FOCUS ON EUROPE!

Launched in Spring 2020, Green Marine Europe (GME) is the first European environmental certification for maritime transportation. In just two years, the label has progressed considerably.

Led by Surfrider Foundation Europe (EU) and Green Marine (CAN/US), Green Marine Europe initially counted six labeled ship owners in 2020, then 11 in 2021, representing a total of 85 vessels – Brittany Ferries, Compagnie Maritime Nantaise, Compagnie maritime Penn Ar Bed, CORSICA linea, GENAVIR – IFREMER, La Méridionale, Orange Marine, PONANT, Socatra et Sogestran Shipping. Another noteworthy fact: the diversity of labeled maritime activities – the transport of passengers, liquid bulk, submarine cable laying, scientific research, cruises.

Green Marine Europe and its process of continual improvement in the performance of labeled ship owners are on the agenda of the One Ocean Summit (Brest, February 9 to 11), as part of a series of presentations dedicated to sustainable maritime transportation initiatives, organized by the Ministry of the Sea on February 11.

On the occasion of this grand international debate about the Ocean, the label is accentuating its Europeanization, by announcing 11 new candidates for labeling – CMA CGM, Compagnie Maritime DMO (Manche Îles Express), Compagnie Polynésienne de Transport Maritime (CPTM) / Aranui Cruises, Express des Îles, Iliens, Louis Dreyfus Armateurs (LDA), MCS Cruises, Plastic Odyssey, SPM Ferries, Stena Line, Transoceanic Wind Transport (TOWT).

Leaders in maritime transportation, a pioneer in wind-sailing transport, an innovative player in the fight against ocean plastic pollution at sea... the 11 candidates mentioned above are a testament to Green Marine Europe’s ability to bring together a community of professionals from the maritime sector and committed partners around a shared vision: maritime transport that is more respectful of our ocean and our environment.

The label’s inclusive aspect, dealing with various environmental issues in addition to greenhouse gas et sulphur air emissions, as well as its collaborative and sectoral approach, focusing on reducing maritime transportation’s global environmental footprint, are major assets for Green Marine Europe’s growth.

See you in June 2022 for the announcement of the certified Green Marine Europe laureates.

Florent Marcoux
Executive Director
Surfrider Foundation Europe
Green Marine Europe was created as a tool in support of ship owners to facilitate the management of environmental performance monitoring and improvement throughout Europe.

The label encourages the leadership and long-term engagement of the companies to improve their environmental performance in a process of continual improvement for a significant impact.

At the end of the discussions started in early 2019, Surfrider Foundation Europe acquired a four-year licence to set up and manage Green Marine Europe. Green Marine (the certification program founded in North America) participates directly in the governance of Green Marine Europe, while the coordination of the label is led by Surfrider Foundation Europe. The steering committee is the foreshadowing body of the future board of directors of Green Marine Europe. It is responsible for the strategic orientation of the European label and currently has eight members representing ship owners, shipyards, Surfrider Foundation Europe, Green Marine, Amateurs de France, and public institutions such as the Agence de la transition écologique (ADEME).

Other European maritime associations, such as the Groupement des Industries de Construction et Activités Navales (GICAN), or the European Sea Ports Organization (ESPO) are also involved in the process at the development committee level. This advisory body provides an expert opinion regarding the environmental certification program’s performance indicator criteria, its European adaptation and its future developments. The development committee brings together all of Green Marine Europe’s stakeholders: ship owners, port representatives, shipyards, NGOs, shippers, financial experts and sector experts. This body is responsible for adapting the criteria for the European territory and proposing new ones.

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

AN INCLUSIVE AND EUROPEAN GOVERNANCE

A TRANSPARENT AND RIGOROUS APPROACH

Green Marine Europe requires its applicants to adopt practices and technologies that have a direct impact on the ground. The progress of the laureates is assessed year, on a scale of 1 to 5. Level 1 indicates regulatory monitoring while Level 5 illustrates leadership and excellence.

Green Marine Europe’s labeling process is rigorous and transparent. To receive their label, applicants must annually measure their environmental performance using the certification program’s self-diagnostic guides. They subsequently submit their results to an independent external verifier trained and accredited by Green Marine Europe and agree to publish them.

The criteria are reviewed annually to ensure that each of the four levels above the baseline that indicates regulatory monitoring is sufficiently demanding yet achievable. Finally, to remain true to the principle of continual improvement, Green Marine Europe also requires that any new participant achieves at least a Level 2 for one of the indicators within the framework of the participant’s first year of evaluation, and subsequently demonstrates a yearly improvement by one level in at least one performance indicator until Level 2 is achieved for all applicable program indicators.
A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

In addition to the laureates, who engage in a process of evaluation and continual improvement in their environmental performance, Green Marine Europe is also a space for discussion and exchange. The Armateurs de France has supported this project since its inception in 2012. The GICAN is also among the maritime associations that joined the initiative in its early days.

The French Maritime Cluster and the Royal Dutch Shipowners Association (KNVR) also endorse the label. Additionally, since its launch, Green Marine Europe has welcomed new supporters: OceanCare, EuroSIMA, the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Labeyrie Fine Foods and the Tara Ocean Foundation.

MILESTONES

2017
- The label project is developed with the environment committee of the Armateurs de France and France’s Ministry of Ecological Transition in collaboration with Alice.
- Green Marine, an environmental certification program for North America’s maritime industry, is identified as a model for creating the new Green Marine Europe label.

2018
- JANUARY
  Discussions begin with Green Marine to import the North American environmental program’s model for Europe.
- AUGUST
  Green Marine and Surfrider Foundation Europe commit to signing a licensing agreement with the aim of creating Green Marine Europe as part of the Ocean Pavilion G7 side discussions.
- NOVEMBER
  Initial meeting of the development committee to adapt the environmental program to the European context.

2019
- MARCH
  Surfrider Foundation Europe acquires a four-year licence to set up and manage Green Marine Europe. Green Marine is directly involved in the governance of Green Marine Europe; Surfrider coordinates the label.
- APRIL
  The criteria and self-diagnostic questionnaire for the first edition (2019 year of operations) of the Green Marine Europe label are published.

2020
ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Moreover, the Green Marine Europe label would have never seen the light of day without the partnership of the European Union’s LIFE programme. It also benefits from the invaluable financial support of France’s ministry in charge of the environment, ADEME (Agence de la transportation écologique), the Macif Advantages programme, and the 1% for the Planet collective.

2020

- **JUNE**
  - Green Marine Europe selects and trains individuals to become accredited verifiers.

- **OCTOBER**
  - The first ship owners to obtain the Green Marine Europe label are made public.

- **WINTER**
  - The criteria and self-diagnostic questionnaire for the second edition (2020 year of operations) of the Green Marine Europe label are published.

- **SPRING**
  - A leading ship owner outside France becomes a membership candidate.

2021

- **JUNE**
  - The ship owners receiving the Green Marine label for the 2020 year of operations are revealed.

- **SUMMER**
  - The criteria and self-diagnostic questionnaire for the third edition (2021 year of operations) of the Green Marine Europe label will be published.

- **FALL**
  - The call for applications for the third edition of the Green Marine Europe label launched.

- **MAY**
  - Reveal 3rd edition

2022

- **FEBRUARY**
  - 3rd year of evaluation: 22 laureates in contention, including 11 new candidates for the label.
NEW CANDIDATES FOR THE 2022 LABEL

CMA CGM

Led by Rodolphe Saadé, the CMA CGM Group, a world leader in shipping and logistics, serves more than 420 ports worldwide on 5 continents. With a fleet of 545 vessels, the Group in 2020 transported nearly 21 million TEU (twenty-foot equivalent) containers, 400,000 tonnes of air freight, and 2.8 million tonnes of land freight with its subsidiary CEVA Logistics. Committed to maritime transportation’s energy transition and a pioneer in the use of alternative fuels, the CMA CGM Group has set itself the goal of being net-zero carbon by 2050. A continuous improvement approach that translates into concrete results with a 4% reduction the Group’s total CO2 emissions in 2020.

Compagnie Maritime DMO (Manche Îles Express)

Manche Îles Express links the Channel Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark and Alderney with the Normandy ports Granville, Barneville-Carteret and Diélette. Its high-speed crafts offer passengers both reliability and comfort.

Compagnie Polynésienne de Transport Maritime (CPTM) / Aranui Cruises

For 40 years, Compagnie Polynésienne de Transport Maritime / Aranui Cruises has been offering a regular 12-day cruise program with its mixed passenger/cargo ship ARANUI 5, sailing to the Tuamotu, Marquesas, and Leeward Islands while delivering goods to the islanders at the same time.

Express des Îles

As the leading maritime company in the West Indies, l’Express des Îles has been serving Caribbean destinations for 35 years. Headquartered at the Bergevin ferry terminal in Pointe-à-Pitre in Guadeloupe, it initially provided a quick ferry service among the islands of Guadeloupe, Martinique, Les Saintes and Marie Galante, then extended its services to Dominica in 1987, and to Saint Lucia in 1994.

Iliens

Based in France’s Brittany region, Iliens launched a maritime shuttle in 2021 with a sailboat. Iliens operated its first line between Quiberon and Belle-Île (transporting 14,000 passengers in 2021). Each crossing is less than 1½ hours, with the sails and an auxiliary engine facilitating the sailboat’s planned schedule. The boat is navigated by a captain and 2 crew members, and it sails without a motor 80% of the time. Onboard visual materials provide each passenger with educational information about the local marine ecosystem.

Louis Dreyfus Armateurs (LDA)

For 170 years, the Louis Dreyfus Armateurs Group (LDA) has been offering its clients tailor-made industrial maritime solutions with integrated services ranging from ship design to maritime operations. LDA offers maritime transportation and services in dry bulk transportation, logistics (for port terminals, offshore transshipment operations, 4 PL logistics for heavy lift and specialised cargoes), as well as offshore industrial solutions (submarine telecom and power cables laying and maintenance, offshore wind turbine maintenance, onshore wind services, submarine surveys, to name a few). This family-owned company started in France now has a worldwide presence with more than 2,600 employees and a fleet with some 100 units.
**MSC Group Cruise Division**

The Cruises Division of MSC Group, the leading privately held Swiss-based shipping and logistics conglomerate with over 300 years of maritime heritage, is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, and has two distinct brands – contemporary and luxury – within its structure. MSC Cruises, the contemporary brand, is the world’s third largest cruise brand as well as the leader in Europe, South America, the Gulf region and Southern Africa with more market share in addition to deployed capacity than any other company. It is also the fastest growing global cruise brand with a strong presence in the Caribbean, North America and the Far East markets. The luxury brand, Explora Journeys, is set to start operating in 2023 with a fleet that has the latest and most advanced environmental and maritime technologies available. MSC has long been committed to environmental stewardship with a long-term goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

**Plastic Odyssey**

Plastic Odyssey is an international project to reduce plastic pollution. Thanks to its worldwide network of partners, researchers, scientists, entrepreneurs, teachers and engineers, Plastic Odyssey is developing concrete solutions to recycle plastic waste and raise awareness about the alternatives to plastic use. Plastic Odyssey is working on several awareness programs designed for people currently most affected by plastic pollution. The aim is to provide universal access to available, concrete solutions to avoid the use of plastic. The Plastic Odyssey vessel will soon embark on a 3-year expedition to Africa, South America and Southeast Asia.

**SPM Ferries**

SPM Ferries provides maritime links between the French islands of St-Pierre and Miquelon and the province of Newfoundland and Labrador in Canada. The Nordet and Suroît ferries are ROPAX type ships with the capacity for 188 passengers and 18 vehicles. These vessels make regular trips from Saint-Pierre and Miquelon to Fortune, Newfoundland, and back again. The Le Jeune France ferry is a passenger ship that can accommodate up to 120 people and operates between Saint-Pierre and Langlade. With no wharf at Langlade, passengers and their luggage are transported onto the island by zodiac.

**Stena Line**

Stena Line is an international freight and ferry company with its landside roots in Sweden. Headquartered in Gothenburg, Stena Line has a route-based organisation in 6 business regions across Northern Europe that includes Ireland, Britain, France and Holland. As one of the world’s largest ferry networks, the company offers affordable transportation with a commitment to safety, reliability and a reduced environmental footprint.

**Transoceanic Wind Transport (TOWT)**

Founded in 2011, TransOceanic Wind Transport (TOWT) is the first French carrier of goods under sail. After having transported more than a million products on existing sailing ships under its own ANEMOS environmental label, TOWT is shifting to an industrial scale to decarbonise maritime transport with the construction of a first fleet of cargo sailing ships. By the summer of 2023, up to 20,000 tonnes of goods will be sailed on wind power to America, Africa or Asia on behalf of large companies, saving 3,000 tonnes of CO2 per year.
IN 2021, TWICE AS MANY LAUREATES!

For its second campaign, Green Marine Europe is proud to award its environmental label to 11 ship owners representing a total fleet of 85 vessels. This diversified fleet represents various sectors: passenger transport, liquid bulk, submarine cable laying, as well as scientific research. A first in 2021: the cruise sector also figured among the laureates.

BRITTANY FERRIES

Breton by nature, Brittany Ferries is the first maritime transporter on the western and central Channel. Its 11 vessels constitute a veritable bridge among France, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Spain. Since 1972, the company is a major French player in responsible, sustainable economic development with Europe.

MARITIME NANTAISE

Maritime Nantaise (MN) is the owner and operator of roll-on roll-off vessels, special charters, and passenger ferries. A 100% subsidiary of SOGESTRAN, it operates all of its vessels under the French flag.

PENN AR BED

Penn Ar Bed, a marine subsidiary of the KEOLIS Group, provides maritime services to the islands of Ouessant, Molène and Sein in the extreme West of Finistère under a public service delegation contract with the Brittany Region. For nearly 40 years, it has linked the islands of the Iroise Sea to the mainland with its six vessels, including a freighter.

CORSICA LINEA

Founded in 2016, CORSICA linea is one of the major companies in the Mediterranean in two business areas: freight transport and passenger transportation. From Marseilles, CORSICA linea provides year-round service to the ports of Bastia, Ajaccio and Île-Rousse, as well as trips to Algeria and Tunisia. The company also makes occasional trips to Sardinia from Ajaccio.

GENAVIR - IFREMER

The owner/operator of France’s oceanographic fleet since 1977, Genavir operates vessels from Ifremer, CNRS, and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (the Research Institute for Development). The onboard equipment makes it possible to carry out seismic and bathymetric measurements necessary for marine science worldwide.

LA MÉRIDIONALE

The French shipping company La Méridionale has been providing links from Marseilles to Corsica, and Sardinia since its founding in 1931. In 2017, it became the first company to test a shore power system at the Port of Marseilles, which facilitated the engines on its four ships to be shut down completely during their stopovers in France’s oldest city.
MARITIMA

A wholly owned subsidiary of la Compagnie Fluviale de Transport (C.F.T.), the MARITIMA company specializes in oil supply and storage along the French Mediterranean coast. The company established on the Port-de-Bouc site for several decades has been ISM certified since 2002, ISPS since 2006, and MLC since 2013.

ORANGE MARINE

Orange Marine is a wholly owned subsidiary of Orange specialising in the installation and repair of submarine cables. Its cable fleet – representing 15% of the global such fleet – is one of the most experienced in the world. In total, Orange Marine has installed more than 230,000 kilometres of fibre-optic submarine cables in all of the oceans. These vessels have carried out more than 670 repairs on submarine connections, some of which do to a depth of 5,000 metres. Orange Marine also designs and manufactures underwater vehicles (ROVs, plows, trenchers, crawlers) through its SIMEC department.

PONANT

Founded in 1998, Ponant has established itself as France’s only cruise company. Its sustainable development strategy and the investment of its teams have set it on a course of sustained growth with a fleet that will number 12 units in 2021. This development has always been thought out responsibly. In 2020, Ponant was the first French cruise company to obtain Green Marine certification. It is thereby ranked the first most ethical cruise company in the world by the non-governmental organization NABU.

SOCATRA

Founded in 1977, Socatra is a family business that operates in two distinct energy-related sectors: maritime transport and petroleum products storage. The Socatra fleet, which is completely managed in house, consists of seven medium-range and five small petroleum tankers. Socatra operates its vessels worldwide with offices in Bordeaux, Singapore, Luxemburg, and in Madagascar.

SOGESTRAN SHIPPING

Sogestran Shipping is a young owner and operator of chemical and gas tankers under the French flag. A wholly owned subsidiary of the Sogestran Group, it operates the the Mayoury tanker and is building a chemical tanker on behalf of Total Energies.
“Witnessing the adaptation of the North American program to European standards and expectations is a source of great pride for Green Marine. It demonstrates the relevance and flexibility of our environmental certification program, which has proven itself to be well suited to tackling the various environmental issues, here and elsewhere. The existence of the program in Europe represents an important milestone and creates opportunities for synergy on both sides of the Atlantic.”

— David BOLDUC, Green Marine (North America)

“Convinced of the need to dialogue with NGOs and all stakeholders in the maritime sector to reduce the environmental footprint of ships, Armateurs de France has been fully involved in this robust and ambitious European label since its inception, because it is a certification that supports ship owners in improving their environmental performance of their vessels beyond regulations. Eleven French ship owners are already committed to GME. Still others are candidates. All are at the forefront of a European dynamic for the ecological transition of maritime transportation.”

— Nelly GRASSIN, Armateurs de France, the professional organization for French companies offering maritime transportation services
THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

With eight performance indicators, the Green Marine Europe label offers a detailed framework to shipping companies to measure their environmental footprint, and then reduce it. Applicant ship owners must demonstrate continual and measurable improvement, year after year, in order to obtain the label.

A SCALABLE SCOPE

The program’s scope is indeed called upon to be regularly broadened as new issues are prioritized and the bar is raised in order to keep the criteria ahead of existing or expected regulations, as well as based on scientific understanding, emerging technologies and best practices. In this spirit of continual improvement at the heart of Green Marine Europe’s approach, the criteria are regularly revised. Through the development committee, this process is subject to extensive consultation with industry stakeholders, environmental NGOs, maritime experts and government agencies.

For the third edition of the program, Green Marine Europe will adjust the criteria for the waste management (garbage) indicator to reflect legislative developments related to single-use plastics and port recycling facilities. The criteria will particularly be advanced in terms of the requirements linked to the loss of containers at sea and the waste of food distributed on board. The greenhouse gas indicator will also be reviewed in order to raise carbon reduction targets. Finally, the indicator related to ship dismantling will be revised to take into account the deadlines for the broadened European legislation.
2020 RESULTS FLASHBACK

INTERPRETATION

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

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

LEVELS

The results indicate each participant’s environmental performance in 2020 within each applicable indicator on the program’s 1-to-5 scale:
BEYOND COMPLIANCE

Although this is the second cohort and the first year of assessment for half of the certified ship owners, the laureates of the Green Marine Europe label area already demonstrating a performance beyond European regulatory requirements, reach an overall average of 2.6 on the 1 to 5 scale, wherein 1 conveys regulatory monitoring and 5 represents excellence and leadership.

For the label’s second edition, all the ship owners already awarded it last year have complied with the requirement for continual improvement. The improvement of their environmental performance is reflected first of all by taking into account the impacts linked to the dismantling of their ships, often beyond existing regulations. As such, Brittany Ferries, CORSICA Linea and Orange Marine, each first obtaining the certification last year, stand out by reaching Level 2 of this new performance indicator.

Several laureates for the second consecutive year have also innovated to progress on the label’s basis. For example, La Méridionale has implemented the monitoring of NOx emission by vessel, which allows it to progress from Level 2 to Level 3 for this indicator. Finally, we must underline the significant progress of the Orange Marine company, which is improving its environmental performance in terms of its management of aquatic invasive species, air emissions (NOx and SOx), waste, and the reduction of underwater noise.

This year’s new laureates are not left out of these results either. Maritime Nantaise, Sogestran Shipping and Ponant for their first certification qualification are already showing performance beyond existing legislation for all eight of the label’s indicators. Finally, once again this year, several ship owners have achieved Level 5, the label’s indication of environmental excellence. These are: Genavir - Ifremer and Ponant for the management of aquatic invasive species; Ponant and Garbage Group for SOx emissions, Ponant for NOx emissions, oily discharges and waste management, and finally Genavir - Ifremer and Garbage Group for the underwater noise indicator.

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<th>SHIP OWNERS</th>
<th>AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES</th>
<th>AIR EMISSIONS (SOX &amp; PM)</th>
<th>AIR EMISSIONS (NOX)</th>
<th>GREENHOUSE GASES</th>
<th>OILY DISCHARGE</th>
<th>WASTE MANAGEMENT</th>
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n.a.: non applicable
* New candidate whose results have not yet been verified

Results pulled from Green Marine Europe’s Annual Performance Report published in June 2021.
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