training Courses in cooperation with the Odysseus Maritime Training Centre.
- Organize various events and seminars to disseminate to the general public and the shipping community the activities, actions and benefits of CSPC and shortsea shipping in general.
- Upgrade CSPC's website and issue eNewsletters in order to promote its activities and disseminate useful information to the stakeholders, but also to the general public.

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PROMOTION Estonia



Main action 2012:

• SPC Estonia was a co-organizer of the 8th international transit conference **TRANSESTONIA 2012**: The Food Hub. In 2012 the conference focused on an activity that has remained essential for Estonian transit for many centuries - the logistics of and value adding to food products. Estonia-based food products distribution centre would allow for a centralised access to the market of 300 million consumers in the Baltic States, Finland, Sweden, Russia, CIS, Central Asia, Afghanistan, and Eastern Europe.

Best Practice:

In co-operation with Estonian Logistics and Transit Association (under which the SPC Estonia is operating) was established the **Department of Logistics and Transport** in Tallinn University of Technology. Ist of February 2012 marks the date of establishment of the Department of Logistics and Transport within the TUT. The new department combines research and teaching in logistics, transport planning and supply chain engineering

Focus 2013:

- Close co-operation with The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications to make the **Transportation Development Plan** 2014-2020. To make planning more systematic, to create a comprehensive picture, to identify actual causes and thus to ensure sustainable development of the transport sector.
- The 9th international transit conference **TRANSESTONIA 2013**. Subject of the conference is liquid bulk: oil & oil products, gas (both LPG and LNG), and liquid chemicals. Besides Estonian best practices ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp will introduce their oil and chemical clusters. European biggest LNG terminal will be introduced by Royal Vopak.
- Logistics themed **Summer School** in Estonia. TUT Logistics and the LTA are planning to launch a course in a format of a summer programme. The objective of the programme is to teach logistics and supply chain management and at the same time to introduce Estonia as a potential partner country, emphasizing our geographic advantages, visiting infrastructure providers and local enterprises.

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• SPC Finland provided information on financing possibilities for new **environmental-related** technological solutions and innovations, in particular via the TEN-T and Marco Polo - programmes. Workshops were arranged to disseminate information on calls for proposals and advice was given for the applicants. A network was established for transport sector representatives to enhance networking and dissemination of information on financing possibilities.

Best Practice:

Transport and the Environment 2012: SPC Finland published an extensive review on the environmental aspects of transport with emphasis on maritime transport and freight transport. The publication covers the environmental impacts of transport and the means to reduce them, presenting also the recent environmental legislation related to transport. With this publication, SPC Finland provides information for the current transport-related environmental discussion and for decision-making of various stakeholders.

The publication is available both in English and Finnish at http://issuu.com/spc_finland/docs/transport_environment_en2

Focus 2013:

- Environment: information will be provided on transport-related environmental issues from various aspects, including financing of projects. An update of "Transport and the Environment" will be done.
- Intelligent transport: the SPC will arrange a seminar to encourage the use of intelligent freight transport solutions in the entire transport chain.
- Shipping company barometer: the SPC will publish the barometer in November 2013.

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· Intermodality:

All along the year, SPC France has been very active in promoting the "ultimate" intermodal Loading Unit, the eurocontainer 33 pallets (i.e. the 45' pallet wide container). We have participated in the steering committee of a research project regarding this type of container; we have also worked with the French Standardisation organization (AFNOR). On more operational terms, we have organized a standardization workshop and a "lunch-debate" for concrete proposals on 45' pw containers. Incidentally, French Ministry of Transport also launched a study on this ILU during the year.

Best Practice:

In 2012, SPC France was in charge of the working group at national level on the use of **LNG** as a fuel for shipping. We have created a newsletter on this topic (II issues in 2012) and organized, along with the French ministerial coordinator for LNG a series of large meetings. We also helped the French coordinator to manage with the two different pilot projects currently under scouting in France.

Focus 2013:

• Eurocontainer

SPC France will continue to push for the development of this intermodal loading unit in France. There is still a clear need of understanding about this container.

LNG

LNG to comply with the new European sulphur Directive is still on top of the agenda of SPC France for 2013 and we will continue to disseminate information, organize meetings and stimulate concrete work to achieve the setting up of an industry network.

• Ecobonus

This transport demand based incentive is still very much considered at French level and we, as SPC France, are constantly pushing for this type of initiative on regional, national and European basis.

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• Marketing / Events: We organized an international shortsea conference, targeting the shortsea and inland navigation industry: more than 140 persons attended this event. In 2012 there have also been different events and forums (amongst others Break Bulk, Antwerp) and PR and media work (press conferences and 12 press releases, re-launch of homepage (4500 visitors per month), 27 newsletters and 110 media nominations).

Best Practice:

- · Multimodal shift actions several multimodal consulting activities (operative day-to-day business and projects) adressed to forwarders and shippers
- New memberships in 2012: JAS Forwarding, BASF, MSC, JadeWeserport, Bühler and Federal State Sachsen-Anhalt

Focus 2013:

- Youngsters: In 2012 we started having lectures at professional schools. Extending these activities we will organize a workshop for teachers at the Ministry of Transport conjoint with associations from the logistics sector in September 2013 in Bonn.
- Chambers of Commerce: the promotion center will continue promoting shortsea and inland waterway transports at several chambers of commerce in order to support their forwarder and shipper members.
- Transport Logistic fair, Munich: the promotion center will focus the master event of the year on a common stand at the fair together with three private members: Arkon Shipping, OPDR, Robert Kukla. 50.000 visitors are expected. Further we will have our annual press conference during the fair.

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shortsea Greece



Main action 2012:

• Maritime Education and Transport Reasearch: Joined the University of the Aegean in a series of presentations regarding the opportunities offered by a career at sea. Conclusion of work on Distance Learning applications in the nautical profession in cooperation with the Hellenic Chamber of Shipping. SPC Greece has also successfully concluded in 2012 a three year work as a partner to the EU funded project on Green Transport Corridors under the code name SuperGreen.

Best Practice:

Hewlett Packard/COSCO deal: This deal will use the new intermodal links (sea/rail) established in the port of Piraeus to distribute high value containerized cargo from the Far East to the markets of Central and Eastern Europe. The move will improve both the efficiency of the supply chain and its environmental performance. More shippers are expected to join in.

Focus 2013:

- Scrubber and LNG conversions: Technical and cost investigations with classification societies and short sea operators on the relative merits of conversions for existing vessels.
- Cooperation with universities: Lectures and presentations of SPC Greece members to universities in the context of enhancing the role of multimodality as a tool for greener transport.
- Participation in the EU funded research: SPC Greece is participating as an expert in the COSTA project which examines the various facets of using LNG as bunker fuel in the EU.

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• SHORTSEA'12: in May 2012 we organized this Shortsea congress in Dublin, with over one hundred participants. We have been involved with running this conference since 2007, and it has proven to be a focal point for the wider maritime industry to keep up to date on the latest developments and future challenges. We passed the opportunity to BP2S, France, for 2013, as a first step in circulating this event through the ESN network, and this has proven successful for 2013.

Best Practice:

TEN-T Submissions & Support for Marco Polo applications.

The take up on applying for TEN-T funding for Ireland's Ports has been low. However for the 2013 TEN-T call, it was judged that the time was right for some of our major ports to proceed for EU funding, either to develop master plans for port development, or for shovel ready projects which are close to implementation. These include potential or re-activated rail freight links. We guided the port authorities through the TEN-T documentation process and highlighted the relevant meetings in Brussels to be attended. In addition we guided them towards procuring appropriate experienced consultancy services to handle the full submission process. At this point, three submissions have been successfully completed and made to the Commission.

Focus 2013:

- Irish Maritime Transport Economist: This publication has its tenth anniversary this year. It has become the main reference point for Maritime transport and shortsea statistics in Ireland It will be officially launched in April 2013 with a formal gathering of industry leaders.
- National Ports Policy: The IMDO worked closely with the Irish Government in preparing its latest Ports Policy. The Irish ports, while state owned, have a mandate to operate as commercial entities. This "one size fits all" approach has been reviewed by government. The new Ports policy was published in late March 2013...
- Industry support: The IMDO has regular structured meetings with the principal ports and main shipping service providers.

 The meetings are used as a platform for mutual information exchange on the market/routes and trade developments.

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SHORTSEA PROMOTION Lithuania



Main action 2012:

- Interregional cooperation on intermodality:
- East West Transport Corridor in Southern part of Baltic Sea Region Association (EWTCA): In October 2012, EWTCA Forum was organized in Berlin by IPC Lithuania and LogistikNetz Berlin-Brandenburg e.V. The main objective was to continue the dialogue between the Association partners on further development of intermodal transport links within Baltic Sea Region (BSR) area and promote a dialogue on the EU Eastern Neighbouring Policy including transport links between the Baltic–Black Sea regions.
- Collaboration in the EMAR (EC FP7) project: The objective of e-Maritime is to make maritime transport safer, more secure, more environmentally-friendly and more competitive. Therefore e-Maritime must ameliorate complexities that hinder networking of different stakeholders, help to increase automation of operational processes and facilitate the streaming of synthesised information from disparate sources to assist decision making. EMar project will assist simplifying and spreading up data exchange amongst port community as well as hinterland, and will support KIPIS project which is being developed by Klaipėda seaport Authority

Best Practice:

Freight and Goods Information System of Klaipėda seaport (KIPIS): is designed for transferring and processing information on freight movements via the port of Klaipėda. The main functions are provision of information required by customs and other state authorities via the Internet connection, data exchange amongst the system users to conduct procedures, electronic data exchange with the stevedoring companies for the purpose of placing and executing orders for handling operations. It's one of the main elements for the port community system.

Focus 2013:

- EWTCA long-term actions :
 - for further EWTC development and promotion of cooperation among the stakeholders along the corridor;
 - for the dissemination of European good practices in freight logistics and green transport in BSR, as well as in the Eastern Neighbourhood countries;
 - development of green transport network in the BSR.
- EWTCA short-term action :
 - Establishment of international research center on green transport corridors development.

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SHORTSEA PROMOTION CENTRE Malta



Main Action 2012:

• During the year under review, the SPC Malta has been active in **promoting short sea shipping** to all stakeholders. This involved the resumption of monthly newsletter which highlights news items relevant to short sea shipping. Furthermore, the website has been constantly updated to keep and embarked on a marketing programme to attract new members which includes meeting with the local shipping entities, local shipping agents, freight forwarders, trailer operators and the industry. Furthermore, the Centre organized its annual seminar which proved to be very well attended by stakeholders.

Best Practice:

In 2012, SPC Malta signed a letter of support with the Escola Europea de Short sea Shipping with the aim to send prospective students to participate in **training courses**. SPC Malta is promoting this school as a point of reference for upcoming executives within the local transport industry.

Focus 2013:

- The Malta Shortsea Promotion Centre (MSPC) will seek to change its **legal status** from an organization to a new one as a Non Government Organization (NGO). Through this change in statute the MSPC has retained its membership structure to allow entities to enroll as founding or ordinary members, while at the same time ensuring that the organization remains free of government influence. The mission of the MSPC remains that of promoting the interest of short sea shipping as an industry.
- The MSPC will be organizing a **joint event** with the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management Clean Shipping index. This event will take place in Malta during the European Maritime Day 2013 workshops. The workshop will focus on sustainable shipping in respect to environmental and short sea shipping concepts.

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SHORTSEA NOTWAY

SHORTSEA SHIPPING

Main action 2012:

- Nation-wide campaign to promote shortsea shipping including:
 - Promotional container shipped from port to port. 17 related events in ports throughout Norway.
 - 1500 event participants, mainly transport buyers. 200 presentations make by transport buyers and providers.
 - Related electronic news service. Press coverage in logistics, national and regional press.
 - Advertising campaign in national logistics media.

Best Practice:

During the year, we registered transport needs of shippers and forwarders:

- More than 4 million tonnes of cargo registered. Currently shipped by road. May potentially be shifted to sea.
- 100 customer cases registered.
- 7 in-depth interviews.
- Summary of logistics requirements and preferences.
- Check-list for improvement of current services

Focus 2013:

- Coastal transport "GodsFergen": New project trying to establish daily transport on short distance (300-800 km) along the Norwegian coast in competition with truck.
- Ship to Norway "Velg Sjøveien": Nation-wide campaign to help transport users finding the best sea transport solutions. Customers meetings in many ports.
- Cargo flows: Mapping of cargo flows between regions and for individual customers to identify transferrable cargo.

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PROMOTION CENTRE PORTUGA



Main Action 2012:

• Intermodality: Together with the European Shortsea School we organized the first rail course (Life Rail) in Portugal with 40 students on board a portuguese train visiting the rail terminal of Lisbon and also the ports of Sines, Setúbal and Aveiro During the course the participants (ship agents, freight forwarders, port authorities, exporters/importers and rail staff) had the opportunity to understand better the intermodality between rail and sea, both attending classes, visiting and observing operations within the port and also working on a "team study case". As the specialized press gave some relevance to this course the message was also spread through other target groups.

Best Practice:

Presenting in October during the **Fonasba** (Federation of National Associations of Shipbrokers and Agents) Annual Meeting to more then 100 delegates (worldwide) the best practices and the promotion actions of all Shortsea Promotion Centres as well as the work done by ESN to enhance the shift from road to sea and to rail. It was also stressed to the ship agents delegates to support their national Promotion Centres and to help ESN within the scope of the project "ESN the way forward".

Focus 2013:

- **Students**: It is the intention of the SPC Portugal to have again high school students participating in the following courses within the 2e3s project: 4 days trip by vessel from Barcelona/Civitavecchia/Barcelona (November 2013)
 - 3 days rail in Portugal (Lisbon/Sines/Setúbal/Aveiro)
- Seminar: As already did in previous years the Portuguese Shortsea Promotion Centre will be responsible for the morning session of a Maritime Transport Seminar with an estimated attendance of about 200 delegates belonging to the main target groups for the promotion of the SSS. The intention is to have the involvement of 2 SSS lines and customers sharing with the audience the services provided and also enhancing their perception of the advantages in using SSS.
- Dissemination of information: Participation in the Fonasba annual meeting in Lima (Peru) and again highlighting the best practices and promotion actions of all ESN members.

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• Knowledge & monitoring of the Short Sea Shipping activity: During 2012, SPC Spain developed and launched the Spanish Shortsea Statistical Observatory.

The aim of this publication is to show the evolution and trends of the activity of Short Sea Shipping in Spain, both from the point of view of supply and demand, and as compared to road freight transport, tracking and monitoring of its main indicators. In 2012, two issues of the Statistical Observatory have been published. The first one contained an evolution outlook from 2009 to 2011; and second one showed the corresponding data by June 2012.

Best Practice:

Modal shift for high density cargo by UECC

UECC has set up a new service which focuses on facilitating the Modal Shift from the road to SSS for High Density Cargo in the route between Northern Spain and Northern Europe (Benelux, N. France, W. Germany & U.K.) in a market situation where the imbalance generated by the lack of return cargo traffic north-south.

UECC provides an innovative solution aimed at heavy cargo, goods whose maximum load on a lorry (25 t.) do not occupy the entire volume of the lorry due to their high specific weight, using Roll Trailer as a unit of maritime freight transport capable of consolidating up to 70 t. of goods.

Focus 2013:

- Training Acitvities: In order to promote maritime land intermodality, Spanish General Directorate of Land Transport granted funds to the SPC Spain to develop four training programs in 2013 focusing on shippers, logistic operators and hauliers.
- R&D Projects: Development of European projects as part of consortiums or as stakeholder.
- Cooperation with Public Administrations: participation of SPC Spain in the Logistic Forum of Ministry of Development, and in the Port Services Observatory of Puertos del Estado, cooperation with the Directorate General of Customs in the "Blue Belt Package", etc.

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SHORTSEA Sweden



Main Action 2012:

• Strategy process: the Maritime Forum (under which wings the Shortsea Promotion Centre Sweden is operating) has during 2012 focused its activities on finalizing a strategy-process for the entire Swedish maritime cluster. The aim of the process is to create the basis for a Swedish maritime policy, increase shipping and to stimulate a higher level of cooperation and common actions between the maritime companies and organizations.

Best Practice:

LNG ships on the rise - and an LNG-bunkering vessel

The use of LNG as an alternative fuel is on the rise. In August 2012 the passenger ship MS "Viking Grace" was delivered, which from January 2013 onward links Turku (Finland) and Stockholm (Sweden). A 85% reduction of NOX, 20% less CO2 emissions, and virtual elimination of both SO2 and small particles are expected. The LNG tanks are located on the rear deck.

MS Seagas, a new LNG bunkering vessel, a small rebuilt car-ferry, owned by AGA and with full management by Sirius Shipping, is used for bunkering during the very short stay in Stockholm.

This is an important development as it concerns a very large ship (214 m long). In 2015 the new sulphur norm (0.1%) comes into effect in the ECA zones (emission controlled areas). LNG is regarded as an alternative fuel and has become an important issue in the discussion about the implementation of the SOX measure on January 1st 2015.

Focus 2013:

- Knowledge: increase knowledge about shipping, the Swedish maritime industry and the Swedish maritime cluster and communicate the possibilities and advantages of seaborne trade and transportation. This is done by a.o. organising meetings, conferences and seminars. The Maritime Forum Newsletter is widely spread.
- Promotion SSS and Inland Waterways: continue efforts to communicate the advantages of shortsea shipping and inland waterway traffic.
- Focus on target groups: highlight shipping as an interesting sector for employment and education, with focus on main external target groups: politicians, decision-makers and stakeholders within the transportation sector.

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ESN Project

ESN, the way forward

The European Shortsea Network (ESN), gathering all active Shortsea Promotion Centres (SPC) (19), is established at EU level and has been tasked by DG MOVE with the implementation of the accompanying measure (encompassed in the Marco Polo Work Programme 2011) "Contribution to European programme for the support of Short Sea Shipping". Indeed, the ESN has the expertise to carry out activities to ensure the implementation of this measure. In line with the EU goals for a competitive and resource efficient EU transport system set by the 2011 White Paper for Transport, the EC needs to further enhance the competitiveness of Shortsea Shipping in a sustainable manner. Activities along this project will be performed through three Committees (Market Observation, Environment and Promotion) created specifically to fulfill these objectives set by the EC. All the works will be coordinated at European level to ensure results are up to expectations. This is the first time that ESN is reinforcing cooperation at European level to such an extent to make shortsea as visible as possible in Europe.

As well informed decisions to further promote Shortsea Shipping require valid, reliable, and comprehensive information of the European shortsea market, ESN has been asked by EC to produce a report providing a clear assessment of the current situation and the longer term market perspectives.

This will be the task of the first work package: Market Observation.

Furthermore, the short term environmental performance challenges relate mainly to reducing the SOx, NOx, and PM emissions from ships. Some Member States and lots of industry representatives have raised concerns regarding the consequences of the new 0.1% sulphur content rule in marine fuels in ECAs. There is a need for monitoring possible impacts on the shortsea sector in the ECAs, likely distortions in the logistics chains or modal backshift from sea to land based transport. Because it is a deeply established network in this area, ESN will provide information and reports on these topics. All these topics will be covered by the second work package: environment.

Then, stronger cooperation between all SPCs will lead to a more efficient allocation and use of resources, create synergies, and yield more targeted and efficient promotional effects. ESN will work at creating awareness and a positive attitude toward shortsea by the development of a communication strategy through the work package 3 on promotion.

SPC Germany is coordinator of the Market Observation Committee.

SPC Norway is coordinator of the Environment Committee.

SPC Belgium is coordinator of the Promotion Committee.

SPC France is coordinator for the ESN.

The results from this project...

The work package on market observation has already published several forms on market observation that allows the shortsea stakeholders to give European Shortsea Network some input regarding different shortsea markets around Europe. The regional market reports will be disseminated along the year. These reports will focus on four main maritime regions:

- Channel, North Sea & Baltic
- Atlantic Arc
- West Mediterranean
- · East Mediterranean & Black Sea

Furthermore, ESN will re-examine shortsea shipping bottlenecks in order to have an update on the previous exercise. The last concrete results will be a list of shortsea ship operators per served country.

The work package on environment will be dedicated to the collection, analysis and dissemination of data related to the new environmental sulphur constraints. A dedicated part on the new ESN website has been built to help all SECA shortsea stakeholders keeping up-to-date on latest developments. A survey on ports and ship operators initiatives has been launched in order to create a free knowledge database. An environmental report will be drafted to consolidate all information gathered throughout the project.

Last but not least, the third work package is focusing on improvement of promotion activities within the European Shortsea Network. A holistic approach of the different promotion activities performed by each and every national Shortsea Promotion Centre is currently carried out in order to exchange best practices and good ideas. A newsletter is now also published regularly with information coming from all over Europe. This newsletter is published twice a month and is totally free of charge.

Further to the work achieved, this project also managed to gather 19 Shortsea Promotion Centres and further encourage multilateral partnerships on promotion activities.

European Shortsea Network other activities.

European Shortsea Network has also initiated the Shortsea Promotion Cooperation Agreement that has already been signed by major European organizations (ECSA, ESPO, ESC, CEPI ...) as well as private companies (LD Lines, Unity Lines, 2E3S, etc.) and all active SPCs. Please contact your local SPC to be part of this adventure as signatory of this agreement. As shortsea shipping is also a concern in other parts of the world, ESN is currently building up fruitful cooperation with Promotion Centres outside of Europe (Québec on the Great Lakes & Saint-Laurent Seaway, Brazil with coastal and Amazon, intra-Asia).

For more information

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