

Plastic Policy

MAERSK SUPPLY SERVICE



January 2021

Photo Credit: The Ocean Cleanup



MAERSK
SUPPLY SERVICE



OUR VISION

Actively taking part in
cleaning the oceans,
and reducing our own plastic
waste

Our Commitment to the oceans

Our seafarers sail the oceans every day and see the increasing problem with plastic pollution. As a responsible maritime operator, Maersk Supply Service is committed to ensuring the oceans remain a healthy environment for future generations to come.

We consider it our duty, as industry leaders, to take care of our oceans and minimise plastic waste. By reducing plastic, we, in turn, can support and care for marine life.

This Plastic Policy outlines our commitment to how we will work to reduce our plastic footprint and actively take part in solving this global environmental problem.

We will do this in partnerships and close collaboration- with our employees, suppliers, partners, customers and industry peers. We believe that we can make a change and we can do more together.

In regards to this policy, we are committed to the below SDGs.



Reason to act




Global plastic production has risen steadily since 1950 at a compound annual growth rate of 8.4%. As a result, an estimated over five trillion pieces of plastic now litter all major ocean basins. In the Pacific Ocean alone, an area of 1.6 million square kilometres, called The Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP) continues to grow.



Our commitment

Three navigating principles

1. **Use our marine expertise** to help come up with solutions to rid plastic from the oceans
 - We plan to utilise our 50-years of experience with complex operations at sea. Understanding the marine environment is vital in finding the right solution to remove plastic from our ocean.
2. **Avoid unnecessary plastic** in our operations
 - We will monitor our plastic waste and identify areas where we can reduce. However, we also acknowledge that in some cases, plastic is the best alternative to ensure safe operations. In these cases, we will continue to use plastic but ensure that we handle it soundly - both use and waste management.
3. **Engage with suppliers**, partners and customers to find solutions to minimise plastic use. We will be transparent about our results and learnings
 - We will work in partnerships and close collaboration with - our employees, our suppliers, partners and customers to come up with solutions that are both impactful and partial for this industry. We will share our learnings with the rest of the maritime sector. We set industry standards, and therefore, we treat our plastic policy with the same regard.

An aerial photograph of the Maersk Handler, a blue and white supply ship, sailing on the ocean at sunset. The ship is viewed from a high angle, showing its deck, superstructure, and the wake it leaves in the water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm orange glow across the sky and reflecting on the sea. The ship's name 'MAERSK HANDLER' is visible on the side, along with the call sign 'UT 722 LE' and the IMO number '9246724'. A group of crew members is visible on the upper deck.

Our focus areas

Four initiatives

1. Cleaning the Oceans

In the area of plastic litter, we have established a collaborative partnership with The Ocean Cleanup project. This non-profit organisation has developed systems to collect plastic debris for recycling in oceans and rivers. This initiative has brought to light the complexities of plastic pollution. Whilst collecting and removing plastic in the oceans helps, it does not, however, solve the real problem that is mainly caused by insufficient waste management on land, in rivers and seas. We recognise that making the oceans healthy will require a multi-layer solution with a multitude of innovation and change.

Our team of experienced offshore crew and project managers bring marine expertise to ocean cleaning operations. We ensure high standards of quality and safety that the offshore industry demands. We offer bundled solutions, including scoping, planning, subcontracting and execution of marine projects, to simplify the contracting set-up and reduce interface and timing risks.



Photo Credit: The Ocean Cleanup

Supporting The Ocean Cleanup



Maersk Supply Service project managed and executed the tow and installation of The Ocean Cleanup's System 001 and continues to utilise its marine experience to optimise offshore operations on location at the GPGP.

System 001 is a 600m-long floating array with a screen designed to collect floating plastic debris for recycling. The project began with a two-week trial, before transport to the installation location at the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, 1,200 NM from San Francisco. This first of its kind system and initial launch presented a number of challenges throughout the project. However, we addressed these challenges with diligence during the planning, engineering, and finally, operational stages.

For example, during the tow, Maersk Launcher could not exceed a speed of 3.5 knots due to the delicacy of the system compared to an average of 8 knots during traditional offshore energy-related towing operations.

One MSS employee is embedded in The Ocean Cleanup organisation, thereby providing marine support and knowledge to the ongoing development of the plastic cleaning system.

3 years



2. Increasing awareness

We have monitored our plastic waste across our fleet since 2018 and continue to increase visibility. Creating awareness about our plastic use and plastic waste is a key element to this policy. Therefore, we will, work with our people – offshore and onshore – on a regular basis to raise awareness with an internal campaign in support of plastic waste reduction initiatives.

Our seafarers have already come up with ways to reduce single-use plastic on our vessels, and we have started phasing out products and items and replacing them with alternatives.

Working with onshore employees and our vessels helps us to improve what we do continuously. Having eyes and ears in the frontline is essential for us to make the impact we set out to achieve.

Impact since 2018



Twice a year, Maersk Supply Service brings awareness to plastic consumption through internal campaigns. Together with Maersk Group, we participate in World Cleanup Day and World Ocean Day. In 2019, we launched the #Iam onboard campaign for World Cleanup Day. We continue to use this hashtag in relation to our plastic initiatives.

3. Working with our suppliers

We believe we can reduce our plastic waste significantly by increasing our own focus on working with our suppliers and customers to find alternative solutions. We will look at:

1. Reduce plastic wrapping

- Work closely with our suppliers on reducing plastic wrapping and other plastic waste. We will raise this point with suppliers and actively engage with some of our tier-one suppliers.

2. Consolidate shipments

- We will work with relevant suppliers to optimise our shipments so that we require less use of plastic per shipment.

3. Support and promote innovation for alternative materials/solutions

- We will explore and test new solutions proposed by suppliers, such as introducing biodegradable materials to replace plastic PPE or other general consumables.

4. Eliminate non-indispensable single-use plastic

- We will implement Freshwater plans instalment for plastic bottle reduction.



Reducing plastic wrapping



In Brazil, Maersk Supply Service worked with our local consumables supplier in the region, Wega Marine, to reduce the number of plastics used in wrapping and shipments.

Maersk Supply Service included in the contract a clause under which the supplier commits to reduce the usage of plastics in the packaging of products delivered by 90%, passing this requirement to their main suppliers and subcontractors.

Maersk Supply Service receives a monthly report presenting the materials used for wrapping and consolidation from the delivered packages. This allows us to monitor plastic performance on deliveries from Wega Marine, and to maintain constructive performance discussions on this topic based on data.

4. Tracking our results & sharing learnings

Providing a transparent overview of our progress in reducing plastic waste is a part of our commitment.

In the last two years, our plastic waste from vessels has been around 750tonnes. Our aim is to reduce this year on year. Every year, we will provide an overview of the actual numbers and the learnings.

With these learnings, our ambition is to share our broadened awareness, how we minimised our impact and decreased our consumption.



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