

A matter of economics

Oil tankers and gas carriers carry huge amounts of bulk cargo, which not necessarily have to be unloaded in one single port. Often oversized carriers like VLCC and ULCC do not berth in a port or at a jetty for discharging due to draught restrictions. In these conditions ship to ship transfer can be an economic solution. Transhipment benefits especially large oil tankers. It saves both berthing charges and the time for berthing and mooring.

Transoil offers a wide range of marine equipment and services for all ship to ship (STS) transfers of bulk liquids between all types of vessels around the world. Our experienced superintendents and Mooring Masters are dedicated to handle your STS transfers efficiently, safely and with respect for the ecological environment we are working in.

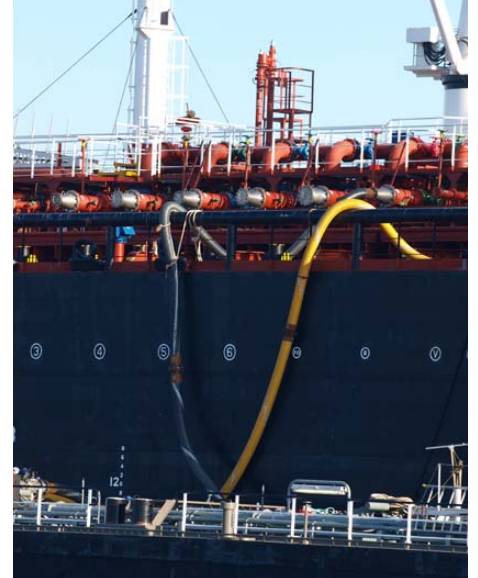
What is STS (ship to ship transfer)?

STS refers to transferring a ship's cargo (oil or gas) from a merchant tanker or bulk carrier to a tanker or vessel positioned alongside. The STS operation can be performed either as the ships are at anchor or underway. In any case it requires proper conditions, the right equipment, highly experienced staff and official permission to perform such an operation.

Requirements for conducting an STS operation:

- Adequate training of staff & crew carrying out the operation
- Proper STS equipment in good condition to be present on both vessels

- Pre-planning of the operation with agreement on the amount and type of cargo involved
- Careful attention to the difference in freeboard and listing of both vessels while transferring cargo
- Securing permission from relevant (port) authorities
- Properties of cargo involved to be known taking into account safety prescriptions such as the IMO's IMDG Code and SOLAS Convention
- Suitable communication and communication channels set up between the involved vessels
- Dangers associated with the cargo like VOC emission, chemical reaction etc. to be briefed to the entire crew involved in the transfer
- Firefighting and oil spill equipment to be present and crew to be well-trained to use these in case of emergency
- All guidelines to be followed as per MEPC 59, MARPOL Annex 1 chapter 8, SOPEP, SMPEP, ISGOTT, STS transfer guide and operational plan



No demurrage

We offer in port STS operations in the ARA region as well as in the Port of Augusta, Sicily. Transhipment within port limits has significant benefits over transhipment off port limits.

- The Weather Protected Area where favourable conditions can be almost guaranteed all year round leading to savings on demurrage, fuel and standby costs.
- Decrease in costs for ancillary support craft – tugboats, bunker and provision supply, conveyance, agency services due to shorter distances covered.
- Quicker response time in any kind of situation – most important in emergencies.
- Ease of communication with STS provider, cargo superintendents, vessel, agent and surveyors in real time – mobile telephony coverage instead of costly satellite calls or waiting for a response to emails.
- Documentation can be prepared ashore by the agent as per instructions received from traders and delivered to vessel in a relatively short time. Vessel can sail off with a full set of signed documents rather than opting for EDP.



- Operational cargo transfer risks can be reduced by drawing 1st foot samples whenever required and analysis in nearby laboratories resulting in very short waiting time.
- Cargo samples will arrive in the laboratory quicker and therefore results of any analysis requirements on ship's composite samples can be available sooner resulting in less waiting time at discharge port if only a short sea voyage is involved. More reliable ship's figures in respect of quantity measurements as the vessel is more stable and not subject to rolling and pitching in open seas.



Best of both worlds

Although in port transhipments have a lot of advantages over Off Port Limit operations (OPL), it is clear that avoiding port costs OPL operations are more cost effective. This is the reason why we offer our STS services OPL of Augusta Bay, Sicily. OPL of Augusta has favourable weather conditions for instance compared to Malta.

We offer a unique approach to servicing your STS operation. As the only service provider in the Mediterranean we can offer OPL STS and in port STS from the same base. An STS transhipment can be planned as an OPL operation but if weather changes we can easily shift the operation to in port limits for safe and swift completion. In this way we can keep demurrage costs to an absolute minimum. Transoil is the only STS service partner that can offer the "best of both worlds" in the Mediterranean.



Safety & Regulations

Of course we attach the greatest value to safe operation. This is why we fully comply to (inter-)national rules and regulations. Our OCIMF STS Provider Self-Assessment is available upon request. Transoil will obtain ISO certification for STS operations this year.

About Transoil

Transoil is an independent marine consultancy company providing a broad range of transhipment services such as cargo surveying, superintendency services, loss control and STS services. Based in The Netherlands we operate world-wide for specialized assignments delivering the highest standards of integrity and expertise. We show a strong focus on value added services and operational efficiency. As a result our solutions benefit our clients directly with a proven return on investment.

Transoil, experts in action!

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