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New exchange seeks to trade maritime carbon credits
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The launch of a carbon credit exchange could help international shipping industry reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, according to Australia-based firm **Funnel**.

The Funnel Exchange, a new carbon program for the shipping industry, will make reducing CO₂ from ships easier and even profitable, the company claims.

Funnel seeks to purchase the rights to maritime carbon savings, convert them into saleable carbon credits, then sell them to counterbalance the emissions from third parties - a process called voluntary carbon offset, according to Funnel.

"The parties that purchase Funnel carbon offset will be those who wish to develop capacity in carbon management, fulfill corporate social responsibility obligations, or can see the marketing advantages of a carbon neutral supply chain," said Guy Lane, manager for Funnel Exchange.

"In the shipping industry, there are pioneers developing innovative projects that deliver significant reductions in carbon emissions, plus, there are shippers seeking to reduce the carbon footprint of their cargoes.

"By connecting these two parties together, The Funnel Exchange rewards shipping innovators, provides a much needed carbon solution, and keeps the carbon financial resources within the shipping industry," Lane said.

Innovative technologies such as solar and wind assisted propulsion systems and techniques to reduce drag and bunker consumption can deliver carbon savings.

While the benefit of cutting bunker costs is understood, the financial value of carbon savings has not been fully developed, according to Funnel.

Funnel said it was on track to complete the first full-cycle transaction ahead of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December.

Funnel's aim is for international shipping to be carbon neutral by 2014 and fossil fuel free by 2019.

Lee Hong Liang, 14th October 2009 08:03 GMT
Comments? Email editor@bunkerworld.com.



CO₂ emissions from ships is one of the big concerns of the shipping industry