

In Conversation with the **impasavers**

In this regular column, we reach out to IMPA SAVERS to see why they joined IMPA’s most ambitious sustainability initiative to date, how they are faring and why they think others should join

Back in 2020, IMPA SAVE was created to bring together members from the industry to support sustainability initiatives, embrace and transition to new greener solutions and to take climate action now. The first goal of the programme? Encouraging ship-owners, ship-managers and maritime suppliers around the world to choose suitable planet-friendlier alternatives to the vast quantities of plastic bottles that are currently delivered to the global fleet. More than two years onwards, more than 70 companies have pledged to change the status quo, including close to 15% of the global fleet.

Today, our team is joined for an interview by three IMPA SAVE pledgers. On the one hand, we meet IMPA member Ronald Broer, Senior Vice President Marine at Amos Group, one of our IMPA SAVE earlier pledgers, and Martin MacMahon, Environmental Compliance Manager at BSM, another early IMPA SAVE pledger. On the other, we get to meet Ms. Yasemin Gurul, the Global Director of long-standing IMPA member and IMPA SAVE pledger Deckhouse Ship Supply.

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RONALD BROER
Senior Vice President
Marine at Amos Group



MARTIN MACMAHON
Environmental Compliance
Manager at BSM



MS YASEMIN GURUL
Global Director at
Deckhouse Ship Supply



How did you come across the IMPA SAVE initiative and why have you joined?

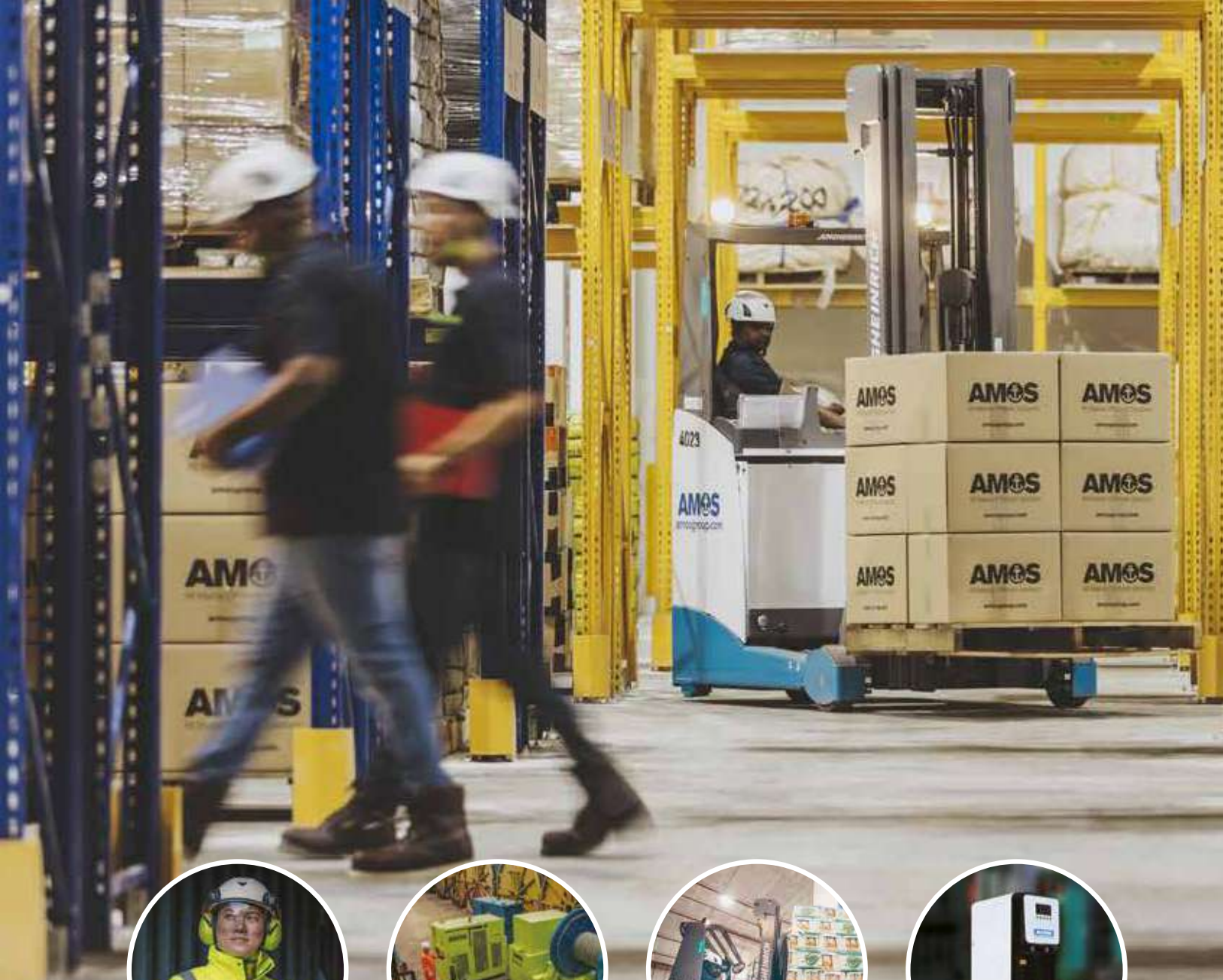
RB: Amos was along the very first IMPA SAVE Pledgers, Amos has always taken sustainable development as its core concept and is committed to developing recyclable and energy-saving technologies and products to contribute to the realization of sustainable development. The ideas and actions advocated by IMPA SAVE are very consistent with the core concept of AMOS, so we became the very first IMPA SAVE supplier pledgers.

Environmental, social and governance considerations have formed the crux of our corporate culture, values and mission. It is essential in everything we do. Developing our sustainability journey is however not always in line with customer requirement or expectations, we need to strongly push for a wider pledge and elimination of plastic drinking water bottles.

WILL YOU PLEDGE?



JASMINE SCHESTAK
IMPA Head of Sustainability
and Programme Management



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PROUD PLEDGERS OF IMPA SAVE

impasave
People, Planet, Profit, Purpose



Strong partnerships and constant consultation with stakeholders are crucial for a successful ESG strategy. They allow us to leverage the strengths and expertise of others and collaborate towards shared ESG goals. Hence, BSM is an active member of several workstreams related to shipping decarbonisation, diversity, equality, and inclusion, safety at sea, and more

MM: IMPA made a good push advertising this initiative. Our partners at GenPro mentioned it in their Sustainability section and we picked it up from there. We believe if something is good, there is no need to copy when you can join it.

Everyone knows plastic bottled water was not standard supply to ships more than a generation ago. So, what changed in the meantime? Do not answer that.

Joining it just made sense. It is a start. It is obvious and since we were there before, why can we not go back?

Nothing has changed except testing facilities being better and the systems for producing water onboard being better.

YG: IMPA has been an organisation we closely follow and rely on for initiatives in the marine industry as it is one of the top organisations that bring leaders in the industry together. With that being said, having an IMPA Ambassador on our team helps tremendously to stay up to date with recent developments, with one of these developments being IMPA SAVE.

The effect our industry has on the environment and climate change is undeniable. We, as Deckhouse, believe it is our corporate and social responsibility to help make our industry environmentally friendly and more sustainable for the next generations to come.

How have you undertaken or are planning to undertake the journey towards eliminating plastic drinking water bottles onboard the global fleet?

RB: We are making good progress. Our Alcona Advanced Hydration System (“AHS”), a sustainable solution, has been extremely popular and hundreds of vessels across our customer base have installed and used our equipment.

As a rough estimate, we have helped these vessels eliminate over 5 million plastic bottles on board by 2022, and over 10 million by 2023, as we continue to deliver additional AHS to our customers’ vessels. Numbers are increasing every day.

MM: Telling everyone to stop buying bottles is easy. Unfortunately, several hurdles are in our way. Quantifying the amount was an important first step to take. With over 450 ships in our fleet, it took a bit of work. Our Purchasing system had the data and we used Microsoft BI to build an overall picture to see its entirety. We have data reaching back to 2018 for bottled water consumption. The figures were eye watering.

Some owners have policies in place stating staff are allowed to have a certain amount of bottled water per day. That needed address. They have now agreed to change this policy once water drinking systems are onboard. We also increased the need for more regular testing. This lets the seafarers know the water met the standard as fit for human consumption. Maintenance and inspection of freshwater tanks now reach a new level. The industry allowed this area to slip because we thought it was just easy to buy the bottles instead.

We expect to see, by the middle of the year, a reduction in the purchase of bottled water.

YG: Well, I can start by saying that we are very proud to be the first Chandler in the United States to supply tetrapak water. I do have to extend special thanks to our Sales Director and Global Key Accounts Director for their efforts in making this happen. This is just one of the many initiatives we are taking to support our pledge to IMPA SAVE.



What is important to me is to leave a better world for the next generations to come. Without sustainability, we are headed into an unrecoverable condition. Deckhouse understands the importance of not only applying these sustainability practices to its own operations, but to lead by example so that we can have a better tomorrow

When it comes to sustainability, what is most important to you, as well as your company?

RB: Sustainability improves our quality of life, protects our ecosystems and preserves natural resources for future generations. In the corporate world, sustainability is related to an organisation's holistic approach, considering everything from product development to manufacturing to logistics to customer service. Being a sustainable company is always a top priority for us and we are getting better almost every day. It's a journey of change, acceptance and determination, it requires strongly embedded support and disciplined execution by all company members day in and day out. Personally, I am trying to be a custodian of our planet and trying to create a better place for all.

Amos is trying to keep ahead of the sustainability curve, and in the recent Supply Chain and Sustainability Magazine, we explained this in detail. Since then, we have initiated two more substantial initiatives, working together with like-minded and determined organisations, and we will soon release this to the market.

MM: Strong partnerships and constant consultation with stakeholders are crucial for a successful ESG strategy. They allow us to leverage the strengths and expertise of others and collaborate towards shared ESG goals. Hence, BSM is an active member of several workstreams related

to shipping decarbonisation, diversity, equality, and inclusion, safety at sea, and more.

BSM is committed to proactively supporting its clients, crew, and fleet teams to take data-driven action to comply or even go beyond international regulations in line with our BSM Decarbonisation Strategy.

Our dedicated Fleet Performance Centre (FPC) and Fleet Monitoring Centre (FMC) help our clients navigate the complexity of these requirements by offering a holistic approach to energy efficiency improvements. For example, we offer consultation on optimised route planning, identification of high fuel consumers and constructive engagement with the vessels for finding solutions, recommendations on proper hull and propeller cleaning and more.

In addition, our Maritime Training Centres will be offering a Vessel Performance and Decarbonisation course to enhance the active participation of the seafarers in the FPC's Decarbonisation drive in achieving IMO's ambitious goals.

At the same time, we work on reducing our Scope 3 emissions related to the seafarers' air travel and suppliers. We focus on providing advanced tools to our Fleet Performance Officers for informed decision-making during crew planning. We also monitor the great majority of our suppliers using a dedicated sustainability scorecard.

Our HR Shore and HR Marine teams nurture a culture of belonging and continues growth by developing advanced



career paths and learning opportunities for our people at sea and at shore. We are also active members of the Diversity Study Group and the All Aboard Alliance and remain committed in accelerating the industry's DEI performance through an ambitious DEI agenda.

Sustainability is the ability of our societies to exist and develop without depleting all the natural resources needed for future life. Achieving and supporting this long-term goal requires the cooperation and implementation from global nations, local entities and individuals to make it happen

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YG: What is important to me is to leave a better world for the next generations to come. Without sustainability, we are headed into an unrecoverable condition. Deckhouse understands the importance of not only applying these sustainability practices to its own operations, but to lead by example so that we can have a better tomorrow.

Since moving to our custom-built facility over a year ago, we have been relying on solar panels as a supplemental form of energy. Our new building is designed with many environmentally-smart systems to reduce our carbon footprint. The packaging material we use is either reusable or recyclable, ensuring we are not adding to landfills filled with plastic; we encourage all our customers to use our reusable insulated containers and fully eliminate waste during deliveries. We also encourage all our suppliers and customers to switch to electronic forms of communication for all delivery documents. We are also very proud to say we have eliminated personal plastic usage in our offices and recycle any paper and cardboard where it cannot be eliminated.

What would you tell others who are thinking of getting involved with IMPA SAVE?

RB: Sustainability is the ability of our societies to exist and develop without depleting all the natural resources needed for future life. Achieving and supporting this long-term goal requires the cooperation and implementation from global nations, local entities and individuals to make it happen.

The pledge is part of the solution to the challenges we face. It is an industry-wide partnership that requires global adoption. Still, to date, only a third of single-use PET bottles is recycled globally. We need to up our game.

MM: Join now, as we need everyone involved here. Seafarers move from company to company, and same provisions need to be on all ships.

We are not re-writing the rule books. The industry managed and supplied drinking water onboard through their systems and did not rely on shore firms to provide this. Over the last generation, this changed. We made things more complicated. Change the status quo now. Just look at the research shown by The Ocean Clean-up; 80% of river plastic stems from 1000 rivers. We are currently adding to this 80% and we need to stop.

YG I do not think it is possible for any one of us to make a change alone. Climate change and the effect it has on the environment is very apparent, with the marine industry being a major cause in this damage. The role we all play in this is very crucial and unfortunately we do not have much time left to enjoy this planet, if we do not make a change. I hope our message spreads across to many individuals and we can inspire other companies to take such initiatives. I would like to also thank IMPA for raising awareness and encouraging others to participate in these efforts.

Will you join and pledge - www.impasave.org