

## The port of Valencia reduces its carbon footprint 17.31% in six years

- The carbon footprint of the Valencian port, which is registered in the Carbon Footprint Register created by Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente, goes from 3.12 to 2.58 kgCO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per ton moved between 2008 and 2014.
- This reduction of the carbon footprint comes at a period in which cargo traffic of Valencia port experienced an increase over 14%.
- The Port of Valencia has been a pioneer in the world to verify its carbon footprint under the ISO 14064-1:2012 standard
- The environmental commitment of the PAV also has allowed 25% increase of its energy efficiency in six years, from 8.76 to 6.60 kWh per ton moved.

The Port Authority of Valencia (PAV) has reduced its carbon footprint at the port of Valencia 17.31% since 2008, the year in which the first inventory in the Climeport Project was carried out. In the words of Federico Torres, Safety and Environment Manager of the PAV, "in 2014, the carbon footprint of the port stood at 2.58 kg equivalent per ton of CO<sub>2</sub>. This reduction of the carbon footprint comes at a period in which cargo traffic of port of Valencia grew more than 14%." Torres has presented today these data joined by Raul Cascajo, Environmental Policy Manager, in the context of Ecofira, the international meeting of Environmental Solutions that hosts Feria Valencia.

According to Torres, *"the methodology for quantifying the carbon footprint follows the requirements of ISO 14064-1: 2012, which makes to Valencia the first port in the world to verify its footprint under this reference. This methodology includes both emissions from PAV itself, as the concessionaires, ships and land transport, produced inside the port area of Valencia"*. With this decrease in carbon footprint, the Port Authority of Valencia *"accomplishes the commitments voluntarily acquired with the signing of the World Climate Protection Initiative -C40, signed in 2008 in Rotterdam, for the reduction of greenhouse gases in the ports"*, stressed the Security and Environment Manager of the PAV.

In Ecofira, Torres has also underlined that *"the commitment of the PAV to harmonize the port activities with sustainable development has also led the energy efficiency increase of the enclosure by 25%. Specifically, in this period, energy efficiency has gone from a ratio of 8.76 kWh per tonne handled in the year 2008 to 6.60 kWh in 2014 "*.

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### **Environmental awareness and innovation projects**

These results are the consequence of the commitment of the PAV for participating in national and international projects that allow implement innovative measures in the field of environmental protection. In this sense, the PAV has emerged as a European leader in environmental management at port level, leading diverse port cooperation programs, both national and international. These projects include Ecoport II, implemented in companies operating in the ports of Valencia, Sagunto and Gandia port to sensitize the community on the importance of integrating the port activity to sustainable development. This project is considered a model for national and international port sector.

It also highlights Climeport, European program led by PAV which has involved the main ports of the Mediterranean with the aim of contributing to mitigating the effects of climate change. Other recent projects in which participated the PAV have been Greencranes, which has aimed to analyze the different eco-efficient alternative technologies to reduce greenhouse gases and particulate pollutants in ports. And recently the Greenberth project, which objective was to promote to energy expert SMEs to access to the opportunities offered by the port sector towards the implementation of solutions improving energy management and implementation of renewable energy.

### **Environmental management system**

The Port Authority of Valencia, in the context of its Environmental Policy, has implemented an Environmental Management System. This is a series of programs aimed at maintaining the balance between the increase of port activity and the protection of the natural environment that have made Valencia in a port reference for its environmental commitment and that integrates all key actors of port activity. For this, the PAV has a complete network of environmental monitoring that allows you to check and analyze indicators related to water, air, waste, soil and noise in the three port areas managed (Valencia, Sagunto and Gandia) .

Specifically, the PAV makes a monthly regular monitoring of water quality from a control network consisting of 17 devices distributed among the three ports. The port also has a pelican type boat that collects floating solid waste daily and an Emergency Plan and Contingency Plan for combating pollution by oil spill. With regard to air quality, PAV has a wide network of control air quality consisting of 8 meteorological stations, 2 collectors of continuous high volume particles and an immission cabin that allows preparing periodic reports evaluation of air quality.

The PAV also gives priority to the monitoring of acoustic quality and therefore has a control network consisting of three sound level meters located in the port-city integration zone that allow the preparation of monthly and annual reports. It also has noise maps of the three ports made from measurements taken both day and night. As for waste, in 2002, the PAV promoted the construction of a waste transfer center for waste generated by the VPA itself, in different enclosures, and by the dealers.

### **Environmental certifications**

The PAV has the highest environmental certifications such as the European ports environmental certificate PERS (Port Environmental Review System), the ISO 14001 and the European Certificate Management and Audit Scheme EMAS III (Eco-Management and Audit Scherne), the most prestigious certification in Europe.