

## **AN INCREASINGLY GREEN FLEET: ADRIA FERRIES PRESENTS THE SCRUBBERS**

In response to the 2020 Low Sulphur Cap that will come into effect on 1 January next year, and as the first in the port of Ancona, Adria Ferries has decided to act before the deadlines laid down by law and renew the discharge systems on its fleet, in order to make its own tangible contribution to protecting natural resources.

According to the IMO Regulation, ships flying any flag must use fuels with a sulphur content under 0.5% (mass by mass), compared with the 3.5% tolerated until now, with the aim of reducing the atmospheric pollution caused by ship emissions.

In order to allow shipping companies to satisfy the requirements laid down by the end of 2020, the regulation provides them with the following options:

1. use a fuel with a low sulphur content (0.5%) or marine gasoil (MGO)
2. use alternative fuels, such as LNG or sulphur-free bio-fuels
3. equip the ships with gas cleaning systems ("scrubbers") that allow them to operate using fuel with a high sulphur content (HSFO).

Keeping faith with its mission, the ferry company has equipped two of its vessels, the AF Marina and the AF Claudia, with the gas cleaning systems called scrubbers, which drastically reduce the quantity of sulphur present in the fumes produced, using sea water.

Scrubbers offer numerous benefits compa-

red with the other alternatives proposed by the regulation:

- considerable reduction in the particles of atmospheric pollutants that are harmful for the environment, such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs);
- elimination of a large part of the soot coming out of the funnels, which has a negative impact on air quality and therefore on human health;
- no added pollutants that are harmful to the water;
- monitoring of the PH parameters, turbidity and PAHs present in the water being discharged;

It is therefore easy to see how use of exhaust gas cleaning systems like scrubbers can result in a considerable reduction in the harmful substances produced by those gases, not just sulphur, but also atmospheric pollutants and other materials that would otherwise be released into the air.

Choice of these technologies ensures that Adria Ferries complies not only with the regulations, but also with the cornerstones of its company vision: state-of-the-art technology and sustainability. The company has, in fact, always focused on responsible management of its activities, ensuring development of innovative solutions that contribute to protecting the environment and all its lifeforms.

