



HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
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THE PORT OF GIBRALTAR JOINS THE GREEN AWARD SCHEME

The Port of Gibraltar announced its participation in the Green Award scheme at an official ceremony on the 27th of March 2013. The Port will award sustainable ships certified by Green Award with a 5% reduction in tonnage dues starting the 1st of April.

In keeping with their mission to ensure navigational safety and pollution control, the Port of Gibraltar have decided to provide a 5% reduction in tonnage dues for all Green Award certified vessels entering BGTW (British Gibraltar Territorial Waters) and calling at the Gibraltar Port.

Green Award's managing director Mr. Jan Fransen presented a Green Award board to Minister Neil Costa, officially making Gibraltar a Green Award port. The ceremony was hosted by the Port Authority and among guests was Minister for Health and Environment Dr John Cortes.

In his speech Mr. Fransen said: "The Port of Gibraltar's view fits very well with the Green Award's Philosophy. When such a major bunker port as Gibraltar practices its Corporate Social Responsibility through participating in the Green Award scheme, it does make a difference and motivates safe and environmentally conscious shipping."

The Port of Gibraltar is the second port this year that offers new incentives to sea-going vessels holding the Green Award certificate. A total of 31 ports have now earned the Green Award. With the port of Gibraltar being a major bunker port and the gateway to the Mediterranean, the port's decision to grant incentives to ships the highest safety standards of which are confirmed by the Green Award certificate, motivates more ships owners to invest in improvement onboard.

Commenting on the award, the Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport & the Port the Hon Neil Costa said: "This award is an important landmark and demonstrates Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar's commitment to the protection of the environment and to the improvement in the quality of shipping visiting the Port, both of which are interconnected."

Notes to Editors:

About Green Award Foundation

The Green Award foundation was established in 1994. Green Award is a global, independent, not-for-profit quality assurance organisation that works by certifying ship managers and vessels that go beyond industry standards in terms of safety, quality and environmental performance. The Green Award certification scheme is open to oil and chemical tankers, bulk carriers, LNG carrying vessels and inland navigation barges. Ships holding a Green Award certificate are offered various incentives such as discounts on port dues, maritime products and training courses and reimbursement of certification costs by a few banks. By rewarding high safety and environmental standards in shipping, Green Award makes above standard ship operation economically more attractive. Currently there are 225 sea-going ships and 440 inland barges certified. Nineteen maritime service providers and banks and 31 ports provide incentives to ships with a Green Award certificate.