



Letter of intent

Shipping has the potential to be a mode of transport with low environmental impact. However, due to its international character, the shipping industry has not been subjected to the same environmental demands that have been placed on land based industry and transport systems. The shipping industry currently operates under the weight of major and growing environmental problems which it is time to solve.

One way to encourage the shipping industry to become more environmentally adopted is that cargo owners or shippers (exporters and importers) place demands or requests on their shipping suppliers or carriers. This may create a win-win situation for several parties. Cargo owners may benefit because they can demonstrate responsibility for handling of raw materials and products even outside of the production plants, shipping companies with a 'clean' profile may benefit from more transports, long contracts and public "goodwill" – and last but not least the environment itself will benefit.

In the *Clean Shipping Index*, a questionnaire is answered by ship owners or operators covering the major environmental problems with shipping. The dominating impact on the environment is from the operational phase of the vessel, though other parameters could well be added. Today the questionnaire has five distinct segments: 1) CO₂, 2) NO_x, 3) SO₂ and PM, 4) Chemical products, and 5) Water and waste control. Shipping companies or operators that submit their information to the *Clean Shipping Index Database* receives a ranking of their environmental performance and can be compared with data from other shipping companies or operators.

The objective with the Index is to be a tool for cargo owners in their process of procurement of sea transport. The Clean Shipping Index has been developed from an impartial platform, the Clean Shipping Project which is financed by public funding from regional actors in the west of Sweden: Region Västra Götaland, the County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland, the Göteborg Region Association of Local Authorities, the Environment Administration in the City of Gothenburg and Port of Gothenburg.

The European import and export industry is large and strong and generally shows high environmental ambitions. We believe in the opportunities and advantages that arise when a large number of players place similar demands on shipping services. With this document we want to show our intention to place environmental demands on our shipping suppliers, in line with the environmental baseline demands for members of the Clean Shipping Index. We will use the Clean Shipping Index as a support in our procurement process.

This Letter of Intent will be valid for at maximum 5 years. After that a new Letter of Intent may be signed – if needed.

Place and date

For the company
