

*Voyage Together*  
**WMU**

**NEWSLETTER**  
2022 Vol.2  
Republic of Korea





## Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry

President, World Maritime University

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- **2015~Present** President, World Maritime University (established by IMO, a specialized agency of the United Nations)
  - **2004~2015** Director, International Labour Standards Department, International Labour Organization (ILO, a specialized agency of the United Nations)
  - **2000~2004** Director, Sectoral Activities Department, International Labour Organization (ILO)
  - **1986~1999** Senior Legal Officer, International Labour Organization (ILO)
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I was delighted to see the first issue of Voyage Together, the excellent magazine published by Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries. This initiative will strengthen the relationship between the Republic of Korea – a major WMU donor – and the University and alumni. One of the greatest strengths of WMU is its work to build and maintain strong and vibrant networks of people that cut across national boundaries, areas of work, and generations of students. Voyage Together will play an important role in this respect.

The magazine's modern and colourful design and combination of alumni news, academic articles, and news from Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries give it a unique and valuable place in

the international maritime and oceans field. I also note with pleasure the various social media presences of Korean alumni. I am very much aware of the importance of new media for our graduates and the supporting role it plays at the national and regional levels, including the establishment of alumni.

I am privileged to be able to speak to you through the pages of Voyage Together. I trust that the ministry, alumni, and university will indeed continue sailing through life, unified in our support of a future where sustainable maritime and ocean development is promoted, our oceans are protected, and inclusivity and gender equality are realized.

# My Journey at World Maritime Univ.



**Mr. Deron Wilson**

(ROK-WMU Alumnus '21, Jamaica)  
Assistant Lecturer of Caribbean  
Maritime University

## WMU, my eternal friend

I decided to apply for the master's degree in Maritime Affairs with a specialization in Maritime Education and Training (MET) as this program piqued my interest for two main reasons: first, my passion for teaching and, second, the knowledge of the maritime industry that this program offers, equipping students to respond directly to the real needs of the maritime industry. Having completed a four-year Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Shipping and Logistics at Caribbean Maritime University (CMU) and currently serving as an assistant lecturer, the knowledge and experience in maritime education that I had garnered made me interested in this course. This degree provided me with the opportunity to acquire integral knowledge of the shipping industry's best practices and global standards that will significantly improve

the quality of my teaching for young students in the maritime field. I have a deep interest in education, which I believe provides the best path for any nation to achieve further development.

Due to my passion for the human elements of society and desire to constantly help people, I chose to specialize in the area of MET at World Maritime University (WMU). The MET specialization allowed me to gain a significant amount of knowledge and experience in the maritime industry and its governance. In addition, I gained a considerable amount of expertise in the area of maritime education and training institution (METI) operation, curriculum development, pedagogy, teaching and learning strategies and assessment, strategic management, and leadership.

At WMU, from September to the following January, all students in all specializations have to take the foundation courses. These courses cover the introductory knowledge that is fundamental to all activities in the maritime field. A range of subjects was taught, including IMO systems and governance, maritime economics, and ocean sciences, just to name a few. The foundation courses set the stage for me to gain a greater appreciation for the maritime industry and a more holistic view of maritime governance from the perspective of IMO and how everything connects to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

In the MET specialization, we take several courses, including Strategic Management and Leadership, Principles of Education and Curriculum Development, Curriculum Delivery and Assessment, and Knowledge Management. The course that piqued my interest the most was Strategic Management and Leadership. Given the ever-changing world that we are currently living in, we need strong leaders who



have the vision and ethical foundation necessary to lead people and help them navigate the troubled waters of this time.

My experience at WMU also offered me the opportunity to forge relationships and networks with world-class professors and officials of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU), Nautical Institute (NI), and several other professional bodies throughout the maritime industry. I also managed to establish strong relationships with an extensive network of maritime professionals from all over the globe, whose expertise is now readily available to me if the need arises.

The MET specialization at WMU is, in my opinion, one of the best specializations as it has some of the most incredible professors. My professors were extremely helpful as they always went above and beyond to ensure that the objectives of each lesson were achieved by each student. From time to time, my colleagues and I would have fun coming up with catchy slogans, such as “MET is the best from the East to the West”. In the MET specialization, I made lifelong friends from countries all over

the world, including Cameroon, India, Japan, and the Philippines. These new friends made my journey much more enriching, especially given the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

I can confidently say that the Master of Science (MSc) in Maritime Affairs with a specialization in MET has provided me with the knowledge that will improve the quality of my teaching at my university and enabled me to further diversify the training I provide to my students.





### **Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on my studies**

Completing an MSc in the middle of a pandemic was a challenging task, but thanks to God and my WMU professors, friends, and family, I was able to muster the strength to overcome all difficulties and finish the program.

During our first few weeks in Malmö, in September 2020, we attended face-to-face classes for our foundation courses. However, as COVID-19 cases increased in Sweden, we had to switch to online classes. In the beginning, it was very challenging, but it got better over time. Since we took online classes from the comfort of our rooms, it created a situation where we didn't see any other students or professors face-to-face unless we planned to meet. It was quite challenging for me to be in a new country and forced to stay in my room without seeing anyone. At one point, I felt as if I was in prison. Eventually, it got better when I started making new friends and we went to each other's rooms for tea or just to chat and comfort each other. The professors were very helpful and considerate; without them and their expertise, we may not have been able to cope with the situation.

### **Life in Malmö**

I arrived in Malmö on September 3, 2021. It was my first time visiting Europe so I was very excited to visit Sweden. Overall, however, it was a bittersweet moment, because I was leaving my spouse who was two months pregnant. What's worse, we found out about her pregnancy only two weeks before my departure. It was very difficult to leave because this was our first child and leaving Jamaica at that time meant that I would miss out on my spouse's pregnancy journey and the first eight months of my newborn's life. Despite all the difficulties and mixed emotions, my spouse understood my situation and encouraged me to chase my dreams as she knew that I was making the sacrifice for myself, my family, my workplace, and my country.

When I arrived in Malmö, the WMU staff, outgoing 2020 students, and the incoming batch of 2021 students were very friendly and helpful to me. I had no difficulties making friends as everyone was very kind. My time in Malmö helped me make lifelong friends from all over the globe, most notably a group of people from the Caribbean region. I spent a significant amount of time with my Caribbean

friends; when we didn't focus on our studies, we visited different places inside and outside Malmö for fun and adventure. The first trip we took was in December 2020. We went to Kiruna, located in the Arctic Circle in the northern part of Sweden. Going on that trip helped us break down the barriers between us and form very beautiful friendships that I expect to flourish for a lifetime.

At the same time, I also garnered significant knowledge from my colleagues at WMU as I eagerly learned about various cultures and how things are done in different countries. My experience in such a multicultural environment has changed my worldview and perspective. I wish all world leaders could spend some time living together like that—if they could, I'm confident the world would be a better place. My gratitude also extends to the city of Malmö for its hospitality. Throughout my time in Malmö, I never felt like an outsider and was never discriminated against by its people. I must say that I always felt comfortable no matter where I was. The people of Sweden do not speak much but, in my opinion, they are very friendly once you start a conversation with them and get to know them better. I will forever remember the time I spent in Malmö as it is one of the major highlights of my life—the city will always have a special place in my heart. Living in Malmö was always a learning experience, especially in terms of architecture, punctuality, social order, and civic pride. The city has a well-developed cycling network with little car traffic and few pedestrians. While riding my bike around Malmö, I enjoyed looking around the extremely beautiful buildings and places. I also took up the hobby of photography during my time there. The city of Malmö has a lot to see, and I will cherish the moments I captured in my photos forever. Embodied in the city of Malmö is the hidden curriculum of WMU. I learned several lessons that the university did not explicitly teach me and that I couldn't have learned in my home country. Malmö has strengthened my desire for efficiency, ethics, beauty, and progress, which I will appreciate for the rest of my life.

### After graduation

WMU changed my life, and I would encourage other people in the maritime industry to take the



opportunity to study there as well. At the annual Maritime Education and Training farewell party, before I left Malmö, one of my professors said in her goodbye message that we had gained five years of experience in only one year, and I strongly agree with her. My perspective and worldview have changed significantly along with my deeper appreciation for academic study and hugely expanded maritime knowledge.

I hope I can impart the knowledge I gained at WMU to thousands of Jamaican students in the maritime field in the years to come. As a new member of a cohort of highly qualified and specialized personnel, I plan to help increase the number of highly qualified people in the field of maritime education, enabling my university to achieve an advanced level of growth and development.

The purpose of my nomination to attend WMU was to promote capacity building among CMU lecturing staff, and I strongly believe that this objective was met. I believe that the knowledge I obtained at WMU will be of great value to CMU as an organization and, most importantly, benefit and enrich students' experience at my university.

# Alumni Spotlight



**Mr. Miguel NAVARRO Heckathorn**

(ROK-WMU Alumnus '18,  
Republic of Peru)  
Harbormaster of Supe Port,  
Peruvian Maritime Authority

## Q1 Your current job in your country

I am an officer in the Peruvian Navy working in the General Directorate of Captaincies and Coastguards of the Peruvian Maritime Authority. Today, I am assuming the huge role of harbormaster of Supe Port, with more than 170 kilometers of coastal jurisdiction, making me responsible for compliance with Peru's three roles as a Flag State, Coastal State, and Port State Control. Additionally, we take very seriously our mission to assure the safety of life at sea, enforce maritime law, and protect the maritime environment. I am in charge of more than 40 people working in different areas, including search and rescue operations, oil spill control operations, law enforcement operations, and ship and seafarer certification.



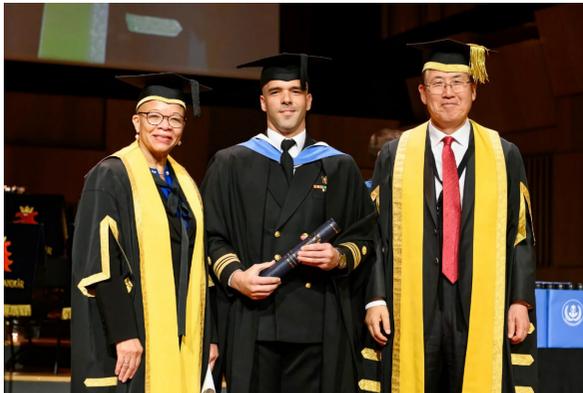
## Q2 What you've learned from WMU

WMU changed my life, giving me and my classmates wealth of technical knowledge as well as the opportunity to apply my previous professional experience to academic assignments and develop more advanced analytical skills that I can apply to my daily work in the future. Furthermore, the new situations and case scenarios that were explained to WMU students gave us important and substantial tools to take back home for the benefit of our nations, especially those of us working in technical areas or national regulation offices.



**Q3 Special memories of WMU**

What I remember the most are all the great people I met, especially my classmates from all over the world, cultural exchanges in which I participated, and international networks I established. Moreover, I remember the excellent professors and WMU staff, who work hard to produce the best professionals in maritime affairs worldwide. The different activities, friendships, and field trips all came together to give us an incredible study abroad experience that helped us see the world not only from the perspective of our respective nations but from the wider view of the international community as well.



**Q5 News to share with WMU friends**

Every country has suffered the consequences of COVID-19 in many different ways, and humanity in general has suffered the losses of many loved ones and people they care about. So, I wanted to express my deepest sympathy for everyone who lost someone and send them my best wishes and support to overcome this pandemic. We have to be strong to overcome this great challenge. Despite the pandemic, with great courage, the maritime community keeps working to sustain world trade and the supply of essential goods. Therefore, I would like to express my respect to all seafarers and people working in the maritime community and send my hope that we will soon return to our normal lives and that I will reunite with my incredible friends all around the world.

**Q4 Next step as a specialist in the maritime field**

I have been assigned as a harbormaster with a broad jurisdiction for a two-year period. After this position, I will apply to command a Peruvian Coastguard vessel, as it is every officer's dream to command a ship. I am looking forward to contributing to our mission to make the maritime community safer and more secure. I can tell you that the Peruvian Maritime Authority works hard day and night to contribute to the International Maritime Organization and support the UN SDGs.



# Alumni Spotlight

## Q1 Your current job in your country

I am a lawyer by profession. I recently assumed the position of Head of International Ship Registry at the Maritime Authority of Honduras. The majority of my experience is from my time in the Department of Maritime Safety, where I worked for four years as an Administrator of Recognized Organizations and later as an assistant to the head of the department. I learned a lot, and in an environment mostly made up of men, I was able to acquire knowledge in technical areas. Working in the International Ship Registry Department was a new challenge that I took with courage.



**Ms. Angelica Dalila Meza Esquivel**  
(ROK-WMU Alumna '19,  
Republic of Honduras)  
Head of International Ship Registry at  
the Maritime Authority of Honduras

## Q2 What you've learned from WMU

Of everything I learned at WMU, I would like to highlight the skills I acquired in terms of conducting analyses, developing maritime policies beneficial to my nation, and searching for specific and global solutions in the maritime field, thanks to the diversity of subjects offered at WMU and the variety of students of different nationalities studying there. It is important to emphasize that, although the implementation of international conventions and instruments may vary based on the reality of each country, spending time with students of different nationalities helped us acknowledge global solutions based on what we learned from others. The team of WMU professors gave us important tools that we can now put into practice for the benefit of our nations.

## Q3 Special memories of WMU

Among my special memories of WMU, one of the most important, and one that I will cherish for life, is participating in the WMU Women's Association (WMUWA). I had the honor to be the vice-president and shared many wonderful memories with a team of wonderful women who work as maritime professionals in many fields. We shared the same

### Part.3 Activities after Graduation

objective of empowering women to engage in teamwork and, most important of all, supported each other on our trip to the IMO headquarters in London, where Dr. Jessen gave us the insight into the hard work that IMO does. This experience motivated us to collaborate in the future as representatives of our states to promote maritime security, protect human life at sea, and protect the marine environment.

#### Q4 Next step as a specialist in the maritime field

The maritime field, as with many other wonderful areas of work, is a field where learning is always evolving and never stops. Thanks to the wonderful opportunity that was given to me by the Government of the Republic of Korea and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, I will be able to support Honduras in the upcoming IMO Member State Audit Scheme with all that I've learned from WMU, which will be one of the most important things I will be doing in my maritime career. Although our preparations for the audit will face many challenges, WMU gave

me the tools and knowledge I need to fulfill my responsibility.

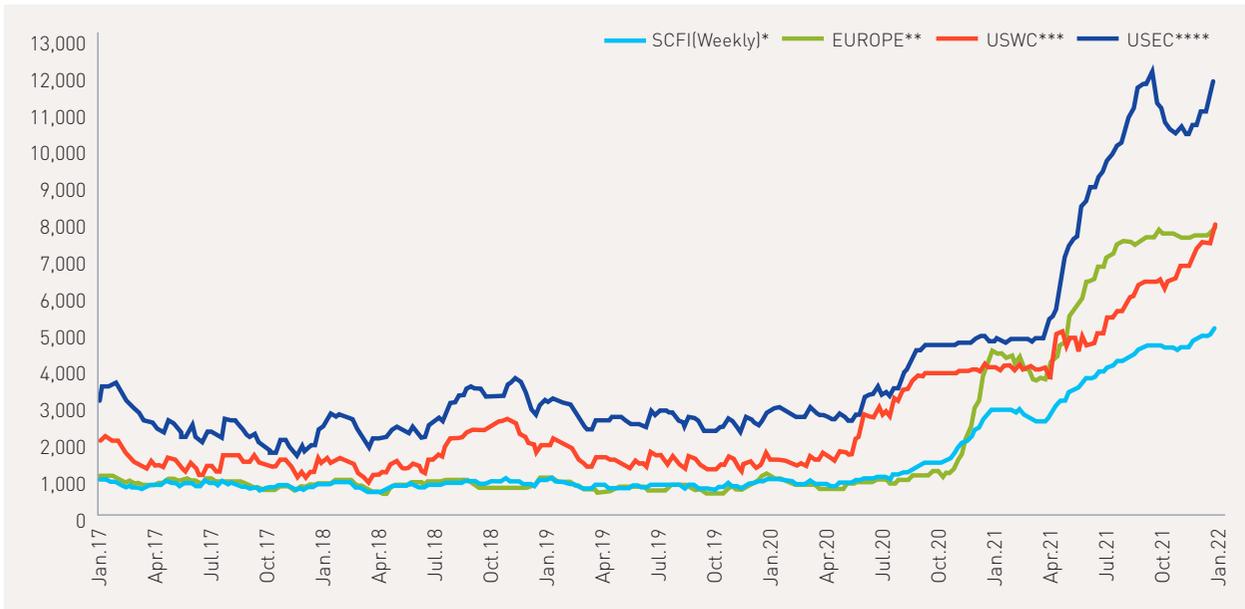
#### Q5 News to share with WMU friends

In the maritime world, things must be done quickly, simply, efficiently, and innovatively. In this regard, the industry was put to the test due to the global economic and sanitary crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and this led to a wide range of changes in maritime navigation, transport, and trade. In this process, the innate administration and crisis management skills that we all possess were necessary and of great help. As a result, procedures, plans, and programs were implemented in record time to ensure maritime commerce continued uninterrupted. Excellent results were achieved through many of the new procedures that were put into practice, and the training and certification of seafarers never stopped. We maritime professionals have proven that if we apply the passion we have for the maritime field, we can overcome any global crisis, because our passion knows no limits.



# Global Shipping Trends

Port congestion is expected to persist until the first half of 2022, and demand growth is projected to slow while freight rates stabilize downward

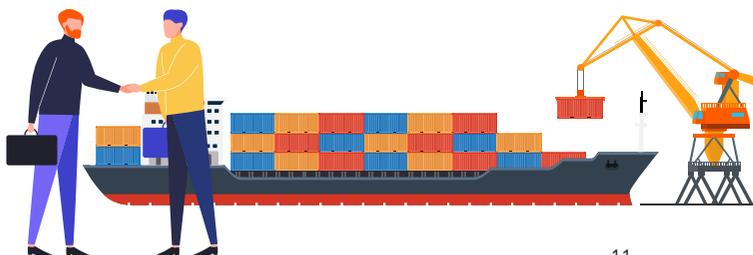


- \* SCFI (Weekly): Shanghai Containerized Freight Index
- \*\* EUROPE: Shanghai-Europe (base port) Freight Rate (\$/TEU)
- \*\*\* USWC: Shanghai-West Coast America (base port) Freight Rate (\$/FEU)
- \*\*\*\* USEC: Shanghai-East Coast America (base port) Freight Rate (\$/FEU)

In the second half of 2020, shipping demand increased dramatically driven by the widespread distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and subsequent economic rebound. This caused port congestion and inland transport bottlenecks, which sparked a worldwide container shipping crisis. In particular, the number of ships waiting to berth on the west coast of North America has soared, resulting in a significant drop in the ship turnover rate and leading shipping companies to struggle with short supply. The Shanghai Containerized Freight Index (SCFI), which best reflects the current status of the container market, recorded an average of 1,234 in 2020, but that figure exceeded 5,109 as of January 7, 2022. Countries

struggling with port congestion, including the U.S. and European countries are scrambling to implement various measures to minimize the impact of the shipping crisis.

The growth rate of shipping demand in 2022 is expected to slow, compared to that of 2021, and the supply is likely to hover around 1.1 million TEU. Freight rates are projected to stabilize downward as container owners freeze the rates. However, port congestion is expected to persist until the first half of next year, while the resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic and existing long-term transport contracts with shipping companies are expected to influence freight rates in 2022.



<Written by KMI, Korea Maritime Institute>

# News Board



## Republic of Korea, successfully elected as a Category A member of the IMO Council for the 11th consecutive time

The Republic of Korea was successfully elected as a Category A member of the IMO Council for the 11th consecutive time at the 32nd Session of the IMO Assembly held in London from December 6, 2021 to December 15, 2021. After its accession to IMO in 1962, the ROK joined Category C in 1991 and served as a member for five consecutive terms. It was then elected to Category A for the 11th consecutive time from 2001, maintaining its status as a member of the IMO Council until 2023.



The Republic of Korea has contributed significantly to the growth and advancement of the international maritime sector through numerous initiatives such as the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the introduction of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS). It has also been making great efforts to improve its capacity to respond to emerging issues in the international maritime field, including the establishment of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to IMO in London in July 2021 to swiftly address significant issues of IMO.

## Republic of Korea hosted the Global Onboard Training Program to foster future leaders in the maritime field



Twenty maritime cadets from the Asia-Pacific Regions, who will go on to lead the maritime field in the future, successfully completed the "Global Onboard Training Program in the Asia-Pacific Regions through Joint Technical Cooperation with IMO and the Republic of Korea". This program was hosted by the Republic of Korea and consisted of the Basic Safety Training and the Onboard Training.

The overall training program was provided within the framework of IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) and Official Development Assistance (ODA) funded by the Republic of Korea, and onboard training was conducted on the Korea Institute of Maritime and Fisheries Technology (KIMFT) training ship (M/V Hanwoori).

Among the 20 undergraduates of maritime universities who participated in the program, there were five from the Philippines, five from Indonesia, four from Thailand, three from Vietnam, and three from Malaysia. In addition, 40% of the participants were women, paving the way for achieving the UN SDGs of gender equality and equal opportunity.

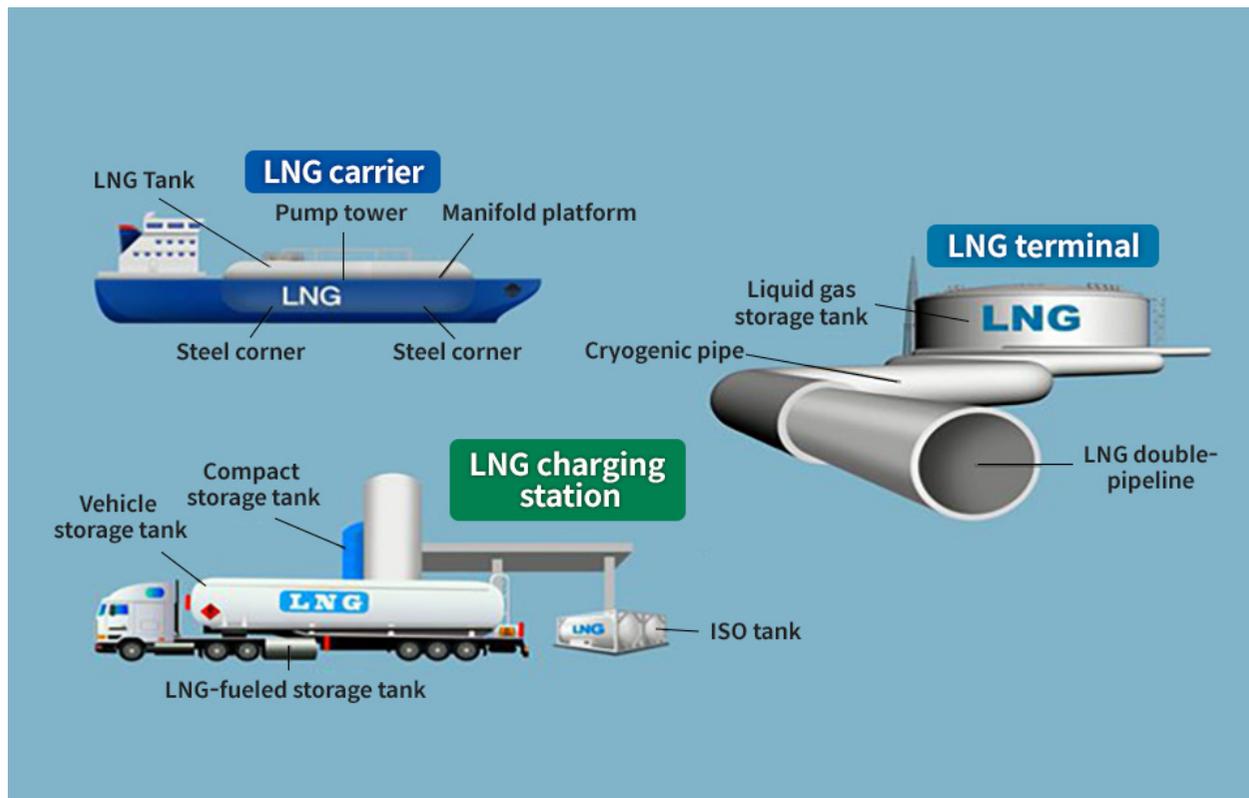
## High manganese austenitic steel, anticipated to be included in international standardization of LNG ships

At the 7th Session of the Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC) of IMO (held from September 6 through 10, 2021), the application of high manganese austenitic steel, which was developed by Posco Co.Ltd. (POSCO) of the Republic of Korea in 2013 after about four years of research from 2010, was successfully incorporated into the Amendments to the IGC and IGF Codes to be used for liquefied natural gas (LNG) carriers and LNG-fueled ships.

In particular, high manganese austenitic steel is acknowledged for its high competitiveness in both price and performance. It is expected to be welcomed as a material for tanks and pipes for ships that transport eco-friendly cargo and use eco-friendly fuel at a time when the international paradigm is shifting toward the use of eco-friendly and low-carbon fuels.

The Amendments are expected to be approved at the 105th Session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of IMO, scheduled to be held in April 2022, and if it is adopted at the 106th Session of the MSC in December 2022, it would officially go into effect from January 2026.

\* High manganese austenitic steel is capable of withstanding extremely low temperatures (-165°C) without breaking, has outstanding mechanical properties (e.g. tensile strength), and is used to manufacture cargo & fuel tanks used by eco-friendly ships to transport & carriage liquefied gas.





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