



All you need to know about Biodiesel Fuel Oil Blends (VLSFOs)



December 2020, White Paper by Viswa R&D



Summary

The shipping industry allows for mass production and transportation of goods and cargo on a global and domestic scale via the distribution of these commodities using ocean-going vessels as a more fuel-efficient and cost-effective method when compared with other modes of distribution. The use of residual fuel as the main fuel in the shipping industry since the 1960s has presented a concern due to emissions of harmful particulate matter (PM), sulfur oxides (SO_x), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and carbon dioxide (CO₂). CO₂ contributes to greenhouse gases (GHG). Therefore, there is a push for alternative fuels that can meet the emission standards and regulations set by the IMO (International Maritime Organization) as well as meet the market demands for energy-efficient and lower cost fuels within the shipping industry.

The focus of this paper is on Biodiesel, namely FAME, and blends with residual fuels for use in the marine industry. The sources, properties and characteristics of Biodiesels are defined and compared to residual fuels. Standardized testing, advantages of using Biodiesel as a blend component and potential biodiesel related fuel problems are discussed.

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