

Cesare d'Amico, chief executive of d'Amico Group, is backing biofuels. Photo: d'Amico Group

## d'Amico to move tanker and bulker fleets to TFG biofuel blend

Italian group also says further tests on new varieties of renewable bunkers are planned

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By [Gary Dixon](#) in **London**

A successful test of a biofuel blend on a d'Amico Group tanker has led to the Italian company planning a roll-out to the entire fleet.



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The project involving trials of the B30 bunkers derived from renewable feedstock was launched on an LRI ship in June.

The fuel was loaded on the 75,000-dwt Cielo di Rotterdam (built 2018) by TFG Marine, the venture involving Trafigura and John Fredriksen's Frontline and Golden Ocean.

The vessel operated on the bunkers from 19 June to 6 July.

The results were "very positive" in terms of the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reduced carbon intensity and stable NOx emissions, TFG said.

The blend provides a "viable solution" to comply with EU Fuel regulations being introduced from 1 January 2025 on the use of renewable and low-carbon fuels, the company added.

The trials also showed that depending on the scale-up of feedstock production worldwide, adding the biofuel blend as a "drop in" to traditional maritime fuels is a viable measure to reduce emissions.

As a result, d'Amico will use the blend on its six LRIs.

The plan is then to use the renewable fuel on all its 40 tanker and bulkers, as well as test further blends called B40 and B50 this year.

The LRI test showed a 4.3% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per tonne of fuel.

Fleet director Salvatore d'Amico said: "While we are closely monitoring the development of alternative fuels of the future, new technology for the propulsion, and continue to invest in innovative digital solutions, we do believe that using the biofuel blend can speed up the decarbonisation of the maritime transportation with an immediate effect on the existing tonnage."



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Deputy technical director Cesare d'Api added the company has a chance to give an immediate and practical contribution to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> footprints using the "drop in" solutions.

"Our LRI fleet is now ready and certified permanently to burn B30. Our outstanding team is ready to certify the entire fleet," he said.

The group's chief operating officer for product tankers, Flemming Carlsen, said the result underlines the success of the development of decarbonisation projects.



d'Amico's whole fleet will soon be using biofuels. Photo: d'Amico International Shipping

“In line with our corporate mission, we are very pleased to closely cooperate with our leading industry partners and not least our close customer Trafigura, with the objective to help drive the development of commercially and ... environmentally sustainable future fuel solutions for the shipping industry,” he added.

Class societies ABS, Lloyd’s Register and Rina, and Liberian shipping registry manager LISCR, were also involved in the project.

Georgios Plevrakis, ABS’s director of global sustainability, said the “trail-blazing” trial will make a vital contribution to understanding the potential of biofuels.

Trafigura’s head of distillate and fuel oil trading, Jamie Torrance, said the work was part of the trader’s efforts to cut emissions.

“TFG Marine now regularly delivers biofuels to customers in the Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp region, with plans to expand this offering further afield during 2022,” he added. [\(Copyright\)](#)

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