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12. An Introduction to Bunkering Operations -- major new book

Baffled by subject of marine bunkering? As most of our readers realise, the process is vulnerable to costly miscalculation and technical mistakes, and can be hard for office-based personnel to understand. A new book, *An Introduction to Bunkering Operations*, by Nigel Draffin, published by Petrosport (www.petrosport.com/books) sets out to explain and illustrate exactly how the industry works.

Mr Draffin, who has been involved in shipping for more than 44 years, 24 years of them closely concerned with ship bunker management, said that for many people, the operations pose problems and restrictions. The book, his fourth on fuel topics, aims to put the whole process into context.

He has received a clear endorsement from Capt Cees de Keijzer, president of the World Ship Society Rotterdam branch and former senior policy adviser and bunker coordinator at the Port of Rotterdam, who writes a forward to the book. Capt de Keijzer says: 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. He is convinced that this book will be of great help to anyone involved in storing, blending, delivering, sampling or handling marine fuels in any way.

Llewellyn Bankes-Hughes, publisher of the book, says that conveying complicated subject matter in an easily-understood manner is Mr Draffin's speciality and helps explain his success and popularity as an author, teacher and mentor.

The book is filled with photographs, charts and diagrams to help the reader visualise important aspects of bunker operations. Mr Draffin covers the paperwork that needs to be done and looks at the regulations, including MARPOL Annex VI and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code. The book goes into detail on areas that are often ignored – sometimes to great cost and inconvenience – such as variations in flange and hose sizes.