



**GREEN  
MARINE**

— EUROPE —

---

PERFORMANCE  
REPORT

**2019**

# A TRANSATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP

It is with great pride that we present in this report the very first results of the Green Marine Europe label. This voluntary commitment by the European maritime industry aims to tangibly improve the sector's environmental performance. The environmental program is the result of teamwork on both sides of the Atlantic – between Surfrider Foundation Europe which coordinates the new label in the region, and Green Marine which has managed the North American environmental certification program since 2007.

It is from this latter program that the new Green Marine Europe is inspired with the same ideal. Our goal is to reduce the environmental footprint of the maritime industry and establish an ongoing dialogue between the industry and its civil societal partners to identify the priorities for action by European ship owners. This collaborative model, akin to Surfrider Europe's dialogue approach, has proven its worth in North America. Green Marine Europe is thus part of an international scope, alongside Green Marine which already has more than 145 certified participants in Canada and the United States.

As you can read in this report, Green Marine Europe provides ship owners with a reference framework and tools to first measure their environmental footprint, and then subsequently engage in a process of continual improvement in their performance.

As the worldwide health crisis has demonstrated, maritime transportation provides a vital link connecting the heart of Europe to the rest of the world. In 2018, 3.6 billion tonnes of goods were handled by European Union ports.

Maritime transportation plays a crucial role in our societies, and also occupies an ecological place of choice when compared to other transport modes, especially for passengers. Nevertheless, the environmental footprint of maritime transportation isn't negligible, and the importance of reducing it requires a broader engagement by the sector. The label allows ship owners to make concerted efforts to establish more ambitious environmental goals and adopt best practices that go beyond European and international regulations.

As you will read in the following pages, this first edition looks promising. We would like to congratulate the first laureates of the Green Marine Europe label who had the motivation to embark on this adventure through some choppy waves, given the pitfalls that the COVID pandemic put in the way. These ship owners have risen to the challenge and met the criteria of the environmental program's detailed framework that initially addresses seven distinct indicators.

The laureates of this first edition come from diversified fields of activity and represent approximately 50 now labelled vessels: this is a sign of real interest in the sustainable development of European maritime transportation! The label comes at a turning point in our existence, when society wants greener and more sustainable economic recovery plans. Therefore, this initiative is anchored in the call for the labelling of companies within the EU as part of the regulations linked to monitoring, reporting and verification of CO2 emissions from vessels with the aim of reducing GHG. This label could be a factor in clarifying what one can understand by eco-conditionality.

Beyond the Green Marine – Surfrider Europe partnership, the label is also the result of collaborative and inclusive work within its development committee. We would like to thank all the stakeholders from the sector, governments and NGOs who enhanced the discussions and led the adaptation of the criteria for Europe. A sincere thank you also to the project's financial partners, who made it possible to put this into place: the European Union's LIFE programme, the French ministry in charge of the environment, the ADEME (Agence de la transition écologique), and the Macif insurance company.

We are pleased to present the results of this initial group to you and we are already looking forward to seeing you in the Spring of 2021 for a new edition that will focus on the activities of 2020 and welcome new European applicants.



  
**Florent Marcoux**

Executive Director  
Surfrider Foundation Europe





**David Bolduc**  
Executive Director  
Green Marine

# WELCOME ABOARD!

An individual action plan often has limited impact. Green Marine Europe is an environmental partnership of a sector as a whole with a strong impact on the entire maritime industry. It encourages CEO leadership and the long-term engagement of companies to improve their environmental performance. For this initial group, Green Marine Europe is proud to award its environmental label to six laureates, representing in total a fleet of nearly 50 vessels dedicated to transport of passengers, liquid bulk, submarine cable laying, as well as scientific research.

## A TRANSPARENT AND RIGOROUS PROCESS

Green Marine Europe requires its candidates to adopt practices and technologies that have a direct impact. The progress of the laureates is evaluated annually, on a 1 to 5 scale. Level 1 represents regulatory monitoring while Level 5 reflects leadership and excellence.

The Green Marine Europe labelling process is rigorous and transparent. To receive their label, candidates must annually measure their environmental performance using the environmental program's self-diagnostic guide. They must then submit their results to an independent verifier accredited by Green Marine Europe and agree to publish their individual results.

The criteria will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that each of the four levels above the baseline, which represents regulatory monitoring, is sufficiently demanding and yet achievable. Finally, to stay true to its principle of continual improvement, Green Marine Europe also requires that any new participant achieves at least one Level 2 for one of the framework's indicators for its initial year of evaluation, and then demonstrates yearly improvement of at least one level in at least one performance indicator until Level 2 is achieved for all the program's applicable indicators.



## PRESENTING THE 2020 LAUREATES

### Brittany Ferries

Breton by nature, Brittany Ferries is the leading maritime carrier on the Western Channel and Central Channel. Its 11 vessels constitute true bridges between France, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Spain. Since 1972, the company has been a major French player in responsible and sustainable economic development, open to Europe.

### CORSICA linea

Founded in 2016, CORSICA linea is one of the Mediterranean's leading companies in two business sectors: the transport of goods (freight) and of passengers. From Marseille, CORSICA linea provides year-round services to the ports of Bastia, Ajaccio and Île-Rousse, as well as crossings to Algeria and Tunisia, and occasionally to Sardinia from Ajaccio.

### Genavir – Ifremer

Owner and manager of the French oceanic fleet since 1977, Genavir operates vessels on behalf of Ifremer, CNRS (the French National Centre for Science Research), the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (France's development research institute). The onboard equipment makes it possible to carry out seismic and bathymetric measurements necessary for marine science research throughout the world.

### La Méridionale

La Méridionale has been providing links between Marseille, Corsica and Sardinia ever since its foundation in 1931. In 2017, it became the first company to experiment with plug-in shore power, which allows for the complete shutdown of its four vessels during stopovers in the Phoenician city.

### Orange Marine

A French ship owner specializing in the laying of submarine communication cables, Orange Marine operates its vessels all over the world. Its cable vessels also carry out repair and maintenance operations along intercontinental routes that are up to 5,000 metres deep.

### Socatra

Founded in 1977, Socatra is a family business that operates in two distinct sectors related to energy: shipping and oil storage. Socatra's fleet consists of seven mid-sized tankers and five coastal tankers – all of which are managed in house. Socatra operates worldwide with offices in Bordeaux, Luxembourg, Madagascar and Singapore.

# THE GREEN MARINE EUROPE ADVENTURE

The idea of creating an environmental label for European ship owners had already dated back to 2012, more precisely, during the initial discussions between Surfrider Foundation Europe and Armateurs de France. The NGO then launched a feasibility study with the professional maritime association and the French ministry in charge of the environment. In 2017, a comparative study identified Green Marine as an interesting and applicable model to emulate in the European region. The ADEME (France's Agency for ecological transition) then joined in the reflection and discussions that would lead to a European label. A bell is then ringing across the Atlantic to work together to create the Green Marine Europe adventure.

In 2019, the Surfrider Foundation Europe project team coordinates, in collaboration with the Green Marine team, the adaptation of the North American environmental certification program for Europe's ship owners. The Green Marine Europe program, launched in Spring 2020, operates on

the same model of collaboration, rigour, transparency and accountability as the North American program. The players in this adaptation are a group of ship owners, government representatives, NGOs, as well as European experts from civil society with strong competencies in the ecological transition of maritime transportation. They hence together create a tool capable of supporting and facilitating the management of their environmental performance improvement on a European scale.

It should obviously be noted that the Green Marine Europe label would never have seen the light of day without the European Union's LIFE programme. It also benefits from the invaluable financial and expert support of the ministry in charge of the environment and of the ADEME. We likewise thank Macif for its support and the 1% for the Planet collective for its patronage.



## MILESTONES

### NOVEMBER

Discussions are launched with Armateurs de France (France's association of ship owners) on the sidelines of the Assises de l'économie de la mer (France's annual economic conference related to the sea) with a view to creating an environmental program for ship owners.

The project is developed in collaboration with the environment committee of Armateurs de France and France's Ministry of the Ecological transition in collaboration with the Alice.

Green Marine, an environmental certification program for the maritime industry that already exists in North America, is identified as a model for creating the new Green Marine Europe label.

### JANUARY

Discussions begin with Green Marine to import the North American environmental program's model for Europe.

### AUGUST

In the Ocean Pavilion at the G7 meetings, Green Marine and Surfrider Foundation Europe commit to signing a licensing agreement to create Green Marine Europe.

### NOVEMBER

First meeting of the advisory committee to adapt the environmental program to the European context.

2012

2017

2018

2019

# GOVERNANCE

At the end of the discussions that began in early 2019, Surfrider Foundation Europe acquired a four-year licence to establish and manage Green Marine Europe. Green Marine participates directly in the governance of Green Marine Europe, while the coordination of the label is handled by Surfrider Foundation Europe. The steering committee is the forerunner of Green Marine Europe's board of directors. It is responsible for the strategic direction of the European label and currently has eight members representing ship owners, shipyard operators, Surfrider Foundation Europe, Green Marine, as well as public institutions such as the ADEME.

European maritime associations, such as Armateurs de France and the Groupement des Industries de Construction et Activités Navales (GICAN), as well as the European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO), are also involved in

the process at the advisory committee level. This consultative body gives an expert opinion on the criteria for the environmental program's indicators, its European adaptation, and its future evolution. The advisory committee brings together Green Marine Europe's stakeholders: ship owners, port representatives, shipyard operators, NGOs, shippers, financing experts and sector experts. This body is responsible for adapting the criteria for the European region and proposing new ones.

The new label uses the tools and procedures developed by Green Marine. The long-term goal is to set up a new independent organization within a few years, similar to Green Marine.

# IN THE WAKE

Green Marine Europe is working closely with Armateurs de France to promote the label to its community. The association has actively participated in the advisory committee's discussions since Day 1 and brings its expertise and the vision of a committed sector. Building on this first edition, Green Marine Europe has already garnered the interest of other ship owners and maritime associations for the rest of the project. In September 2020, Green Marine Europe introduced an association member category, like the one found in the Green Marine model, to be able to welcome these ship owners associations within this promising wake.

## MARCH

SFE acquires a four-year licence to establish and manage Green Marine Europe. Green Marine is directly involved in GME's governance; Surfrider coordinates the label.

## APRIL

The criteria and self-diagnostic questionnaire for the initial edition (covering the 2019 year of operations) of the Green Marine Europe label are published.

## JUNE

External auditors accredited by Green Marine Europe are selected and trained.

## OCTOBER

The first ship owners to obtain the Green Marine Europe label are announced.

## WINTER

The criteria and self-diagnostic questionnaire for the second edition (covering the 2020 year of operations) of the Green Marine Europe label will be published.

## SPRING

The call for applications for the second edition of the Green Marine Europe label will be launched.

2020

2021

# THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

The Green Marine Europe label offers a detailed framework that allows shipping companies to measure their environmental footprint, and then reduce it. Applicant ship owners must demonstrate continuous and measurable improvement, year after year, in order to obtain the annual label. Initially, the environmental program is addressing priority environmental issues related to air and water quality, the protection of biodiversity, and waste management. The program has seven distinct indicators.



AQUATIC  
INVASIVE SPECIES



GREENHOUSE GAS  
EMISSIONS



OILY DISCHARGE



POLLUTANT AIR  
EMISSIONS NOX



POLLUTANT  
AIR EMISSIONS SOX & PM



UNDERWATER  
NOISE



WASTE MANAGEMENT

## SCALABLE SCOPE

In the spirit of continual improvement at the heart of Green Marine Europe's approach, the criteria will regularly be revised to ensure that all levels are sufficiently demanding in relation to existing or imminent regulations, as well as according to the availability and feasibility of new technologies and/or best management practices. Through the advisory committee, this process is subject to extensive consultation with stakeholders from the industry, environmental NGOs, maritime experts and government agencies.

For the second edition of the program, Green Marine Europe will adjust the criteria for the **pollutant air emissions (SOx and PM)** indicator to reflect the much lower limits introduced by the International Maritime Organization in terms of sulphur content in marine fuels. The **greenhouse gases** indicator will also be reviewed in order to raise the carbon reduction targets.

## A PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT

In the wake of Green Marine introducing a **new responsible ship recycling indicator** in April 2020, Green Marine Europe will incorporate this into the second edition of its program. The criteria developed after nearly two years of consultations by Green Marine will be adapted to European legislation. The new indicator deals with one of the most dangerous maritime activities in terms of health, safety and environmental impacts. It will encourage applicants to implement the most responsible practices, even for vessels in their fleet that do not fly the flag of an EU country (and, therefore, are subject to the strictest regulations in the world).



## BEYOND COMPLIANCE

Although this is the first year of assessment and the initial group, the laureates of the Green Marine Europe label are already demonstrating a performance beyond European regulatory requirements. In fact, all six of the ship owners significantly exceeded the program's minimum performance requirements for the first year of certification, obtaining at least a Level 2 for one of the indicators. Additionally, for the three indicators related to air emissions – **SOx and PM, NOx and GHG** – all the ship owners achieved a Level 2 or higher.

Collectively, the initial group of ship owners earning the Green Marine Europe label achieved a total of 18 levels for the indicator relating to SOx and PM air emissions – the highest number of levels reported for the seven indicators for that first year.

# 2019 RESULTS

## INTERPRETATION

The words “not applicable” appear in a few places in the table because not all environmental issues apply to all candidates. For example, the vast majority of ferries do not discharge ballast water. This notion also applies in a case where a participant does not have complete control of operations.

The published results reflect the environmental performance of the candidates within the framework of the Green Marine Europe

environmental program’s indicators; they do not constitute a comprehensive assessment of all environmental aspects related to maritime operations. The Green Marine Europe label does not claim to itself assess the environmental performance of the participating companies. The results are subject to external verification every two years. Each candidate must then submit all the documentation related to the level declared for each of the applicable indicators.

## LEVELS

The results determine the environmental performance of each laureate for 2019 for each indicator on a scale of 1 to 5.



SHIP OWNERS 	AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES	AIR EMISSIONS (SOX/PM)	AIR EMISSIONS (NOX)	GREENHOUSE GASES	OILY DISCHARGE	WASTE MANAGEMENT	UNDERWATER NOISE
Brittany Ferries	2	5	4	3	2	1	2
Corsica Linea	2	4	2	2	2	1	2
Genavir - Ifremer	3	3	3	2	3	2	5
La Méridionale	2	2	2	3	2	1	2
Orange Marine	2	2	2	2	4	1	2
Socatra	1	2	2	2	2	2	1

n.a. : non applicable



## CONTACT INFO

### FRANCE

33 allée du Moura,  
Biarritz, France, 64200

[greenmarine@surfrider.eu](mailto:greenmarine@surfrider.eu)

## TEAM



**FLORENT MARCOUX**  
Financial Expert



**ANTIDIA CITORES**  
Project Manager



**PHILIPPINE HUC**  
Project Assistant



**EMMA LE LONG**  
Assistant



[green-marine.org/europe/](http://green-marine.org/europe/)

 @Green\_Marine\_Eu