



## Neptune Lines switches more vessels to Hempaguard®

Neptune Lines transports finished vehicles for many of the world's leading car manufacturers, and the company has a reputation for fast and on-time deliveries. Keeping to schedule means the company's fleet of 15 Pure Car & Truck Carriers (PCTCs) must always be able to operate at top speed. For this to be achieved with fuel efficiency, the vessels' hull coatings must deliver excellent hydrodynamics.

In 2012, Neptune Lines coated the hull of Neptune Dynamis with Hempaguard X7, the only hull coating on the market to combine the low surface friction of silicone-hydrogel with efficient fouling-preventing biocides. The results were so impressive that Neptune Lines has since switched a further three vessels to Hempaguard X7.

"Hempaguard X7 is clearly the best hull coating available in terms of fouling control. After seeing the performance and fuel savings on Neptune Dynamis, it was a simple choice to specify Hempaguard X7 for our other vessels."

- Dr. George Kriezis, Technical Manager, Neptune Lines

# Demonstrated performance leads Neptune Lines to switch more vessels to Hempaguard®

## The challenge

Neptune Lines operates a modern fleet of 15 Pure Car & Truck Carriers (PCTCs) and transports finished vehicles for some of the world's largest automotive manufacturers and logistics providers. Finished vehicle transportation has short lead times and tight delivery schedules, which makes vessel speed essential.

PCTC vessels require excellent energy efficiency in order to ensure low fuel consumption while also maintaining high speeds within strictly scheduled trading parameters. Due to these factors, Neptune Lines was investigating which hull coating could best meet its chartering parameters, while also bringing fuel costs down to the lowest possible level.

In addition, Neptune Lines is dedicated to green shipping and has very specific emission reduction targets. Reducing fuel consumption not only leads to lower costs, but also lower emissions, and so finding a reliable high-performance hull coating that could deliver these benefits over the entire docking interval was essential.

## The solution

After trying a number of hull coatings, Neptune Lines switched Neptune Dynamis to Hempaguard X7 in 2012. The 6,580 DWT vessel was fully blasted in Tuzla, Turkey, and a hull coating system comprising two coats of Hempadur Quattro, a sealer and Hempaguard X7 was applied.

It very quickly became apparent that Hempaguard X7 was performing as promised. It was clearly out-performing other vessels in the fleet in terms of efficiency and was maintaining top speeds while also demonstrating reduced fuel consumption and emissions.

As a result, Neptune Lines decided to switch a number of other vessels to Hempaguard X7. Neptune Odyssey switched to Hempaguard X7 in 2014, and Neptune Horizon and Neptune Iliad were coated with Hempaguard X7 in 2015.



## About Hempaguard

Integrating silicone-hydrogel and full diffusion control of biocides in a single coat, Hempaguard coatings release 95 per cent less biocide than traditional antifouling and yet still deliver better fouling control – to give you higher fleet efficiency and better environmental performance. Also, unlike regular hull coatings that are usually specified according to the vessel's speed and activity level, Hempaguard coatings retain effectiveness when switching between slow and fast steaming – so your vessel can change sailing routes and trading patterns without losing performance.

- Average fuel savings of 6 per cent over the entire docking interval
- Excellent fouling resistance for idle periods of up to 120 days
- 95 per cent less biocide than traditional antifouling
- Vessels complying with a full Hempaguard X7 specification get a performance satisfaction guarantee

### At a glance

Company:	Neptune Lines
Vessel name:	Neptune Dynamis, Neptune Odyssey, Neptune Iliad, Neptune Horizon
Date of application:	2012-2015

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