



MEDIA RELEASE

Singapore, 23 October 2023 | **For Immediate Release**

MPA to launch Digital Bunkering for Enhanced Efficiency

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) will launch the digital bunkering initiative on 1 November 2023, becoming the first port in the world to implement electronic bunker delivery notes (e-BDN)¹. This was announced by Mr Chee Hong Tat, Acting Minister for Transport and Senior Minister of State for Finance during the International Safety@Sea Conference today.

Launch of Digital Bunkering

2. Bunkering is the process of supplying fuels to ships for their own use. Currently, the maritime industry relies on physical bunker delivery notes, a standard document required by the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships that contains information on fuel oil delivery.

3. To boost efficiency and transparency during the bunkering process in Singapore, MPA will launch its digital bunkering initiative to implement electronic bunkering processes and documentations, such as e-BDN, from 1 November 2023. Over 100 trials have been conducted since January 2023, involving more than 20 companies in the Singapore bunkering ecosystem. Feedback from users will continue to be gathered to improve these solutions with plans to make digital bunkering a mandatory requirement by end 2024. Meanwhile, MPA will continue to explore and work with the industry on other enhancements, including automating the data flow from Mass Flow Meters.

4. Licensed bunker suppliers, ship owners, operators and crew are encouraged to utilise the mobile and cloud solutions approved by MPA to complete and issue digital bunkering documents, which can save close to 40,000 man-days per year for the bunker industry. MPA has approved these solutions to ensure conformance to standards and that they meet cybersecurity, baseline functionality, risk management

¹ During the 80th Marine Environment Protection Committee session, the International Maritime Organization formally approved the use of electronic bunker delivery notes (e-BDNs). Hardcopy BDNs or e-BDNs are valid provided they meet the relevant requirements of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex VI.

and regulatory reporting requirements. These digital solutions will automatically relay bunkering-related information required by MPA, thereby reducing compliance costs and improving productivity. The digital approach also streamlines workflow and enhances crew safety by eliminating the need for physical transfer of bunker documents between vessels. Please refer to go.gov.sg/digital-bunkering for the current list of approved digital solutions, which will be progressively updated.

5. The industry-led Singapore Standards Council is developing a new Specification for digital bunkering supply chain documentation and revising the existing SS648:2019 Code of Practice of Bunker Mass Flow Metering to support electronic bunkering documentation. MPA is also working with Enterprise Singapore and Workforce Singapore to support maritime companies in the early adoption of digital bunkering and manpower upskilling.

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About the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)

MPA was established on 2 February 1996 with the mission to develop Singapore as a premier global hub port and international maritime centre, and to advance and safeguard Singapore's strategic maritime interests. MPA is the driving force behind Singapore's port and maritime development, taking on the roles of port authority, maritime and port regulator and planner, international maritime centre champion, national maritime representative and a champion of digitalisation and decarbonisation efforts at regional and international fora such as at the International Maritime Organization. MPA partners industry, research community and other agencies to enhance safety, security and environmental protection in our waters, facilitate maritime and port operations and growth, expand the cluster of maritime ancillary services, and develops maritime digitalisation and decarbonisation policies and plans, R&D and manpower development. MPA is responsible for the overall development and growth of the maritime domain and Port of Singapore. In 2022, Singapore remained one of the world's busiest transshipment hubs with a container throughput of 37.3 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

For more information, please visit <https://www.mpa.gov.sg>

For media queries, please contact:

Ms Joanna Chen

Corporate Communications, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore

Email: joanna_chen@mpa.gov.sg

Translated Terms

Bunkering	海运燃料供应
Digital bunkering	数码海运燃料供应
Electronic Bunker Delivery Notes (e-BDN)	电子燃料交付单
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)	防止船舶污染国际公约
Mass Flow Meters	质量流量测量系统
SS648:2019 Code of Practice of Bunker Mass Flow Metering	新加坡燃油质量流量测量常用标准编码 648:2019