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News Release



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New marine fuelling vessel to increase efficiency and reduce congestion at Port of Tauranga

A safe ship-refuelling vessel significant in refuelling Mobil Customers with cleaner compliant marine fuels.

- The new Mobil service offers two grades of IMO-compliant low sulphur fuel: DMA 0.001%S [*Ultra Low Sulphur Marine Diesel*] and DMB 0.01%S [*Low Sulphur Marine Diesel*]
- This investment offers flexibility to meet bunker demand at Sulphur Point and Mount Maunganui terminals, particularly during peak season
- Port of Tauranga is one of the country's fastest growing ports

July 2021 – Port of Tauranga's seaport is the new home to the NZ marine fuels bunker barge, MT Korimako, that will play a significant role in refuelling coastal traders, international cargo ships and other large vessels operating in the Bay of Plenty region. The 65-metre MT Korimako is already helping to increase the efficiency of refuelling operations at the port for Mobil Oil New Zealand's marine fuels customers.

Arriving from Australia, where it has been in operation since it was commissioned in 2012, the Korimako – previously named the Anatomia – has been re-flagged to Aotearoa New Zealand. It commenced operation on 5 May.

The company engaged the MT Korimako in Tauranga Moana to meet the needs of its customers, as well as improve Mobil's marine refuelling capability and efficiency. The vessel brings additional capacity to the port, along with the superior safety features that would be expected on a state-of-the-art vessel.

"The MT Korimako will deliver noticeable improvements to the Port of Tauranga's productivity by reducing waiting times for refuelling," said Andrew McNaught, Mobil lead country manager. "The ability to fuel vessels berthed at Sulphur Point, as well as at the port's land-based refuelling berths, will reduce port congestion as vessels will no longer have to wait for berth space to become available in order to refuel. In addition, the MT Korimako means that ships can be refuelled while they are loading or unloading cargo, which will be particularly useful in periods of high demand.

“Port of Tauranga is one of Aotearoa’s largest, busiest and fastest growing ports, so it’s vital that we find ways to ensure efficient and safe ship refuelling operations here. The new barge will have significant benefits for vessels entering Tauranga Moana by reducing congestion, helping both the port and the community,” said McNaught.

The new service offers two grades of IMO-compliant low-sulphur fuel at Sulphur Point, helping both international and domestic vessels meet the requirements of the International Maritime Organization’s latest global emission standard.

The MT Korimako is the only marine refuelling vessel in Tauranga, New Zealand. It is operated by Mount Bunkering, a division of the ASP Ships Group. The company has extensive experience in the liquid fuels industry through its wholly owned subsidiary, Silver Fern Shipping, which presently carries and distributes approximately 65% of New Zealand’s liquid fuel products through its two tanker vessels, the MT Matuku and the MT Kokako.

The MT Korimako is extremely manoeuvrable, with a bow thruster that will enable it to navigate narrow or tricky areas of the port, and has on-board emergency spill response capabilities.

About the MT Korimako (technical details):

Operator: Mount Bunkering Limited (part of the ASP Ships Group)

Year built: 2012

Length: 65 metres

Width: 12 metres

Draught: 3.5 metres

Moulded depth: 5.2 metre, double-hulled vessel

- Bow thruster for additional manoeuvrability
- Double-hull configuration improves vessel safety
- Capacity of 1.4 million litres of marine fuel (1,400 metric tonnes)
- Will deliver two grades of IMO-compliant low sulphur marine diesel, ~200mt DMA 0.001% sulphur (ultra low sulphur marine diesel), and ~1200mt DMB 0.01% sulphur (low sulphur marine diesel)
- A cleaner compliant marine fuel that doesn’t require heating, offers better combustion qualities and helps reduce emissions
- Nominal pump rates of 300 tonnes per hour, per pump, and up to 600mt per hour total capability
- Full-time local crew of 5

About ExxonMobil

ExxonMobil, one of the largest publicly traded international energy companies, uses technology and innovation to help meet the world’s growing energy needs. ExxonMobil holds an industry-leading inventory of resources, is one of the largest refiners and marketers of petroleum products, and its chemical company is one of the largest in the world. To learn more, visit [exxonmobil.com](https://www.exxonmobil.com) and the [Energy Factor](#).

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About the ASP Ships Group

The ASP Ships Group (ASP) is a global specialist marine services provider with a focus on Australia, New Zealand and the Asian regions. ASP has been involved in the bunkering industry for some time, through the ownership of the International Bunker Supplies business in Gladstone from 2002 – 2017, continuing ownership of the bunker trading business Universal Bunkering as well as our long history of managing bunker barges, and now proudly adding KORIMAKO to the fleet in New Zealand.

ASP currently operates in New Zealand through wholly owned subsidiary Silver Fern Shipping Limited, based in Wellington and operate two Eco MR tankers for Coastal Oil Logistics Ltd. The vessels distribute petroleum products from the NZ Refinery at Marsden Point around the New Zealand coast. In addition ASP operates in New Zealand through ASP Ship Management NZ Ltd and now Mount Bunkering Limited.

For more information, visit www.aspships.com or www.sfsl.co.nz