

News Release

22.06.2026

Axpo conducts its first bio-LNG refuelling of MOL vessel in Barcelona

Axpo's refuelling of a Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL) vessel was its first ship-to-ship bio liquefied natural gas (LNG) bunkering operation in the port of Barcelona, it was announced today. MOL's Lapis Ace vehicle carrier received bio-LNG from Axpo's bunkering vessel Green Pearl, marking another milestone in the development of alternative marine fuels infrastructure and services in Spain.

In brief:

- Axpo completes its first ship-to-ship operation in Barcelona, transferring bio-LNG to MOL's Lapis Ace vehicle carrier from the Green Pearl bunkering vessel.
- Operation is Axpo's third in a major Spanish port after successful transfers in Málaga and Algeciras.
- LNG and bio-LNG transfers across Spain show operational reliability of alternative marine fuels in transition to maritime decarbonisation.

Reinforcing its commitment to supporting the maritime industry's transition to lower-emission fuels, this latest ship-to-ship bio-LNG bunkering operation demonstrates Axpo's expanding capability to serve leading shipping operators across major ports in Spain.

Axpo's Head of Small-Scale LNG Daniele Corti said: "The refuelling operation with MOL in Barcelona represents another key moment for LNG adoption in Spain. We're not only developing infrastructure. We're proving that alternative marine fuels can be operationally reliable and cost-effective. As demand for LNG and bio-LNG continues to increase, Axpo's growing operations in Málaga, Algeciras and now Barcelona demonstrate that this is no longer a niche market. It is a critical stepping stone in the maritime industry's transition to a lower-carbon future."

Axpo has been selected to supply bio-LNG fuel to MOL across the Mediterranean, providing bunkering services at the Spanish ports of Málaga and Barcelona. The agreement expands Axpo's role in lower-emission maritime transport and builds on its existing Western European supply partnership with MOL, which began in March 2025.

Expanding infrastructure for maritime transport

Axpo's presence in Spanish ports has grown substantially over the past year. In April 2025, the company completed its first LNG delivery in Málaga, followed by successful operations in Algeciras and Sines (Portugal). These milestones were made possible by Axpo's 7,500-cubic-metre small-scale LNG vessel Green Pearl, improving the speed, flexibility and efficiency of bunkering operations across the Mediterranean. Axpo currently also holds a licence to operate in the port of Valencia.

In Italy, Axpo conducted the country's first ship-to-ship bio-LNG refuelling in December 2025. Shortly afterwards, in March 2026, the state-of-the-art bunkering vessel Alisios LNG, chartered by Axpo, was launched at the port of Huelva in southwestern Spain.

Axpo's ten-year charter of the Green Pearl and ongoing expansion of its bio-LNG portfolio reflect the company's belief that industry collaboration is essential to achieving global emissions targets. By partnering with leading shipping operators like MOL and MSC, Axpo is demonstrating how coordinated action can accelerate the maritime sector's shift toward cleaner fuels.

Notes to editors

- Ship-to-ship operation refers to the transfer of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from a specialised LNG vessel to a larger cargo or container ship. The process is conducted at sea or in designated port areas.
- Bunkering is the process of refuelling ships or other vehicles, particularly in maritime contexts. This can include various types of fuel, such as oil, diesel and LNG.
- LNG is an important transitional solution to the reduction of emissions in the maritime sector. When compared to traditional marine fuels, LNG eliminates 100 per cent of sulphur oxide (SOX) emissions, between 80 to 90 per cent of nitrogen oxide (NOX) emissions and 25 per cent of CO2 emissions.
- Bio-LNG is short for biological liquefied natural gas (LNG), a renewable fuel produced from organic materials such as biomass, waste and agricultural residues.



About Axpo

Axpo is driven by a single purpose – to enable a sustainable future through innovative energy solutions. Axpo is Switzerland's largest energy producer and an international leader in energy trading and the marketing of solar and wind power. Axpo combines the experience and expertise of about 7,500 employees who are driven by a passion for innovation, collaboration and impactful change. Using cutting-edge technologies, Axpo innovates to meet the evolving needs of its customers in more than 30 countries across Europe, North America and Asia.

Additional information

Axpo Holding AG, Corporate Communications

T 0800 44 11 00 (Switzerland), T +41 56 200 41 10 (International)

(Available 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.)

medien@axpo.com