

An A to Z of bunkering



Author of the book, and IMarEST member, Nigel Draffin

Petrospot, an independent publishing, training and events company that focuses on marine fuels, and also intermodal cargo security, has recently produced a new book on marine fuels, entitled *An Introduction to Bunkering*, by IMarEST member Nigel Draffin, with a foreword by Capt M Segar, Director of the Maritime & Port Authority of Singapore.

The subject of bunkers is very much at the forefront of concern in shipping circles with soaring prices, a surge in emissions controls, an increase in oil spills and greater awareness of health and safety issues. Today bunker fuel accounts for 60% or more of the daily operating costs of all types of shipping so this little volume is most timely.

It is a 102-page entry level guide to bunkering, covering all aspects of the marine fuels industry in a simple, easy-to-read style, with many explanatory diagrams and high quality photographs.

The target audience are beginners in the bunker and shipping industries and those on the periphery such as maritime lawyers, shipbrokers, testing laboratories, engine designers, journalists, etc who need occasionally to dip into a source of easy-access information on the subject.

Author Nigel Draffin comments: 'The information in this book is just as relevant to vessel charterers, ship operators, marine lawyers and port agents as it is to buyers and sellers of marine fuel'.

In his foreword, Capt M Segar, Director of the Maritime

& Port Authority of Singapore, by far the world's largest and most important bunkering port, states: 'This book covers every aspect of bunkering, from its history and early development right through to the latest legislation, newest delivery procedures and quality specifications, and – importantly – health and safety considerations'. He adds: 'The wealth of information in this book will shed a great deal of light into this most labyrinthine of industries. It is written in a clear, easily understood style that addresses the issues and answers the questions that everyone – from the newest student to the most experienced practitioners – will want to understand'.

Subjects covered include how the business of buying and selling bunkers functions, prices and some guidance on hedging, how to buy and how to sell bunkers, an extended run down on the properties and contents of bunkers, their use in various types of machinery, and the avoidance of and dealing with problems. The main body of the book is supported by appendices on international organisations, legislation and regulations, and sources of further information on the subject.

Interestingly a Spanish edition of the book is scheduled for publication in September. The book is priced at £39.95 (€49.95) and further details of this, and a companion volume *Bunkers* by Chris Fisher and Jonathan Lux) can be obtained from Petrosport Ltd at www.petrosport.com/books.

bunker quality

		Density	Water	MCR	Ash	Al/si	Sed(pot)
		kg/m3	% v/v	% m/m	% m/m	ppm	% m/m ISO10307
ISO Limits	Spec RME180	991	0.5	15.0	0.10	80	0.10
	Spec RMG380	991	0.5	18.0	0.15	80	0.10
N Eur	180 Ave	981.2	0.1	12.0	0.04	35	0.02
	180 Max	992.0	2.8	16	0.06	88	0.07
	No above RME180	3	2	2	0	3	0
	380 Ave	986.3	0.1	12	0.04	37	0.02
	380 Max	991.7	1.5	20	0.08	100	0.09
No above RMG380	7	2	4	0	7	0	
W Med	180 Ave	978.4	0	11	0.03	34	0.01
	180 Max	990.9	0.2	15	0.04	55	0.02
	No above RME180	0	3	1	0	0	0
	380 Ave	985.8	0.1	14.6	0.04	18	0.02
	380 Max	990.5	0.5	18.1	0.06	56	0.07
No above RMG380	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cen Med	180 Ave	958.5	0.1	10	0.04	12	0.01
	180 Max	990.9	0.7	14.0	0.06	58	0.04
	No above RME180	0	1	0	0	0	0
	380 Ave	975.0	0.1	13	0.05	15	0.02
	380 Max	990.1	0.8	19	0.09	69	0.06
No above RMG380	0	2	8	0	0	0	
Mid East	180 Ave	965.1	0	11	0.02	8	0.01
	180 Max	988.6	0.4	15	0.05	48	0.02
	No above RME180	0	0	0	0	0	0
	380 Ave	980.7	0.1	14	0.03	15	0.01
	380 Max	991.4	2.8	18	0.15	62	0.06
No above RMG380	2	2	0	0	0	0	
East USA	180 Ave	979.5	0	15	0.05	40	0.02
	180 Max	979.5	0	15	0.05	40	0.02
	No above RME180	0	0	0	0	0	0
	380 Ave	987.0	0.2	15	0.06	31	0.02
	380 Max	996.4	0.5	19	0.08	68	0.05
No above RMG380	7	0	3	0	0	0	
USA Gulf	180 Ave	983.5	0.3	12	0.04	19	0.01
	180 Max	990.6	2.0	15	0.06	46	0.02
	No above RME180	0	2	0	0	0	0
	380 Ave	988.3	0.3	14	0.05	26	0.01
	380 Max	992.0	5.0	18	0.07	79	0.05
No above RMG380	6	4	0	0	0	0	
West USA	180 Ave	987.7	0.1	11	0.04	18	0.01
	180 Max	991.6	0.3	16	0.07	71	0.08
	No above RME180	1	0	2	0	0	0
	380 Ave	988.9	0.1	11	0.05	28	0.02
	380 Max	1008.8	0.2	15	0.09	77	0.07
No above RMG380	3	0	0	0	0	0	
Far East	180 Ave	978.3	0.2	12	0.04	27	0.03
	180 Max	991	0.5	15	0.07	49	0.18
	No above RME180	0	0	0	0	0	1
	380 Ave	988.6	0.3	14	0.05	28	0.03
	380 Max	1006.0	1.0	18	0.09	64	0.10
No above RMG380	12	13	0	0	0	0	

U/F = Unfilterable * = CIMAC only

This Bunker Quality Report is based on samples as analysed by DNV Petroleum Services and is an abstract from their more detailed fuel quality statistics which is mailed to participating shipowners. Key bunker ports have been grouped in geographical regions for brevity. Comparison has been made with the international fuel oil standard ISO 8217.

For detailed information on current fuel quality call DNV Petroleum Services, London. Tel: 020 7357 6080. Fax: 020 7357 6192.

bunker prices

International bunker prices during the course of the week commencing 3rd August courtesy of H Clarkson & Co / OceanConnect.com. All prices in US dollars per tonne.

	IFO 380	IFO 180	MDO
Africa/ Middle East			
Suez	710-711	730	—
Fujairah	716	743	—
Damman	692	714.5	1325.25
Cape Town	—	779-781	—
Jeddah	695.5	726	1263.25
Durban	—	—	1340-1365
Far East/Australia			
Singapore	730-735	745-750	—
Korea	790-795	855-865	1360-1370
Japan	760-770	770-780	1270-1280
Taiwan	740	756	1330
Hong Kong	738-743	755-760	1335-1345
Americas			
Los Angeles	706-708	748-750	1255-1265
Houston	702-704	778-780	1260-1270
Panama	704-706	759-761	—
Philadelphia	702-704	750-752	1255-1265
Europe			
Rotterdam	695-696	740-741	1200-1205
Antwerp	695	740	1210
Algeciras	727	762	1328
Falmouth	745-750	790-795	—
Las Palmas	732	753	1325
Gibraltar	725	760	1325
Fos	—	—	—
Genoa	714-716	766-768	—
Augusta	708-714	760-777	—
Piraeus	694-700	747	—
Istanbul	728	771	—
Malta	716-718	746-751	—