

# NEWSLETTER

*Connecting you to the future of shipping: Discover, Engage, Inspire!*

Trust  ABOVE ALL ELSE

## FEATURED THIS EDITION

- Seasonal Commodity Shipments**
- Culture and entertainment**
- Global trade landscape**
- Guide to Sea Route**



## Information without borders for curious minds



MSC finalized its acquisition of a controlling stake in Wilson Sons in June 2025, marking a significant expansion of its presence in Latin America. The Brazilian port and marine services group adds substantial towage, terminal, and port operation capabilities to MSC's portfolio. This strategic move strengthens MSC's end-to-end logistics control, enhancing container flow management in and out of Brazil — a key gateway for South American trade.



# Smooth Sailing: Connecting the World

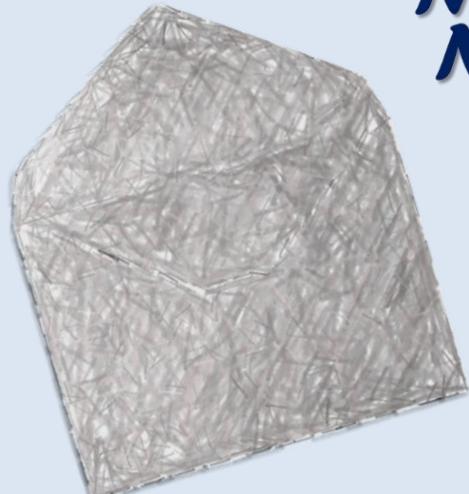
Sea routes, or shipping lanes, are the arteries of international trade, connecting countries, continents, and economies. According to the International Maritime Organization, nearly 90% of global trade moves via waterways, underscoring the vital role of maritime transport. These routes can be natural or man-made, meticulously designed to ensure the shortest, safest, and most efficient passage for cargo shipments. By linking major hub ports and transshipment points across seas, oceans, and rivers, sea routes enable the smooth movement of goods, supporting businesses and economies worldwide.

Some shipping lanes carry more traffic and strategic importance than others, as they connect key economic centers and facilitate faster trade. Efficient sea routes reduce transportation costs, save time, and enhance supply chain reliability, making them indispensable for global commerce. Over the years, modern port infrastructure, advanced navigation systems, and innovations in maritime technology have further optimized these routes, allowing for safer and faster shipments even in challenging conditions.

The busiest sea routes are more than just pathways—they are a testament to the growth and sophistication of global shipping networks. From the Strait of Malacca to the Suez Canal and Panama Canal, these critical passages enable trade between continents, drive economic development, and foster international cooperation. As global trade continues to expand, the importance of sea routes will only grow, reinforcing their role as the lifeline of world commerce.



## NAUTICAL NUGGETS!!



### *Mega marvels at sea!*

*“The largest container ships now carry over 24,000 containers, stretching nearly 400 meters — that’s longer than four football fields!”*

# WHAT IS AN IMPORT LICENSE?

An **Import License** is an official authorization issued by a government authority that permits an importer to bring specific goods into a country. It serves as a regulatory tool to monitor and control the import of certain commodities, particularly those that may impact national security, public health, the environment, or domestic industries. The license outlines the type, quantity, and value of goods approved for import, ensuring that trade activities comply with national import policies and international trade agreements. Holding a valid import license helps importers demonstrate compliance with government regulations, avoid shipment detentions or rejections, and ensure smooth customs clearance.

## An Import License typically includes:

- ✓ Name and address of the importer and issuing authority
- ✓ License number, issue date, and validity period
- ✓ Description and classification (HS code) of goods permitted for import
- ✓ Approved quantity, value, and country of origin
- ✓ Applicable restrictions, quotas, or conditions
- ✓ Reference to related trade policy or regulatory notifications
- ✓ Signatures, seals, or digital authentication from the issuing authority



## SEASONAL SPOTLIGHT: SEE WHAT'S GROWING!!!

Malaysia, located in Southeast Asia, is a vibrant and diverse nation divided into Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia (on the island of Borneo), separated by the South China Sea. Its capital, Kuala Lumpur, serves as the financial and cultural hub, while Putrajaya functions as the administrative center. Strategically positioned along major maritime trade routes such as the Straits of Malacca, Malaysia plays a vital role in global shipping and logistics. The nation is globally recognized for its thriving trade, manufacturing, and tourism sectors, making it one of the region's most dynamic economies.

Traditionally reliant on rubber, tin, and palm oil, Malaysia has diversified its economy to include electronics, automotive, petrochemicals, and services. The country continues to invest in digitalization, renewable energy, and maritime infrastructure to reinforce its global competitiveness. With a tropical rainforest climate, marked by high humidity and two distinct monsoon seasons — the Southwest Monsoon (May-September) and the Northeast Monsoon (November-March) — Malaysia supports strong agricultural productivity. Despite rapid urbanization, it actively promotes sustainable agriculture, smart farming, and export-oriented crop **cultivation** to ensure long-term food security and environmental balance.



# UNDERSTANDING A ROLL-ON/ROLL-OFF (RO-RO) SHIP



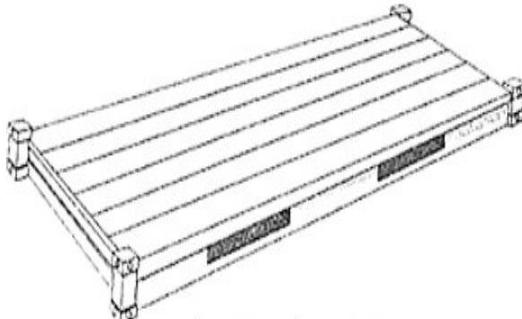
Roll-on/Roll-off (Ro-Ro) Ships are specialized vessels designed to transport wheeled cargo such as cars, trucks, trailers, buses, and heavy machinery that can be driven directly on and off the ship using built-in ramps. This unique feature allows for faster loading and unloading compared to traditional cargo handling methods, making Ro-Ro ships an efficient choice for vehicle manufacturers, logistics companies, and short-sea transport routes. Their design minimizes cargo handling equipment needs, reduces turnaround time at ports, and ensures smoother cargo operations even in ports with limited infrastructure.

There are several variants of Ro-Ro ships, including Pure Car Carriers (PCC), Pure Car and Truck Carriers (PCTC), and RoPax vessels, which combine cargo and passenger transport. Modern Ro-Ro ships are equipped with multiple decks, advanced securing systems, and sophisticated ventilation and fire-safety features to ensure the safe transit of vehicles across long distances. Their flexibility and efficiency make them a vital component of global trade, particularly in the automotive and machinery transport sectors.

## “LITTLE KNOWN FACT”

Platform Containers are specialized intermodal containers designed with a flat, open base and no sidewalls or roof, providing maximum flexibility for transporting oversized, heavy, or awkwardly shaped cargo that cannot fit into standard containers. Constructed with a strong steel frame and reinforced floor, platform containers can handle exceptionally heavy loads such as machinery, construction equipment, vehicles, and industrial components. Their open design allows easy loading and unloading from any side using cranes or forklifts, making them ideal for breakbulk and project cargo operations.

These containers are available in 20-foot and 40-foot ISO-standard sizes, ensuring compatibility across all modes of transport—road, rail, and sea. Platform containers are often equipped with lashing rings and twist-lock points to secure cargo safely during transit. Their robust structure and versatility make them a preferred choice for industries like construction, energy, and heavy manufacturing, where specialized cargo handling is required. Offering the same durability and transport flexibility as standard containers, platform containers are essential for moving out-of-gauge and high-value industrial freight efficiently and securely.

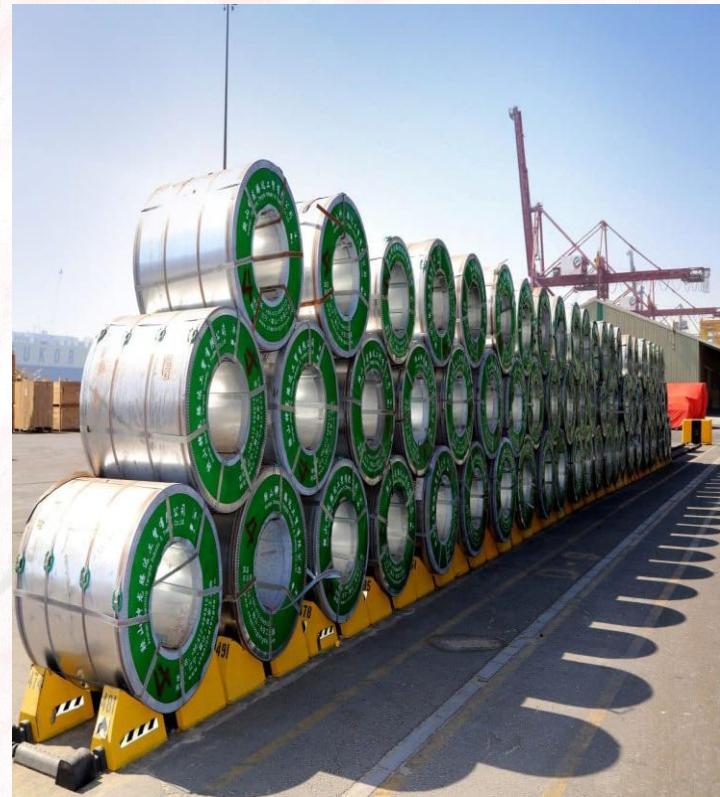


# NEWSHEAD

## JEBEL ALI PORT SETS A NEW RECORD IN BREAKBULK CARGO HANDLING

DP World's Jebel Ali Port recorded its highest monthly breakbulk throughput in nearly two decades, handling 630,000 tonnes in October 2025. The milestone reflects a strong revival in regional industrial and construction activity and reinforces Jebel Ali's role as one of the Middle East's most vital trade and logistics hubs. The surge has been driven largely by increased imports of iron and steel for major UAE infrastructure projects such as the Dubai Metro Blue Line and the DWC airport expansion, alongside rising sugar exports, highlighting the port's growing contribution to national development and diversified trade.

Building on a robust 2024, when breakbulk volumes grew 23% year-on-year to 5.36 million tonnes, the latest achievement underscores sustained momentum across the UAE's expanding industrial base and its strengthening position in global supply chains. DP World noted that continued investments in capacity, technology and sustainability are supporting Jebel Ali's evolution into one of the world's most advanced multipurpose ports, with strong performance now spanning containers, ro-ro, bulk and breakbulk cargo.



## DP WORLD UNVEILS INNOVATIVE LIVING SEAWALL PANELS AT JEBEL ALI PORT!

DP World has completed the first phase of its Living Seawalls initiative at Jebel Ali Port, installing 1,000 innovative panels designed to transform conventional seawall surfaces into thriving marine habitats. Developed in collaboration with Living Seawalls, a science-led programme of the Sydney Institute of Marine Science, the project will expand to 6,000 modular panels by 2028, creating the region's longest continuous waterfront structure dedicated to supporting functional marine ecosystems. The panels, engineered with varied shapes and textures that replicate natural rock formations, provide surfaces for marine species to settle and grow, reinforcing DP World's commitment to sustainable port development. Biodiversity monitoring at the port is set to begin in 2026, contributing valuable insights into how port infrastructure can enhance coastal and ecological resilience.



## DP World Announces \$5 Billion Investment to Power India's Maritime and Logistics Expansion

In a major boost to India's maritime and logistics landscape, DP World has announced an additional \$5 billion investment to enhance its integrated supply chain network, supporting both exports and domestic trade. This comes in addition to the \$3 billion the company has already invested in India over the past three decades. The new investment, unveiled during India Maritime Week 2025, underscores DP World's commitment to strengthening India's infrastructure backbone, advancing multimodal connectivity, and enhancing the nation's competitiveness in global trade. In the presence of Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, DP World signed five strategic MoUs aimed at driving sustainable growth across India's maritime ecosystem, spanning green coastal shipping, shipbuilding, ship repair, skill development, and advanced freight mobility.

Key partnerships include collaborations with Cochin Shipyard Limited, Drydocks World, and the Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding for skill development and ship repair; Cochin Port Authority to upgrade port infrastructure in Kerala; and Deendayal Port Authority and Nevomo (MagRail) to pilot next-generation automated, low-emission port operations. Additionally, Unifeeder, a DP World company, signed an MoU with Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited to advance green coastal and short-sea shipping across India. Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO of DP World, reaffirmed the company's long-standing commitment to India's growth story, emphasizing alignment with national initiatives such as PM Gati Shakti, Sagarmala, and the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047. With a presence in over 200 locations and more than 24,000 jobs created, DP World's expanding footprint continues to position India as a global maritime leader driving innovation, sustainability, and economic growth.

### STAY SAFE: TIPS DURING FIRE OUTBREAKS



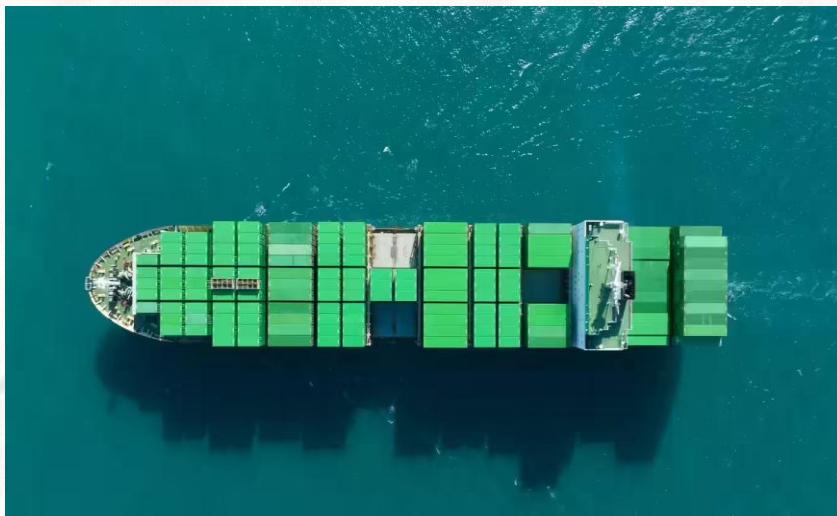
Avoid Outdoor Activities



Mask is Necessary

# UAE SECURES CATEGORY B SEAT ON IMO COUNCIL, STRENGTHENING GLOBAL MARITIME INFLUENCE

The UAE has secured its membership on the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council under Category B for a fifth consecutive term, reinforcing its growing influence in shaping the future of global maritime transport. The continued status reflects the country's sustained efforts to build an integrated, future-ready maritime sector through advanced legislation, digitalised services, enhanced ship safety standards and strong support for international emissions-reduction initiatives. This achievement also underscores international confidence in the UAE's expanding maritime ecosystem, supported by world-class ports, advanced logistics capabilities and a flexible regulatory environment. Commenting on the milestone, Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, highlighted that the UAE's forward-looking policies and modern maritime framework position the country as a global model in legislative innovation, port management and navigational safety, while reaffirming its commitment to working with international partners to promote a more sustainable and competitive global maritime sector.



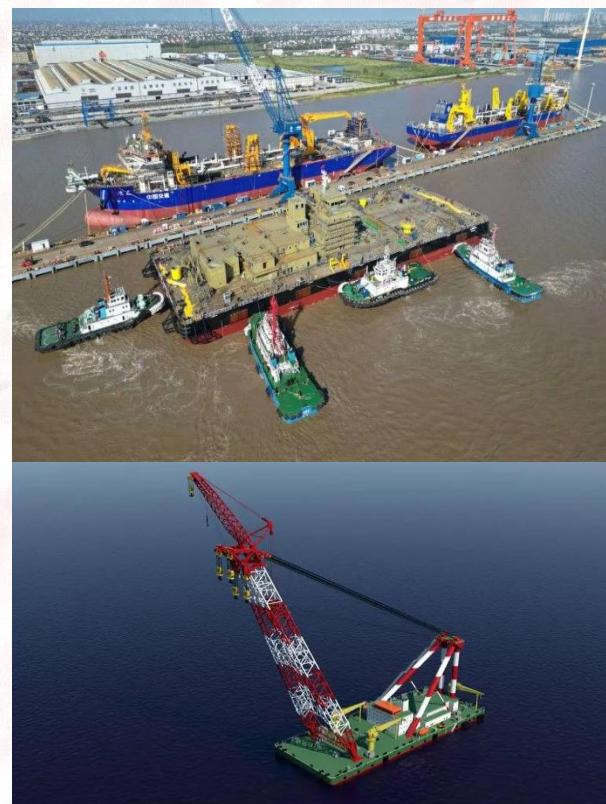
## Unifeeder and Sagarmala Finance Corp Partner to Propel Green Coastal Shipping in India

In a major step toward sustainable maritime development, Unifeeder, a DP World company, has signed an MoU with Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd (SMFCL) to jointly develop and scale commercially sustainable coastal shipping services across India. The collaboration, announced during India Maritime Week 2025 in Mumbai in the presence of Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and DP World Chairman Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, aims to support India's mission to decongest highways, reduce logistics costs, and decarbonize transport.

Under the agreement, SMFCL will leverage its Maritime Development Fund to provide innovative, low-cost financing and credit-enhancement tools, while Unifeeder will bring its operational expertise, multimodal infrastructure, and digital solutions to the initiative. Together, they aim to create a scalable and efficient coastal shipping model that shifts cargo movement from road to sea, cutting emissions and strengthening India's multimodal logistics network for a cleaner and more connected future.

## DRYDOCKS WORLD DUBAI ENHANCES HEAVY-LIFT CAPACITY WITH NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART FLOATING CRANE

Drydocks World has launched its new 5,000-tonne floating crane, **Alnokhada**, marking a significant expansion of its heavy-lift capabilities in the region. Constructed by ZPMC Offshore, the crane is now afloat and entering the outfitting phase, with full delivery scheduled for the second quarter of 2026. Measuring 138.5 meters in length with a 52-meter beam and a 5.8-meter draft, Alnokhada features a 5,000-tonne main hook, a 600-tonne auxiliary hook, and an outreach of 180 meters, adding critical capacity for complex offshore, industrial, and energy projects. Capt. Rado Antolovic, CEO of Drydocks World, emphasized the crane's strategic role in advancing the yard's heavy-lift operations and supporting the next generation of offshore vessels and industrial mega projects. In parallel, Drydocks World has begun construction of a new LEED Gold-certified head office in Dubai, set to unite 700 employees by early 2027. The facility will enhance operational efficiency, integrate energy-efficient and smart technologies, and provide a secure, accessible, and visitor-friendly environment near the yard.



## GULF NAVIGATION HOLDINGS FINALIZES ACQUISITION OF BROOGE ENERGY, EXPANDING REGIONAL ENERGY FOOTPRINT



Gulf Navigation Holding, a Dubai-listed maritime and logistics company, has completed its acquisition of Brooge Energy Limited and its operating subsidiaries, marking a major step in the company's expansion strategy. The acquisition enhances Gulf Navigation's position as an integrated provider of maritime services and energy infrastructure solutions in Fujairah, one of the world's leading oil storage and trading hubs, adding Brooge's storage and blending facilities to its existing portfolio to enable end-to-end logistics and energy solutions across the region.

As part of the deal, Gulf Navigation increased its share capital from AED 837 million to AED 1.65 billion and issued mandatory convertible bonds to Brooge's shareholders, with total share capital expected to reach around AED 3.5 billion upon conversion. CEO Ahmed Al Kilani described the acquisition as a "defining moment" for the company, supporting ambitious growth plans in refining, renewable energy, and clean fuels, while strengthening core shipping and logistics operations. The expanded platform and enhanced balance sheet position Gulf Navigation to invest in energy infrastructure aligned with the UAE's Net Zero 2050 strategy and the global transition to sustainable energy.



**ONE TEAM.**

**ONE VISION**

*Together We Thrive: The Heartbeat of Excellence*



## Contact



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## Celebrating One Year of Our Newsletter Journey!

"We're thrilled to celebrate one incredible year of our newsletter — a journey filled with insights, stories, and milestones that connected us across the industry and beyond. Over the past year, we've grown together, shared achievements, and celebrated progress with every edition. This milestone reflects not just our commitment to keeping you informed but also the enthusiasm and support of our amazing readers who make it all worthwhile. Here's to many more years of inspiration, collaboration, and success — because every story we share begins with you!"



UAE/ INDIA