

Book Review: New guide to fuel analysis

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Nigel Draffin

An Introduction to Fuel Analysis is the second bunker specific book written by Nigel Draffin in less than a year.

The new book is not intended as a definitive reference work, he says, rather a guide for those who "need to understand fuel analysis as part of their work."

Draffin, who has been involved in shipping for over 43 years and with the bunker industry for over 23 years, says it aims to "bridge the gap between the general level of information on offer and that available from specialized sources."

Fuel analysis has become a key feature of the bunker market.

Dedicated specialist fuel testing services began to appear in the 1980s, in response to the decline in the quality of residual fuel. Now it is standard practice for many ship owners to send a bunker sample for analysis before the fuel is used.

"The problems start when a testing laboratory has analysed the fuel and returned the result. What do those results mean? How should they be interpreted?," writes Angus Ogilvie, technical director of **Cockett Marine Oil Ltd**, in a foreword to the book.

An Introduction to Fuel Analysis is written to help players make sense of the information.

Ogilvie describes the guide as "an important addition to the growing library" on aspects of the bunker industry and one that "complements" Draffin's 2008 book, *An Introduction to Bunkering*.

The new 96-page publication has photographs, diagrams, tables and data designed to help the reader through the complexities of fuel specifications and fuel analysis.

An Introduction to Fuel Analysis is published by **Petrospot Ltd**.

The book costs \$79.95 / £39.95 / euros 49.95.

More details can be found on the website: www.petrospot.com

Nick Jameson, 18th June 2009 12:35 GMT