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The Port of Barcelona and cruise operators create a working group to speed up the supply of clean energy to ships

- **The Port of Barcelona, Barcelona Cruise Port, Carnival Corporation, Royal Caribbean Group, MSC Cruises, NCL Holding, Viking Cruises and have signed an agreement to actively collaborate in the dock electrification project of the port area.**

The Port of Barcelona and the main operators in the cruise sector, both cruise companies and terminals, have agreed to create a working group to speed up the connection of ships to the general electricity grid once they are docked, using clean energy that is certified 100% renewable. This group will work to align ground infrastructures with fleet availability.

The creation of this working group is part of a collaboration agreement signed by the Port of Barcelona, Barcelona Cruise Port, Carnival Corp & PLC*, Royal Caribbean Group, MSC Cruises, NCL Holding LTD, Viking Cruises and Virgin Voyages aiming to actively collaborate in order to execute the electricity supply project on the docks of the port area. This is "an important step that confirms the commitment of the cruise community to the city of Barcelona and to society as a whole", as Damià Calvet, president of the Port of Barcelona, highlighted today during the presentation of the agreement, which took place at the Seatrade Cruise Med 2022 fair.

During the presentation of the agreement, Damià Calvet has been accompanied by Javier Rodríguez, General Manager at Barcelona Cruise Port; Michel Nestour, Vicepresident of Global Port and Destination Development EuroMed at Carnival Corp & PLC; Ukko Metsola, Vice President Government Relations for Europe and Asia-Pacific at Royal Caribbean Group; Gianluca Suprani, SVP Global Port Development & Shore Activities at the Cruise Division of MSC Group; Nicolai Skogland, Executive Director - Port Operations and Government Relations at Viking Cruises; Juan Trescastro,

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Senior Director at Virgin Voyages; Kelly Craighead, president and CEO of CLIA (Cruise Lines International Association), Marie-Caroline Laurent, director general in Europe at CLIA, and Alfredo Serrano, national director in Spain at CLIA.

The representatives of the signatory entities have coincided in pointing out the involvement of the cruise sector in the decarbonisation of maritime transport and have underlined that the connection of the ships to the electricity grid of renewable origin in the Port of Barcelona will significantly eliminate emissions. This collaboration between the public and private sectors will make it possible to comply with the European requirements for the availability of electrical connection on shore for ships in 2030.

Marie-Caroline Laurent, representing the sector, has ensured that "today's agreement between the port of Barcelona and cruise operators is an important example of how collaboration is accelerating progress towards achieving our ambitious climate targets. Equipping our ships to connect to shoreside electricity is sustainable tourism in action for the benefit of the local communities we visit."

According to calculations by the Port of Barcelona, the electrification of all the cruise berths, the Prat wharf, and the ferry terminals of the Sant Bertran dock and the Costa wharf will mean the elimination of 66,000 tons of CO₂ and 1,234 tons of NO_x from emissions from port activity. This means cutting 38% of the NO_x and CO₂ emitted by ships during their stay at the dock and that 22% of NO_x and CO₂ emissions from all port activity will be eliminated.

Nexigen, the name given to the project to electrify the Port of Barcelona's docks, requires an investment of 110 million euros and is a key element in achieving the goal of being a climate-neutral port by 2050. The first cruise ships will be connected to the port power grid in 2026.

*Carnival Corp & PLC represents its brands Costa Cruises, AIDA Cruises, Carnival Cruise Line, Princess Cruises, Holland America Line, P&O Cruises (Australia), P&O Cruises (UK), Seabourn, and Cunard.

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PICTURE: The representatives of the signatory entities have met during the Seatrade Cruise Med 2022 fair taking place in Málaga.



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PICTURE: A cruise at the Port of Barcelona



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