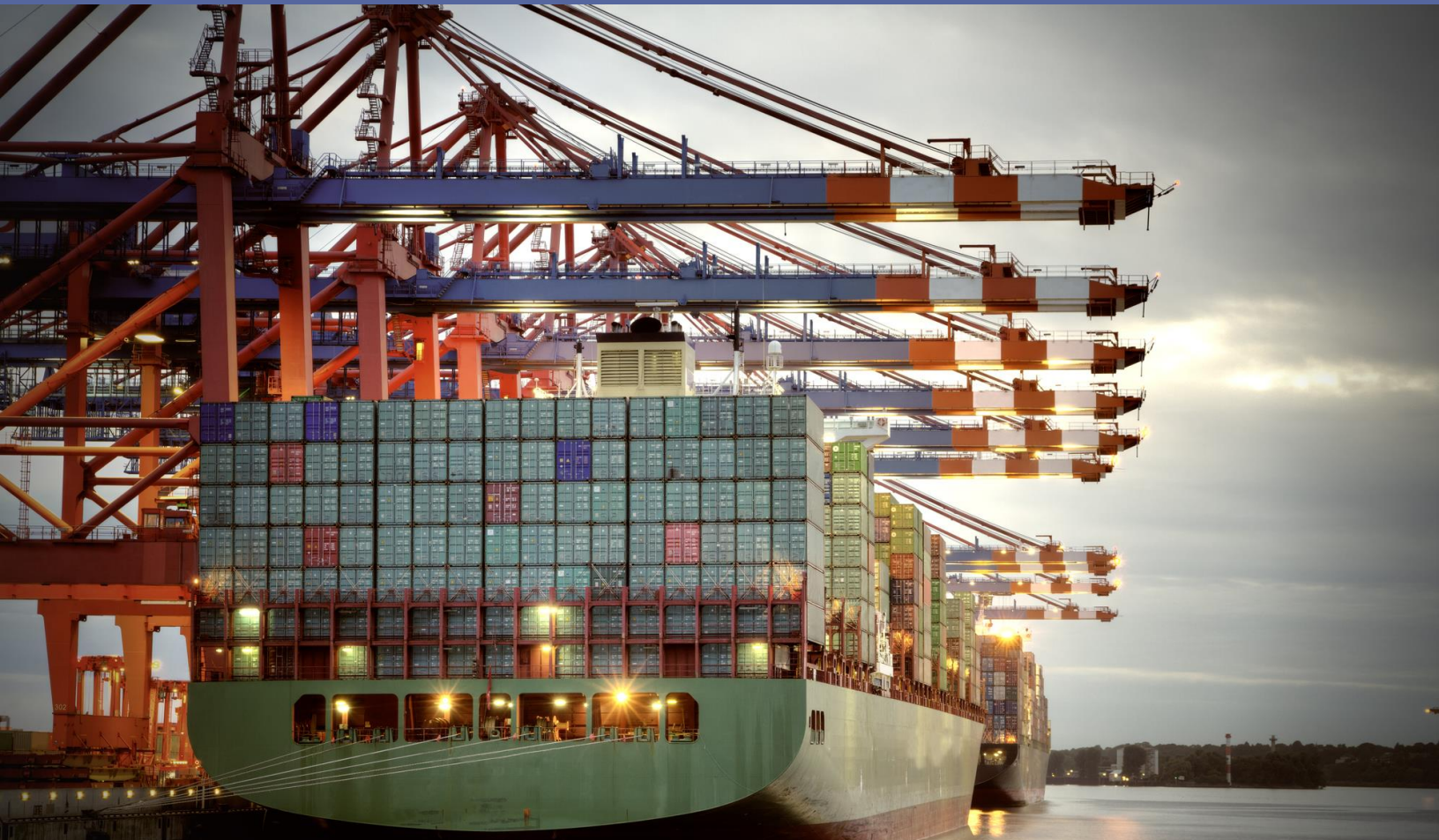


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# 2020 Global Container Shipping Trade Lane Emissions Factors

Clean Cargo





## About Clean Cargo

Clean Cargo is the leading buyer-supplier forum for sustainability in the cargo shipping industry. Members are major brands, cargo carriers, and freight forwarders that share a vision of a shipping industry that is a responsible part of sustainable supply chains and supports clean oceans, healthy port communities, and global climate goals. Today, Clean Cargo tools represent the industry standard for measuring and reporting ocean carriers' environmental performance, including carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions. Clean Cargo members benefit from these tools while sharing knowledge and best practices for reducing emissions and publicly demonstrating their commitments to sustainable shipping.

In 2020, Clean Cargo prioritized three key pathways for action:

- **Evaluation:** providing Shippers and Forwards with easy-to-use carrier-specific trade lane emissions factors, based on primary activity data. The Clean Cargo Reporting Framework enables Shippers and Forwarders to benchmark the environmental performance of their ocean freight suppliers.
- **Sustainable Procurement:** Clean Cargo provides its members with guidance, surveys, and tools to assess the sustainability of their business partners and of their own procurement practices. Clean Cargo members have access to metrics, questionnaires, and our [Sustainable Freight Procurement Framework](#) to enable a sustainability-based dialogue across the value chain.
- **Decarbonization Peer-to-Peer Learning:** an increasing number of organisations are adopting Scope 3 targets, and the overall decarbonization challenge for shipping is significant. Clean Cargo provides members with the latest research and thought leadership on transition pathways. The Clean Cargo network also allows members to co-create decarbonization pilots and resources and to learn from peers, thereby accelerating the definition of sustainability/climate strategies and their implementation.

More information is available on our website: [www.clean-cargo.org](http://www.clean-cargo.org)

## Annual Trade Lane CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Factors

Every year, Clean Cargo carriers report vessel-specific environmental performance data to BSR (the secretariat of Clean Cargo) using a standard reporting template and guidance methodologies. BSR provides the aggregated data to shipping customers that are members of Clean Cargo via individualized carrier scorecards.

The Clean Cargo Carbon Emissions Accounting Methodology has become the global standard for reporting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the ocean container shipping sector.<sup>1</sup> Each carrier is required to undertake third-party verification of its reporting system using the Clean Cargo Procedure and Guidance for Verifying CO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>x</sub> Data.<sup>2</sup> BSR's data collation, review, aggregation, and reporting process and procedures are also audited by a third party every three years. A Technical Committee comprising independent experts was established in 2020 to assess our data quality and to identify key drivers for evolutions in performance, as well as to suggest improvements in our methodology and processes.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bsr.org/our-insights/report-view/ccwg-methodology-2015>.

<sup>2</sup> Due to several challenges in this year's reporting cycle, approximately 90% of the carriers had their data verified. Normally, this number is 100%. We will resume the enforcement to increase verification to 100% again in 2022 reporting cycle.

## Scope and Main Findings

The following index is derived from **emissions reported by approximately 3,740 vessels, calculated from 17 of the world's leading ocean container carriers who collectively represent around 85 percent of ocean container capacity worldwide**. A complete list of Clean Cargo members can be found on our webpage.<sup>3</sup> These results are based on primary data from vessels operating during the calendar year.

### 2020 Findings

In 2020, 17 carriers reported CO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>x</sub> data to Clean Cargo, of which 15 completed a third-party verification. The 17 carriers represent 85 percent of global container capacity. Key findings include:

- CO<sub>2</sub> performance have plateaued and slightly worsened in 2020 compared to 2019, with the global industry average showing an increase of 0.3% for CO<sub>2</sub> Dry and 5.3% for CO<sub>2</sub> Reefer index. There has been a tendency of overall stabilization in CO<sub>2</sub> performance for several years, likely due to a general slow-down of the historical gains from efficiency measures. The global pandemic has likely contributed to the worsened CO<sub>2</sub> performance observed 2020, not due to less cargo (as Clean Cargo uses the same average 70% utilization factor as in 2019) but due to port congestion leading to higher speeds overall to catch up on schedule. The reefer 2019-2020 difference being 5% higher than the dry is most likely explained by the increased occurrence of idling or maneuvering in port vicinity due to congestion, which makes the additional consumption caused by reefer containers a larger share of the total fuel consumption. Further, the increase of low sulphur fuels has had a negative impact on the CO<sub>2</sub> numbers.
- Of the 10 major tradelanes (based on TEU-km), 4 saw improvements on our CO<sub>2</sub> Dry index:
  - Asia to-from North America West Coast with a 4% reduction;
  - Asia to-from North America East Coast / Gulf with a 4% reduction;
  - South East Asia to-from North East Asia with an 8% reduction;
  - Asia to-from Mediterranean and Black Sea with a 7% reduction.
- The 6 remaining major tradelanes saw worsened CO<sub>2</sub> performance, with increases in our CO<sub>2</sub> Dry index:
  - Asia to-from Africa with a 1% increase;
  - Asia to-from Middle East/India with an 8% increase;
  - Asia to-from North Europe with a 4% increase;
  - Asia to-from South America (incl. Central America) with a 4% increase;
  - Europe (North & Med) to-from South America (incl. Central America) with a 2% increase;
  - Europe (North & Med) to-from Middle East/India with a 6% increase.
- Of the 12 small tradelanes representing less than 5% of the total TEU-km, 8 saw regressions from 2019 figures, such as: Intra North America East Coast/Gulf/West Coast (24% increase), Intra Middle East/India (14% increase), Intra South East Asia (+10%), and vessels allocated to Other routes (42% increase). The picture is more mixed for smaller (less trafficked) tradelanes as they are more sensitive to individual vessel exchanges and therefore display more variation.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.clean-cargo.org/current-membership>

## How to Use Clean Cargo Data

### Important: 2020 Methodology Changes

Clean Cargo Methodology has undergone several changes, to align with emerging standards and to provide a more realistic calculation of shipping emissions. As such our results are now displayed using both the previous (tank to wheel, CO<sub>2</sub> only, 100% utilization factor) and the updated Clean Cargo methodology (well to wheel, CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent, 70% utilization factor). Users of this report should ensure they are comparing emission factors based on similar Utilization Factors and Fuels.

### Reporting Outputs

Every year, Clean Cargo collects data from container cargo carriers and produces the following carrier-specific trade lane emission factors, available for all shippers and forwarders on our dedicated platform only accessible to members:

- **Tradelane CO<sub>2</sub>** (Dry and Reefer) **emissions** by carrier and average of Clean Cargo (in gCO<sub>2</sub>/TEUkm)
- **Tradelane SO<sub>x</sub> emissions** by carrier and average of Clean Cargo (in gSO<sub>x</sub>/TEUkm)
- **Year-Over-Year comparisons for CO<sub>2</sub>** (Dry and Reefer) and **SO<sub>x</sub>** by tradelane and carrier<sup>1</sup>

The Clean Cargo general formula to calculate vessel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (in gCO<sub>2</sub>/TEUkm) is:

$$\frac{\left( \text{total kg fuel consumed for containers} * \text{IMO factor} \frac{\text{gCO}_2}{\text{kg fuel}} \right)}{\left( \text{maximum nominal TEU capacity} * \text{total distance sailed [km]} \right)}$$

### How To Use Clean Cargo Emissions Factors

Clean Cargo emissions factors, available on 32 tradelanes for CO<sub>2</sub> Dry and CO<sub>2</sub> Reefer, can be used by shippers and forwarders to calculate their own emissions associated to their shipment. The following steps are to be followed to calculate absolute emissions (in grams of CO<sub>2</sub>):

1. Select your relevant Tradelane
2. Calculate the distance (in kilometers) between the relevant two ports, adding a 15% distance detour to the distance
3. Identify your relevant emissions factor (Dry or Reefer) and the number of TEU containers (refer to Clean Cargo methodology for other container size conversion factors)
4. Calculate absolute emissions (in grams): Emission Factor (in g/TEUkm) \* number of TEU \* (distance in km + 15%)
5. *Additional step to use only with emission factors based on a 100% Utilisation Factor i.e., for data prior to 2018:* To apply a 70% Utilization Factor, the user must divide absolute emissions by 0.7.

### Fuel-to-CO<sub>2</sub> Conversation Factors

To align with the [Global Logistics Emissions Council \(GLEC\) Framework](#), the emissions factors used to calculate Clean Cargo have changed from **Tank-To-Wheel (TTW)** and **CO<sub>2</sub> only** to **Well-to-Wheel (WTW)** and **CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent**. The emission factors used are detailed in the Annexes.

### Utilization Factor

A 70% utilization factor is also now implemented directly in the calculations of the CO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>x</sub> emissions for all carriers, as an average load factor. **Users should ensure they are not comparing year on year values that are based on nominal capacity (70% v.s. 100%).**

Clean Cargo Aggregate Average Trade Lane Emission Factors 2017-2020														
CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions by Trade Lane (grams of CO <sub>2</sub> per TEU kilometer)	2020 – WTW, CO <sub>2</sub> e, 70% UF		2019 – WTW, CO <sub>2</sub> e, 70% UF		2020 – TTW, CO <sub>2</sub> , 100% UF		2019 – TTW, CO <sub>2</sub> , 100% UF		2018 – WTW, CO <sub>2</sub> e, 70% UF		2018 – TTW, CO <sub>2</sub> , 100% UF		2017 – TTW, CO <sub>2</sub> , 100% UF	
	3740 vessels		3493 vessels		3740 vessels		3493 vessels		3275 vessels		3275 vessels		3208 vessels	
Trade Lane	Dry	Reefer	Dry	Reefer	Dry	Reefer	Dry	Reefer	Dry	Reefer	Dry	Reefer	Dry	Reefer
Asia to-from Africa	75.3	143.5	74.3	133.1	45.4	86.8	47.1	84.3	72.94	128.39	46.5	81.9	48.9	83.8
Asia to-from Mediterranean/Black Sea	46.6	104.7	50.3	104.8	28.2	63.7	31.8	66.2	56.86	108.94	36.1	69.2	38.8	71.4
Asia to-from Middle East/India	60.5	121.3	56.2	111.1	36.0	72.3	35.5	70.2	63.96	116.94	40.5	74.3	46.8	79.3
Asia to-from North America EC/Gulf	57.8	111.6	60.2	107.4	35.1	67.7	37.9	67.7	63.71	111.07	40.4	70.4	44.7	74.1
Asia to-from North America WC	64.1	121.7	67.1	116.5	38.0	72.2	42.2	73.3	71.02	120.05	45.0	76.0	46.7	76.8
Asia to-from North Europe	44.1	100.5	42.3	93.1	26.7	60.9	26.7	58.7	43.44	92.06	27.5	58.3	30.5	61.0
Asia to-from Oceania	88.4	149.2	86.4	138.6	53.5	90.4	54.8	87.9	89.41	141.51	56.9	90.1	58.9	91.3
Asia to-from South America (incl. Central America)	63.1	118.2	60.5	109.9	37.5	70.4	38.3	69.6	63.42	111.74	40.4	71.1	41.3	71.6
Europe (North and Med) to-from Africa	100.2	171.3	100.9	164.9	59.7	102.1	63.3	103.6	91.64	151.82	57.8	95.8	61.3	101.5
Europe (North and Med) to-from South America (incl. Central America)	68.8	126.2	67.4	121.2	41.9	77	42.4	76.4	77.53	132.48	48.9	83.6	48.6	83.4
Europe (North and Med) to-from Middle East/India	58.9	119.2	55.8	108.3	35.8	72.6	35.2	68.4	58.53	111.52	37.1	70.8	40.0	72.5
Europe (North and Med) to-from Oceania (via Suez/via Panama)	81.9	138.7	80.0	131.2	47.3	80.2	50.5	82.8	94.47	146.48	59.7	92.6	66.4	99.3
Mediterranean/Black Sea to-from North America EC/Gulf	77.1	139.2	80.1	136.6	46.1	83.4	50.1	85.4	89.08	143.93	55.9	90.4	61.4	96.2
Mediterranean/Black Sea to-from North America WC	71.9	129.9	77.8	134.4	44.3	79.9	48.7	84.1	96.53	153.89	60.8	96.9	51.8	84.2
North America EC/Gulf/WC to-from Africa	124.3	201.1	138.9	190.7	75.4	122.2	87.7	120.4	83.38	133.41	52.9	84.7	71.2	104.7
North America EC/Gulf/WC to-from Oceania	103.5	156.0	106.4	156.7	64.4	96.9	67.2	98.9	111.03	158.85	70.4	100.8	67.2	96.7
North America EC/Gulf/WC to-from South America (incl. Central America)	82.5	143.2	82.3	134.7	49.0	85	51.6	84.4	89.83	141.13	56.5	88.8	63.4	99.1
North America EC/Gulf/WC to-from Middle East/India	70.9	125.9	66.0	115.9	42.9	76.3	41.7	73.3	74.03	121.10	47.0	76.9	53.1	84.8
North Europe to-from North America EC/Gulf	84.5	144.4	86.9	141.1	50.7	86.6	53.8	87.4	88.82	141.05	55.2	87.7	60.4	92.6
North Europe to-from North America WC	75.9	134.2	64.0	117.5	43.6	77.1	40.0	73.4	70.58	122.85	43.6	75.9	58.4	88.7
South America (incl. Central America) to-from Africa	122.4	200.0	115.9	174.0	70.8	115.6	73.8	110.8	68.61	118.51	43.7	75.4	45	77.1
Intra Africa	127.1	219.0	118.3	201.2	76.0	131.4	75.1	127.8	115.66	186.91	73.1	118.1	79.7	130.3
Intra North America EC/Gulf/WC	177.6	241.8	143.2	203.3	109.8	149.2	89.3	126.6	118.24	175.82	73.9	109.8	117.2	154.7
Intra South America (incl. Central America)	103.9	177.0	103.1	169.9	62.4	106.7	65.4	107.7	112.15	181.26	71.4	115.4	72.4	114.6
SE Asia to-from NE Asia	84.0	148.4	91.3	150.6	50.1	88.8	57.6	95.0	94.49	154.50	60.2	98.4	60.2	95.1
Intra NE Asia	103.5	182.8	101.7	173.7	59.9	105.7	62.8	107.1	72.49	129.16	45.9	81.8	58.1	102.7
Intra SE Asia	112.5	194.2	102.6	176.8	66.9	115.5	64.9	111.8	109.33	178.90	69.7	114.1	74.3	118.5
North Europe to-from Mediterranean/Black Sea	95.8	160.1	98.8	158.0	56.7	95	61.4	98.3	103.29	163.00	63.3	99.6	63.1	99.7
Intra Mediterranean/Black Sea	134.3	239.4	128.3	220.6	79.3	141.5	80.4	138.3	100.17	174.27	62.9	109.5	88.6	148.0
Intra North Europe	138.4	221.6	139.8	221.4	81.3	130.5	82.4	130.7	98.34	162.69	57.5	95.9	87.1	133.9
Intra Middle East/India	108.9	197.1	95.9	171.6	66.6	120.5	61.1	109.4	96.72	169.48	61.6	108.0	59.7	105.3
Other	110.9	182.5	78.3	139.9	66.8	109.9	49.3	88.1	68.24	120.53	43.1	76.1	75.2	114.5
<b>Fleet-Wide Average CO<sub>2</sub> Performance</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>126.5</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>120.1</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>70.59</b>	<b>123.54</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>80.1</b>
<i>“Dry” = non-refrigerated cargo; “Reefer” = refrigerated cargo; “TEU” = twenty-foot equivalent unit, used to describe capacity of container vessels; “UF” = Utilization Factor; “WTW”: Well-to-Wheel; “TTW”: Tank-to-Wheel</i>														

## For More Information

On behalf of Clean Cargo, we hope that these aggregate average trade lane emission factors may be useful for your calculations and reporting needs. Clean Cargo membership is open to any carrier, freight forwarder, or shipping customer in the maritime shipping supply chain. Clean Cargo encourages all companies who operate or purchase ocean transportation services to adopt and use Clean Cargo carrier scorecards.

If you are interested in joining the network and benefiting from Clean Cargo's best-practice sharing, ready-made tools, and access to more detailed carrier-specific data, or if you have questions on the CO<sub>2</sub> emission factors disclosed in this document, we encourage you to **contact BSR, the Clean Cargo secretariat, at [ccwg@bsr.org](mailto:ccwg@bsr.org)**.

For a list of current members and information on how to join, please visit the Clean Cargo website at: [www.clean-cargo.org](http://www.clean-cargo.org).

## Annex I: CO<sub>2</sub> Calculation Methodology

Clean Cargo developed a standardized CO<sub>2</sub> calculation methodology to enable CO<sub>2</sub> benchmarking, drive improvements, and improve data quality over time. The methodology is used exclusively by Clean Cargo member carriers to calculate vessel emissions as part of the Clean Cargo Scorecard disclosure. Following is a description of how CO<sub>2</sub> emissions factors (in gCO<sub>2</sub>/TEU-km) are calculated for the purposes of the Clean Cargo performance measurement.

### CALCULATION OF VESSEL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS

Clean Cargo carriers report on the following data for each vessel through the annual Clean Cargo data collection process:

- » Nominal capacity in 20-foot equivalent container units (TEUs)
- » Number of reefer plugs
- » Distance sailed
- » Fuel consumed (HFO, MDO/MGO, LFO, Propane, Butane, LNG, Methanol, Ethanol and Hybrid fuels reported separately)
- » Timeframe of data (days vessel operated)

Clean Cargo uses this information to calculate vessel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. A general formula for this calculation is:

$$\frac{\left( \text{total kg fuel consumed for containers} * \text{IMO factor} \frac{\text{gCO}_2}{\text{kg fuel}} \right)}{\left( \text{maximum nominal TEU capacity} * \text{total distance sailed} \right)}$$

The calculation methodology for dry containers is based on International Maritime Organization (IMO) guidance for emissions and carbon contents of fuels. Clean Cargo will continue to align with IMO standards as they improve over time, including an update that was made to the fuel-to-CO<sub>2</sub> conversation factors consistent with IMO factors for different fuel types in the 2019 reporting period. These factors are:

Fuel Type	IMO / MRV Factor – TTW CO <sub>2</sub> (gCO <sub>2</sub> /kg fuel)	IMO / MRV Factor – WTW CO <sub>2</sub> e (gCO <sub>2</sub> e/kg fuel)
HFO	3,114	3,410
LFO	3,151	3,838
MDO / MGO	3,206	3,920
Propane LPG	3,000	3,654
Butane LPG	3,030	3,691
LNG	2,750	3,640
Methanol	1,375	1,675
Ethanol	1,913	2,330
Hybrid Fuels	3,151	3,838

Clean Cargo members receive full access to the calculation methodologies and the ability to work with the group to shape future standards. The group continuously improves the methodology to increase the accuracy of data. Improvements are based on factors such as changes to IMO protocols, new GHG standards, availability of better emissions factors, availability of more accurate data, utilization adjustments, and stakeholder expectations.



## Annex II: CO<sub>2</sub> Formula

$$\text{CO}_2 \text{ formula for dry containers: } i_{Dry} = \frac{(\sum_{a,k} c_k \cdot m_{fuel\ a,k}) - m_{RC} \cdot c_{RC}}{V_{total} \cdot d}$$

$$\text{CO}_2 \text{ formula that integrates reefer containers: } i_{Reefer} = \frac{(\sum_{a,k} c_k \cdot m_{fuel\ a,k}) - m_{RC} \cdot c_{RC}}{V_{total} \cdot d} + \frac{m_{RC} \cdot c_{RC}}{V_{Reefer} \cdot d}$$

### With these definitions of variables:

$$\sum_{a,k} c \cdot m_{fuel\ a,k} = c \cdot m_{fuel,HFO,ME} + c \cdot m_{fuel,HFO,AE} + c \cdot m_{fuel,HFO,Boiler} + c \cdot m_{fuel,MDO,ME} + c \cdot m_{fuel,MDO,AE} + c \cdot m_{fuel,MDO,Boiler}$$

*a* Different Aggregates running on fuel (ME, AE, Boiler, Incinerator)

*k* Different fuel types used on board (HFO, LFO, MDO, Propane LPG, Butane LPG, LNG, Methanol, Ethanol, Hybrid fuels)

$[m_{fuel\ a,k}] = kg$  Mass of fuel consumed during specified period (incl. time at berth, river, and sea) by all consumers (ME, AE, boiler, incinerator)

$[m_{RC}] = 1.9\ TEU \cdot w_{fuel} \cdot x_{Plugs} \cdot z_{time}] = kg$  Mass of fuel used for operating reefers

$$c_{RC} = \frac{\sum_{a,k} c_k \cdot m_{fuel\ a,k}}{\sum_{a,k} m_{fuel\ a,k}}$$

$[w_{fuel}] = \frac{kg}{TEU}$  Mass of fuel consumed by one reefer TEU within one year

$[V_{cargo}] = TEU$  **Maximum nominal TEU is defined as “the MAXIMUM number of TEU capable of being loaded onto a specific ship while at STATUTORY summer draft, and complying with the SOLAS safe visibility regulation (Chapter V: ‘Safety of navigation,’ Regulation 22: ‘Navigation bridge visibility’).”**

$$V_{Reefer} = 1.9\ TEU \cdot x_{Plugs}$$

$[x_{Plugs}]$  Number of reefer plugs on the vessel

1.9TEU Number of TEU per plug (We have several sizes of reefers, e.g. 20-foot, 40-foot, and 45-foot; 1.9 is the average number of 20-foot reefer per reefer plug)

$[d] = km$  Total distance sailed during specified period (incl. river, ports, and sea distance)

$[z_{time}]$  Percentage of one-year calculation is provided for (if one year  $z_{time} = 1$ )

### And these constants:

$$w_{fuel} = \bar{P}_{Reefer} \cdot t \cdot y_{utility} = 3.8kW \cdot .23\ kg/kWh \cdot 365\ days \cdot 24\ hours/day \cdot 25\% = 1914\ kg/reefer-year$$

$\bar{P}_{Reefer}$  Clean Cargo WG average power consumption of reefers = 3.8 kw

$[y_{utility}] = 91d = 25\%$  Reefer plugs utilization per year (based on Maersk and Hamburg Süd data)

$$c_k = \frac{g}{kg}^4$$

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Environment/PollutionPrevention/AirPollution/Documents/245\(66\).pdf](http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Environment/PollutionPrevention/AirPollution/Documents/245(66).pdf).

## About Clean Cargo

Clean Cargo is a business-to-business leadership initiative that involves major brands, cargo carriers, and freight forwarders dedicated to reducing the environmental impacts of global goods transportation and promoting responsible shipping. Clean Cargo represents around 80 percent of global container cargo capacity and constitutes the leading buyer-supplier forum for sustainability in the cargo shipping industry.

## A BSR Collaboration

BSR provides executive leadership and secretariat support for Clean Cargo. Clean Cargo's activities are overseen by the Steering Committee, with active participation of the Clean Cargo membership. BSR is a global nonprofit business network and consultancy dedicated to sustainability. BSR collaborations bring together more than 400 companies, spanning multiple sectors and geographies, to strengthen company performance, improve markets and industries, and contribute to systemic change for a more just and sustainable world.