

Shore Power and the Cruise Industry

Introduction:

Making shore power available for cruise ships will result in significant reductions in emissions. One single cruise ship is equivalent of the energy usage of approximately 1500-2000 standard Norwegian apartments.

However, there are some major challenges to overcome before shore power will be mainstream technology in the cruise industry. First and foremost the challenges are related to a lack of international standards and regulations.

International regulations:

Small ports such as the Port of Kristiansand have minimal influence on the cruise industry as a whole. If we are determined to succeed in a more environmental and sustainable cruise industry we need common set of framework and regulations directed toward the industry rather than port specific requirements.

International cooperation and regulations has proven to be effective way to reduce emissions from the shipping industry with the Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA) as one of the most recent examples. SECA includes the North Sea and the Baltics and has set requirements on vessels calling at their ports and to vessels transiting the waters of the North Sea SECA:

- The sulphur content of fuel oil used on board ships on a SO_x emission control area shall not exceed 1.5% m/m;
- To use an approved exhaust gas cleaning system or other verifiable, enforceable technological method

The same method of requirements and regulations toward all cruise ships sailing within the North Sea and the Baltics will be an effective incentive to invest in ships, and enabling them to connect to shore power from the port.

The Port of Kristiansand encourages politicians representing regions and countries in Northern Europa to develop and implement a common set of regulations and framework for the use of shore power within the cruise industry. The overarching goal is to reduce emissions from the cruise industry, and to force the industry to make the necessary investements and adjustments to allow their ships to connect to shore power at any port call in Northern Europe.



Picture 2: SECA



Picture 1: A future region of shore power regulations and framework?