

Book reviews – Bunkering made easy

It is often said that there is no substitute for on-the-job training, especially in areas such as bunkering operations, where practical, hands-on work is the norm.

However, there are many in the industry who may never get their hands dirty on a bunker barge, oil terminal or receiving vessel but who, nevertheless, still need to understand exactly how the industry works. This is where Nigel Draffin's latest book - *An Introduction to Bunker Operations** - comes into its own, the publishers claimed.

The book is filled with photographs, charts and diagrams intended to help the reader visualise important aspects of bunker operations. It covers everything that needs to be understood and remembered, from plugging scuppers to fastening bolts on a bunker flange and covers storage, measuring, delivery, sampling and handling of bunker fuels and de-bunkering.

Draffin examines each of the key elements involved, from ordering the right type and

amount of fuel, to making sure it is safely delivered and properly accounted for. He covers the paperwork that needs to be done and looks at the various regulations now in place, including MARPOL Annex VI and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

The book includes a vast amount of informed detail on some of those areas that are often ignored – sometimes to great cost and inconvenience – such as variations in flange and hose sizes.

As with his earlier books, the author has included comprehensive indices and appendices, as well as a 'where to go for help' section.

Draffin explained; "I know from the questions I have been asked over the years that for most of us, the operations involved seem to throw up problems and restrictions that we do not understand. This book is intended to explain and put the whole process into context."

The forward was written by Capt Cees de Keijzer, president of the World Ship Society Rotterdam branch and former senior policy adviser and bunker co-ordinator at the Port

of Rotterdam.

He said; "Beyond question, marine fuel is regarded as the lifeblood of shipping and, with the high prices and all the changes that are still to come, we should be always aware of how many thousands and even millions of dollars are involved every time a ship receives bunkers".

Future publications from Petrosport include *An Introduction to Bunker Credit Risk*, by Adam Dupré, managing director of Ocean Intelligence (previously managing director of MRC Business Information Group), which is due this month.

Later this year will also see the publication of a book by barrister and legal consultant Trevor Harrison. *Legal Issues in Bunkering: An Introduction to the Law Relating to the Sale and Use of Marine Fuels*, which will offer a wealth of information on the key legal aspects of bunkering, including contacts, defaults, ship arrest and dispute resolution. **TO**

**An Introduction to Bunkering Operations by Nigel Draffin MIMarEST, First Edition, 2010, Published by Petrosport - www.petrosport.com/books*