



## Environmental Sustainability Bulletin 01/19

March 2019

These bulletins summarise key ideas and solutions to environmental and sustainability matters, allowing wider dissemination of lessons learnt from them. The information below has been provided in good faith by IMCA members and should be reviewed individually by recipients, who will determine its relevance to their own operations.

The effectiveness of these bulletins depends on receiving reports from members in order to pass on information and continue to present innovative solutions. Please consider adding the IMCA secretariat ([sustainability@imca-int.com](mailto:sustainability@imca-int.com)) to your internal distribution list for similar internal reports and/or manually submitting information on specific solutions that you consider may be relevant. All information can be anonymised or sanitised, as appropriate.

A number of other organisations issue environmental sustainability updates and similar documents which may be of interest to IMCA members. Where these are particularly relevant, these may be summarised or highlighted here. Links to known relevant websites are provided at [www.imca-int.com/links](http://www.imca-int.com/links). Additional links should be submitted to [sustainability@imca-int.com](mailto:sustainability@imca-int.com).

Any actions, lessons learnt, recommendations and suggestions in IMCA environmental sustainability bulletins are generated by the submitting organisation. IMCA environmental sustainability bulletins provide, in good faith, information for the benefit of members and do not necessarily constitute IMCA guidance, nor represent the official view of the Association or its members.

### Elimination of Employee Generated Single Use Plastics

TechnipFMC Marine Operations Services (TMOS) won the inaugural IMCA Environmental Sustainability Award with their plan to eliminate employee generated single use plastics from their facilities and vessels by end of year 2018. This objective was fully in line with their commitment to minimize environmental impact through reduction of company carbon footprint.

The main onshore offices have eliminated single use plastics from their sites and the focus has moved to smaller satellite sites. Most vessels have changed out plastic water bottles with drinking fountains whilst others are still in the process of getting them fitted. The money saved from not having to purchase water bottles is used to fund the installation of the water fountains.

One of TMOS's vessel masters noted the following, which demonstrates the "buy in" from personnel: *"I am a firm believer that we should abandon the use of single use plastic bottles. I spent many years on vessels where the management and condition of the drinking water systems left a lot to be desired. However, with the infrastructure and testing regimes in place, I am sure that we are in a good place to carry on the good work already started on board here"*

#### What was done?

Means were identified of creating a quantifiable decrease in the use of plastic across the fleet, including plastic beverage bottles, cups, plates, utensils and food storage containers.

- ◆ Each facility and vessel developed a customised or tailored approach; each vessel modifying its catering service, vending machine and direct purchase usage of the target single use plastic items;
- ◆ The initiative was rolled out via Safety Committee Meetings;
- ◆ There was full engagement from personnel in the fleet;
- ◆ Educational information was provided for display on board;
- ◆ Progress was communicated via internal quarterly environmental newsletter.

#### How did the improvement come about?

- ◆ Water bottles:
  - some vessels are already using reusable bottles and have installed water dispensers while others are at procurement stage
  - an amount of plastic water bottles will be held on the vessel for use in hot climates or by contractors;



- ◆ Barrier tape:
  - most vessels now have reusable barrier chains available on vessels, or nylon or retractable belt systems;
- ◆ Boot covers:
  - most vessels are still investigating alternatives such as use of absorbent protective floor covering in hallways or high traffic areas, and washable boot covers.



*Example of barrier tape*

**What were some of the challenges?**

- ◆ When the vessel is working in hot climates, getting chilled potable water in quantity to the workforce in such areas such as the pipelay tower;
- ◆ There will always be reluctance from some crew members regarding the quality of supplied potable water (as distinct from bottled water). It would be the task of the onboard management team to help alleviate these concerns by demonstrating water testing and if required, performing in depth surveys of the potable water system.



*Washable boot covers*