RESOURCE GUIDE ON BUNKER FUEL

This resource guide contains a selection of NTU Library books and book chapters, and online resources on bunker fuel or marine fuel as it relates to Maritime Studies.

Introduction

‘Bunker fuel’ or ‘bunkers’, is the term used to describe fuel consumed by ships’ engines. The name has its origins in the 19th century and is derived from the holds, or ‘bunkers’ used to store coal for steam-powered ships. Ships began to switch from coal to oil as the oil industry developed, but the ships’ fuel storage compartments kept their original name. A more accurate term would probably be ‘marine fuel’. A milestone in the development of the marine fuel industry was the 1911 decision by the United Kingdom to convert naval vessels from coal to ‘bunker oil’. [Extracted from “Complete Guide to the Bunker Fuel Market 2008”]

Searching the Library Catalogue

You can locate books by using the Library Catalogue. Use ‘bunker fuel’ or ‘bunkers’ in TITLE search or ‘ships fuel’ in SUBJECT search.

Note: ‘ships fuel’ is the subject heading used to describe all books that have content dealing with bunker fuel.

Selected book titles

I have selected a few books that I believe are best bets if you are trying to gain an understanding of this topic.

Title: Complete Guide to the Bunker Fuel Market 2008
Author: Jameson, Nick.
Call number: VM779.J31 (click to check availability)

Bunkers are the lifeblood of the shipping industry - their availability, quality and, above all else, cost often determines whether a ship owner can operate efficiently and profitably. "Cockett on bunkers" provides those involved in the shipping and oil industries with an understanding of the worldwide bunker fuel industry and a comprehensive manual that can be used as a reference in day-to-day bunker management and operation. "Cockett on bunkers" contains up-to-date information on marine fuel standards and monitoring services, bunker buying techniques, bunker suppliers and the art of blending, pricing and bunkering operational procedures and takes into account recent developments in these areas.

This edition (3rd) include the latest on international fuel specifications and standards, the ratification of IMO’s MARPOL Annex VI and upcoming environmental protection issues and an extensive analysis of fuel treatment and laboratory test methods. Its legal section also provides a unique source of essential information for those involved in marine fuels, including guidelines to assist in the avoidance of costly bunker disputes.

An Introduction to Fuel Analysis provides an understanding of bunker fuels and what they contain, how to test each key parameter and what the test results actually mean, and what happens when problem results appear. Although never a substitute for the huge amount of detail that can be obtained from a professional analyst using a fully-equipped modern laboratory, this book provides a substantial amount of information that should be welcomed and absorbed by anyone involved in any way with marine fuels.
Title: Bunkers: A Guide for the Ship Operator  
**Author:** W. D. Ewart  
**Call number:** VK236.E94 (Click to check availability)

Though published in 1982, book provides outline on issues relating to marine bunkers based on the aftermath of the 1973-74 oil crisis. Topics include the different marine fuel grades, legal problems (customers’ rights & the suppliers’ obligations), shipboard fuel systems, bunker adjustment factors and its effects on freight rates, development of marine fuel specification and the cost of bunkers.

Title: An introduction to bunkering  
**Author:** Draffin, Nigel  
**Call number:** VM779.D758 (Click to check availability)

This book gives both the history and most basic concepts of maritime fuels and builds from there, providing an essential knowledge-base for anyone working in shipping or starting a career in bunkering.

Title: An introduction to bunker operations  
**Author:** Draffin, Nigel  
**Call number:** VK236.D758 (Click to check availability)

The book contains photographs, charts and diagrams intended to help the reader visualize important aspects of bunker operations, from flanges, hoses and samplers, to barges, pipelines, road tankers and storage tanks. It covers everything that needs to be understood and remembered, from plugging scuppers to fastening bolts on a bunker flange, and covers storage, measuring, delivery, sampling and handling of bunker fuels and debunkering.

**Selected book chapters**

The following 2 books have chapters devoted to bunkers. Click on the book titles to check availability.


**Bunkering market information**

1. *Rim Bunker Intelligence Daily* (available through database Factiva) - Coverage includes information for the world-wide bunkering market. Includes information on marine fuel and diesel oil prices at 32 major bunkering ports in the world, plus posted price adjustments. Country of origin: Japan

2. *Platts Bunkerwire* - [http://www.platts.com/Products/bunkerwire/](http://www.platts.com/Products/bunkerwire/) - focuses on marine fuel prices and supply in major ports worldwide [Note: subscription required; selected issues available free on the Internet]

   Sign up for the free news alert under World Bunkering


**News on bunkers**

The following are 2 important websites for shipping news. Look up news relating to bunker fuels by entering keywords into the search box:


**References**