



Issue 4 | October 2023

Featured:

HOT SEAT **Green Initiatives, Resilience, and Stakeholder Engagement in a Changing Maritime Landscape**

**An interview with MEDports Vice-President Mr. Gerardo
Landaluce**



In a rapidly changing world, European ports face unique challenges.

This month we talked with Mr. Gerardo Landaluce, the President of the Port of Algeciras, and MEDPorts Vice President. Join us as we delve into the Port of Algeciras' insights on the ETS Directive, its pioneering projects in clean energy, and the profound impact of community engagement on their journey towards sustainability.

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Member and Industry News

**Damietta Port: Capacity Building & Infrastructure
Resilience**



Damietta Port is one of the leading Egyptian Ports on the Mediterranean Sea. It acts both as a gate for local imports and exports and as a hub for transshipment trade in the East Med. It is a place also for added-value activities especially in the petrochemical industry like Gas Derivatives, LNG, Methanol, Propane, Bioethanol and Butane...etc.

The Port handles an average of 42 million tons of containerized goods and general cargo per year. Damietta Port is well connected to its hinterland area thanks to a multimodal network including roads, rail, river and pipes and so the Port is able to serve almost all the Egyptian market of over 100 million people.

In line with Egypt's 2030 Vision for making Egypt a centric logistic hub in the Mediterranean, Damietta Port Authority has adopted a sustainable development plan with focus on a number of pillars including capacity building and infrastructure resilience.

Installation of an Innovative Railway Track designed by SYSTRA in the Port of Marseille-Fos



Work has been completed on an innovative ballast-less track design on the rail network of the Port of Marseille-Fos. This new generation of low-carbon concrete slab track was developed by SYSTRA and its partner STRADAL taking environmental issues into account.

This 20-metre-long experimental track, a world first, is now open to rail traffic within the port's right-of-way. It is for all railway lines, including high-speed lines, whether for passenger transport (High-speed/Regional express trains/Intercity/Metro) or freight transport.

The Port of Barcelona closes the North Terminal of the World Trade Center and moves around 340 cruise ship and ferry calls per year to the Adossat wharf



Today the Port of Barcelona bid farewell to the last cruise ship to operate at the Barcelona North wharf, located in the World Trade Center, and will transfer all existing cruise activity to the Adossat wharf, an area much further away from the city's residential areas. With the departure of Mystic Cruises' World Navigator, the Port has stopped its operations at Barcelona North, moving around 340 annual cruise ship and ferry calls to the Adossat wharf. Baleària services with the Balearic Islands were already transferred to the Adossat wharf last April.

By closing the Barcelona North wharf to cruise ship and ferry operations, the Port of Barcelona has taken a further step towards fulfilling the commitments it made in 2018 to the City Council to move cruise activity away from urban areas, concentrating them on the Adossat wharf and making them more sustainable.

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The North Adriatic Sea Port Authority presented the results of the International Research Project "Channeling the Green Deal for Venice"



The North Adriatic Sea Port Authority presented, in the context of the first Sustainability Biennial promoted by FVCMS/VSF, the conclusions of "Channeling the Green Deal for Venice," the most important scientific study ever conducted on the effects of navigation along Venice's main port artery, the Malamocco Marghera Channel.

Two years between preparatory studies analysis and testing, with the construction of dedicated hydrodynamic models and navigation simulations, allowed to reconstruct and evaluate the effects of the operation of Venetian port traffic on the lagoon ecosystem, identifying possible actions that would allow to increase navigation safety, infrastructure operation and environmental sustainability.

The Fundación Valenciaport organises a Pilot Test of Video Surveillance with drones in the Port of Valencia



The pilot test of the PASSPORT project was held in the facilities of the Port of Valencia, an initiative that aims to improve the security of European ports by complementing existing navigation systems, through the collection of data and advanced real-time visualisation of the traffic of ships and boats thanks to the use of drones.

The aim of this pilot test, which has been organised by the Fundación Valenciaport, in collaboration with the technology companies Eurecat,

GMV, Sistemática, Topview and Deep Blue, was to show and validate the information collected by the drones, which are capable of identifying different types of vessels (cruise ships, ro-ro, container ships, etc.) as well as other floating objects (buoys, small pleasure boats, jet skis, and other vessels that do not have an automatic identification system) to train artificial intelligence algorithms. This identification is essential to ensure the safety and regulation of maritime traffic in the port area.

Eduard Rodés: The Great Transformation is for Companies and Educational Institutions to work together



The [Barcelona New Economy Week \(BNEW\)](#) came to a close on Thursday, but its significant panels continued until the very last day. In his presentation, Eduard Rodés - the director of the Escola Europea - Intermodal Transport - explained that when discussing the collaboration between companies and educational institutions, it may seem as if we are referring to separate worlds. "However, I believe that the most significant transformation in recent years has been the successful integration of these two entities."

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MEDports News

Medports President and Secretary-General Discuss Governance Expertise in Panel on Evolving Trade Patterns at SeaFocus Summit 2023

04-05 October 2023



Mr. Pino Musolino, President of MEDPorts, and Mr. Jordi Torrent, General Secretary of MEDports, jointly attended the SEAFOCUS Summit, which took place on October 4-5, 2023, in Finland. They actively engaged in a thought-provoking panel discussion focused on 'Adapting to Evolving Trade Patterns' within the changing landscape of trade dynamics and geopolitical structures. Their participation emphasized the significance of comprehending and harnessing the geopolitical environment to foster sustainable growth.

Medports President Pino Musolino joins the Innodays '23 Webinar and Secretary-General Discuss Governance Expertise in Panel on Evolving Trade Patterns at SeaFocus Summit 2023

20-21 September 2023



On October 26, 2023, Mr. Musolino, serving as the President of the MEDports Association, took part in InnoDays '23. He was a panelist in a discussion titled 'Exploring Collaborative Opportunities for Developing Environmentally Friendly Logistics Chains in the Baltic Sea Region.' With his extensive experience and a strong focus on environmental sustainability in logistics, he shared valuable knowledge and insights.

Anchor for your calendar



**30 November
2023**
Barcelona, Spain

**IAPH-MEDports Seminar on
the Environmental Ship Index
(ESI)**

This Seminar will take place at the Port of Barcelona to promote the use of the ESI within Mediterranean ports. Details to follow. You can register [here](#).

**12 December
2023**
Casablanca, Morocco

**Cooperation and Partnership
Committee**

A meeting of the Cooperation and Partnership Committee will take place in Casablanca.

**13 December
2023**
Casablanca, Morocco

**MEDports Seminar: Digital
Transformation, Innovation
and Cooperation: Challenges
and Opportunities for
Mediterranean Ports**

MEDPorts Association is collaborating with Agence Nationale des Ports (ANP) in Morocco is to jointly organize a seminar dedicated to challenges and opportunities for Mediterranean Ports in regard of digital transformation, innovation and cooperation. This seminar will be generously hosted by ANP in Casablanca in Morocco on 13th of December 2023. You can register [here](#).

If you have any further questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the MEDPorts Technical Coordinator at fajrwahbaa@yahoo.com.

**23 January
2024**
Online

MEDports General Assembly

The next MEDports General Assembly will take place online. Details to follow.

**03-05 March
2024**
Alexandria, Egypt

**The International Maritime
Transport and
Logistics Conference**

This conference is also known as MARLOG-13. MEDports will have a booth and its representatives will have an active participation at the conference.

Mid-March

MEDports Seminar on Island

2024
Athens,
Greece

Ports and Sea Shore Shipping

This seminar will be organised by the Hellenic Ports Association.

Mid-March
2024
Athens,
Greece

Promotion Committee Meeting

The Promotion Committee will be organised on the sidelines of the MEDports Seminar on Island Ports and Sea Shore Shipping.

Spring
2024
Spain

Seminar on Port Operations Optimization

The Seminar will be organised by the Port Authority of Algeciras and the Cadiz University.

June
2024
Malta

MEDports Forum & General Assembly in June in Malta.

Malta will host the annual MEDports Forum and General Assembly 2024. Dates to be announced soon.

The MEDports Association

Created in 2018, MEDports is the Association representing the interests of Mediterranean ports. Its membership represents about 70% of freight and 90% of passenger traffic in the Mediterranean- Algeciras, Arzew, Barcelona, Bastia, Bejaia, Beirut, Cartagena, Civitavecchia, Durrès, Hellenic Ports Association, Igoumenitsa, La Spezia, Luka Koper, Malta Freeport, Marseille Fos, Moroccan Ports Agency (ANP), Office of the Merchant Navy and Ports (OMMP), Serport Group, Sète, Skikda, Tanger Med, Taranto, Toulon, Valencia and Venice. The Association has also several training institutions from the region as associate member.

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