



PRESS RELEASE

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EU-funded S/F SamueLNG Project, lead by Dragages Ports, starts in Gijon

An EU co-funded CEF project with the snappy title **Spanish/French Sustainable Atlantic Motorways of the seas Using as fuel for Engine LNG, or S/F SamueLNG** for short, started on 13th December 2016, in Gijon, Spain.

S/F **SamueLNG** Project, lead by French Dragages Ports (DP), is the first phase of the Global Project '*Towards a Blue Atlantic Arch by 2025*'. The overall project aims to improve the sustainability of marine traffic through the use of marine Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as an environmentally-friendly, and cost-effective, alternative to conventional ship fuels for small vessels.

According to the 'Third IMO Greenhouse Gas Study 2014', maritime transport emits around 1000 million tonnes of CO₂ annually and is responsible for about 2.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Shipping emissions are predicted to increase by between 50% and 250% by 2050 – depending on future economic and energy developments – and something clearly needs to be done. Such increases are not compatible with the internationally agreed goal of keeping the global temperature increase below 2°C, compared to pre-industrial levels. The current goals require worldwide emissions to be at least halved, from 1990 levels, by 2050.

Subsequently, the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) has agreed that implementation of a 0.5% global sulphur cap on marine fuel will be brought forward to 2020, from the originally proposed date of 2025. The S/F **SamueLNG** Project will contribute to this by helping to achieve the objectives of two key EU Directives: Directive 2014/94/EU on the sustainability of the European maritime transport and Directive 2012/33/EU on reduction in the sulphur content of marine fuels.

Key activities

Over the next three years, the S/F **SamueLNG** Project will cover the following key activities:

- LNG retrofit of DP's Samuel de Champlain - an 8,500m³ Trailing Suction Hopper Dredger - from Marine Gas Oil to a dual-source fuel engine system
- LNG bunkering studies including: a risk assessment in the port of Nantes Saint-Nazaire, a mobile bunkering unit in the Port of Gijon, and a floating device in the Port of Vigo (in conjunction with each of the port's partners)
- Environmental Impact Assessment studies in the Ports of Rouen, Le Havre and Nantes Saint-Nazaire
- The training of staff involved in LNG operations in the Ports of Nantes Saint-Nazaire and Rouen
- Dissemination of the results to the maritime community by CEDA

Lead Project Partners





The Consortium

The **SamueLNG** Project is coordinated by DP and supported by a solid consortium of 12 partners, from along the Atlantic Arch, representing France, Spain and the Netherlands. The partners working alongside DP are:

- 5 public port authorities: Nantes Saint-Nazaire (GPMNSN), Le Havre (GPMH), Rouen (GPMR), Port Authority of Gijon (APG), Port Authority of Vigo (APV)
- 2 ship engineering and design companies: Inova, Ghenova
- 2 energy supply companies: Energias de Portugal (EDP), Gas Natural Fenosa (GNF)
- A short sea shipping company: Suardiaz (VN)
- An international dredging association: CEDA

The S/F **SamueLNG** Project started work in earnest, at the meeting in Gijon, Spain, to agree schedules which will be disseminated to all interested parties in due course. The EU tendering process, to choose the shipyard that will carry out the LNG conversion, will begin soon.

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Photo low res version supplied (a high resolution image is available on request):

Caption: Samuel de Champlain dredger operating in front of Saint Nazaire bridge in the Loire Estuary

Credit: Dragages Ports

Notes for the Editor

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Project Management Team

Project Coordinator

The **SamueLNG** Project is coordinated by **Dragages Ports (DP)**. DP is an economic interest grouping which ensures fleet management for dredging in the main French Ports of Dunkirk, Le Havre, Rouen, Nantes Saint-Nazaire, La Rochelle, and Bordeaux. Part-owned by French authorities and French port authorities, it was established to optimise the costs of dredging. As part of that DP is involved in improving maritime access to ports – particularly in the TEN-T Atlantic corridor.

Ports Authorities Partners

- **Grand Port Maritime Nantes Saint-Nazaire (GPMNSN)** is the French leading Port of the Atlantic coast. The Port authority is involved in the development of the Franco-Spanish Motorways of the Sea (MoS) between Nantes Saint-Nazaire and on one side Gijon (Asturias), and on the other Vigo (Galicia) thanks to its RoRo facilities and its network connections. As part of this project GPMNSN will perform a risk assessment on LNG

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bunkering, training on LNG operations for crew, port officers and shore personnel, and an environmental impact study of the retrofitted dredger operating in the port and the Loire estuary.

- **Grand Port Maritime de Rouen (GPMR)** is a public state body managing four port facilities in Rouen, Port Jérôme, Honfleur and Saint Wandrille. As part of the Project the Port of Rouen will provide LNG operations training, for on-board personnel, and an environmental impact study of the retrofitted dredger operating in the port and the Seine estuary.
- **Grand Port Maritime du Havre (GPMH)** is the public state body managing the port of Le Havre. Strategically located at the entrance to the English Channel/North Sea route, Le Havre is a major seaport in North-Western Europe. In the Global Project, Le Havre will contribute to deploy LNG solutions and, in the present framework, will co-lead the environmental impact study of the retrofitted dredger.
- **Port Authority of Gijon** manages the Spanish state-owned Port of Gijon, which is a medium-sized industrial port in the North of Spain on the Atlantic coast. As part of the Project, Port Authority of Gijon will lead studies on bunkering options and on a mobile shore device.
- **Port Authority of Vigo** manages the Spanish state-owned Port of Vigo. The port is located on the Atlantic arch and has participated in several European projects involving environmental and sustainability developments. As part of the Project, the Port Authority of Vigo will lead and coordinate the study of the LNG floating device in the port.

Engineering Consultants

- **INOVA** has been leading and participating in R&D projects in Spain, and internationally, for more than 10 years. They specialise in supporting and consulting on innovation, technology transfer and operative improvements, for organisations mainly in the maritime and energy sector. Inova Labs will contribute by developing a smart management system based on big data analytics.
- **GHENOVA** is an international multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy working on projects across Europe and Latin America. They have brought their expertise to technically complex projects in various sectors including maritime, offshore oil and gas, and energy. As part of the Project Ghenova will be involved in the drafting of the two studies lead by Vigo and Gijon.

Energy suppliers

- **GNF (Gas Natural Fenosa)** is a multinational group specialising in gas and electricity integration and operates in more than 30 countries. As part of this Project GNF will apply their expertise, on LNG bunkering and gas connections to ships, to the studies lead by the Port Authority of Gijon.
- **EDP (Energias de Portugal, S.A.)** is the largest electricity producer, distributor and marketer in Portugal, and one of the two largest gas distributors in mainland Spain and Portugal. EDP is also one of the two largest global wind power operators, with wind farms all over Europe, North America and Brazil. As part of the Project the Spanish affiliate of EDP will apply its expertise, on electricity connection at berth for bunkering facilities, to the bunkering studies lead by Gijon.

Short sea shipping operator

- **Suardiaz Group** is a multimodal transport company with focus on maritime transport. Through its associated companies the Suardiaz Group provides integral transport services for cargo transport and logistics, and ensures compliance with quality and security standards. It operates the official MoS routes (Algeiras/Vigo/Nantes Saint Nazaire/Le Havre), certified by the European Commission, and is a market leader

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in transport in Spain and internationally. As part of this Project the Suardiaz Group will work on the simulation study of a potential supply of LNG to a RoRo of Lineas Suardiaz S.L.

Professional association

- **Central Dredging Association (CEDA)** is an established authority and leading independent forum for the professional dredging community, and associated industries, in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. It represents dredging professionals and organisations, from government, academia and business, in the region. As a recognised reference point for high-quality specialist knowledge on all aspects of dredging it provides a multidisciplinary network for professional contacts. As part of the Project CEDA is responsible for the dissemination of the pilot results to the maritime community and in particular to ancillary vessel owners.

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