



# SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



## White Paper on Batteries in Deep-Sea Shipping

A comprehensive examination of the environmental impact of batteries in deep-sea shipping has been jointly published by CIMAC (the International Council on Combustion Engines) and the Maritime Battery Forum.

The 30-page “Environment for the use of batteries in deep-sea shipping” document is the first of three planned white papers on the subject and examines use cases and application areas within the field.

Experts from CIMAC’s Greenhouse Gas Strategy Group, Working Group 20 System Integration, Working Group 21 Propulsion and the Maritime Battery Forum are said to have “consolidated their knowledge and existing literature with empirical data in a comprehensive paper exploring the existing use cases and potential applications of batteries on today’s deep-sea vessels”.

CIMAC Greenhouse Gas Strategy Group chair Dirk Bergmann said the objective was to provide relevant stakeholders in the maritime industry and other interested parties with an “overview of the available options, while also outlining the boundaries of what is feasible”.

“It was important for us to do that in co-operation with the Maritime Battery Forum, creating a series of papers that are neutrally covering the state-of-the-art without any bias or sentiments,” he said.

Maritime Battery Forum managing director Syb Ten Cate Hoedemaker welcomed the co-operative publications, noting that batteries were expected to play an “important role in the decarbonisation of the maritime industry”.

“The release of the document on use cases and application areas provided a concise overview of industry practice and viable options, which is crucial for evaluating potential courses of action for numerous stakeholders within the maritime industry,” he said.

“We will be following up with a paper on regulation, safety and the human factor, that will address additional critical issues concerning the environment of batteries onboard deep-sea going ships.”

The organisations’ next white paper on regulation, safety and impact on staff is expected to be published by the end of 2025. This will be followed by the third document, which will address the main topics of energy storage and integration, including lifecycle assessment, operation range and limits.

The current whitepaper can be downloaded [here](#).

December 2024

