



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **IBIA and BIMCO launch survey to identify need for bunker licencing**

FOR RELEASE: 15 FEBRUARY 2022

The International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA), with support from BIMCO, is launching an extensive online survey to identify to which extent the maritime industry believes there is a need for wider adoption of bunker licensing schemes and mass flow metering (MFM) to improve market conditions.

In a bid to improve transparency in the bunker industry to minimise scope for malpractice and reduce disputes over the quantity and quality of fuels supplied to ships, both IBIA and BIMCO are working for effective bunker licencing schemes, preferably introducing mass flow meters, to be implemented in bunker hubs around the world. The online survey, aimed at the wider maritime industry, will serve as a valuable tool to get the industry's views.

IBIA formed the IBIA Bunker Licensing & MFM Working Group in 2021 to identify key elements of bunker licensing programmes. "IBIA's ambition is to create greater alignment and transparency across bunker ports and strengthen the credibility of our industry by the use of MFM," says IBIA Chairman Henrik Zederkof, who was instrumental in getting this initiative underway.

Alexander Prokopakis, CEO of probunkers and Chairman of the IBIA Bunker Licensing and Mass Flow Meters Working Group says: "The working group consists of 24 IBIA members representing the supply industry, the shipping industry, and other stakeholders such as ports and insurance companies. BIMCO has taken part in the working group since its first meeting in April 2021 and fully supports the initiative."

A bunker licence sets the conditions to allow bunker suppliers and bunker barge providers to operate within a specific jurisdiction. It will specify certain minimum requirements to obtain and keep permission to operate within the jurisdiction covered by the bunker licence. The specific requirements may vary but an effective bunker licensing program is intended to ensure that the licence holders meet the minimum requirements set out in the licence, and that failure to comply will have severe consequences.

"The implementation of licensing schemes that award high quality fuel oil suppliers will help improve the level of quality of the fuel delivered and provide significant financial savings for shipowners and bunker suppliers," says David Loosley, BIMCO Secretary General and CEO.

We now seek wide industry participation in this survey to gain valuable insight into the need and appetite for wider implementation of these measures. The online survey will take approximately 7-10 minutes to

complete, and all responses will be treated in confidence. The QR Code below will redirect to the survey, which can also be found on IBIA's and BIMCO's websites.

QR CODE:



LINK: <https://fs22.formsite.com/APMCS/cb6aftwkj7/index.html>

IBIA website link: <https://ibia.net/#survey>

**ENDS**

**About IBIA:**

The International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA) is the voice of the global bunker industry and represents all stakeholders across the industry value chain. IBIA's membership includes ship owners/operators, bunker suppliers, traders, brokers, barging companies, storage companies, surveyors, port authorities, credit reporting companies, lawyers, P&I clubs, equipment manufacturers, shipping journalists and marine consultants. Formed in 1992, IBIA has members in more than 70 countries. IBIA promotes improved standards, knowledge and understanding in the industry. This is done through a variety of events and courses, engaging in working groups, by disseminating reliable and accurate information and offering practical advice where we can. IBIA also lobbies for effective, pragmatic and workable regulations. One of the most important arenas for that is at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) where IBIA has consultative status as a non-governmental organisation. IBIA attends all meetings of the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) and a number of Sub-Committees.

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**About BIMCO:**

BIMCO is the world's largest international shipping association, with over 1,900 members in more than 130 countries, representing over 60% of the world's tonnage. Our global membership includes shipowners, operators, managers, brokers and agents. BIMCO is a non-profit organisation.

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