



Press release

CLECAT joins Drewry-ESC transparent tool for bunker charges

Brussels, London, 30 June 2020 – European forwarders’ association joins industry initiative on a fair, neutral bunker adjustment factor indexing mechanism for shippers, forwarders and shipping lines.

CLECAT, which represents the interests of more than 19,000 companies in logistics, freight forwarding and customs services, has joined the initiative started last year by Drewry and the European Shippers’ Council to define fair principles and a clear indexing mechanism for Bunker Adjustment Factors in container shipping.

The mechanism was the result of the *ESC-Drewry IMO toolkit reference group*, a committee of Drewry procurement professionals and 10 ESC member shippers formed in 2019 and has been adopted by both Drewry shipper customers and ESC shipper members since its publication.

Together, CLECAT, Drewry and the ESC aim to promote the voluntary use of the indexing mechanism for fuel charges.

The three industry expert groups also plan to work on areas of cooperation, possibly covering further resources, transparency or easier standard contract practices for all stakeholders in the maritime and logistics sectors.

“This indexing mechanism will help improve transparency and fairness in how fuel costs are calculated which will benefit all stakeholders in the supply chain. We hope that this will facilitate discussions with carriers and a better understanding of BAF indexing methods, noted Nicolette van der Jagt, Director General of CLECAT.”

“We welcome CLECAT to our initiative on fair BAF mechanisms and look forward to engaging in constructive discussions with expert representatives from both the forwarder and shipper sectors – our door is also open to shipping lines,” said Philip Damas, head of Drewry Supply Chain Advisors.

“Shippers and Freight Forwarders working together to foster transparency and shared views on how to assess fuel costs brings the level playing field to a new framework of cooperation where visibility and collaboration will expand throughout the whole maritime supply chain. Current times require stakeholders to move away from silo perspectives and promote inclusive views to better integrate the maritime transport flow,” said Jordi Espín, Policy Manager of ESC.

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About CLECAT

CLECAT is the leading voice of freight forwarding, logistics and customs at the EU level in Brussels. We represent and are supported by 25 member organisations working to promote a sound approach to transport and logistics across Europe, in support of the competitiveness of our industry.

About Drewry

Drewry is a leading international provider of research and consulting services to the maritime and shipping industry. From its origins in 1970 London to a 21st century maritime and shipping consultancy, Drewry has established itself as one of the most widely used and respected sources of impartial market insight, industry analysis and advice. Offering a unique combination of sector knowledge, rich market insight and commercial awareness, Drewry is able to consistently deliver the performance, profitability and competitive advantage its clients seek.

Drewry serves its clients through four business units: Drewry Maritime Research, publishing market-leading research on every key maritime sector; Drewry Maritime Advisors, supporting the needs of shipping and financial institutions; Drewry Supply Chain Advisors, providing seafreight procurement support to retailers and manufacturers; and Drewry Maritime Equity Research, delivering an Investment Research Service on listed companies operating in the industry.

Drewry has a truly global perspective of the maritime sectors and areas of expertise it covers and employs over 100 professionals across an international network of offices in London, Delhi, Singapore and Shanghai.

About ESC

European Shippers' Council was founded in 1963 to represent the logistic interests of manufacturers, retailers and wholesalers, collectively referred to as shippers, in all modes of transport. ESC Members are national shippers' councils, key European commodity trade associations and corporate members. Thus, European Shippers' Council represents the freight transport interests of some 100,000 companies.