

A large red container ship, the 'SAN CHRISTOBAL', is docked at a port. The ship is loaded with colorful shipping containers. In the background, a city skyline with numerous skyscrapers is visible across the water. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue with a few wispy clouds. The water in the foreground is dark blue with gentle ripples.

Decarbonizing the Shipping Industry with C3

February 2025

Industry's State and Future

The maritime shipping industry is a cornerstone of global trade, responsible for transporting over 80% of the world's goods. However, it is also a significant contributor to GHG emissions, accounting for more than 2.5% of global CO₂ emissions. The industry faces increasing pressure to decarbonize, driven by stringent regulations:

- **IMO Targets:** Aiming to reduce emissions by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008 levels.
- **EU Fit for 55 Package:** Including measures like the inclusion of shipping in the EU ETS which imposes levies on ships entering EU ports.

Abatement Challenges

- **CapEx:** Retrofitting existing vessels or investing in new low-emission ships requires substantial upfront investments. For example, a new vessel with hybrid propulsion could cost €100 million.
- **OpEx:** Alternative fuels such as methanol and ammonia are currently several factors more expensive than HFO, with limited availability.
- **Infrastructure:** The lack of global infrastructure for alternative fuels and shore power systems hinders widespread adoption.
- **Compliance:** Meeting IMO and EU targets requires significant emission reductions. Non-compliance could lead to penalties or higher operational costs under frameworks like the EU ETS, where carbon costs could reach €100-200 per ton of CO₂ by 2030.

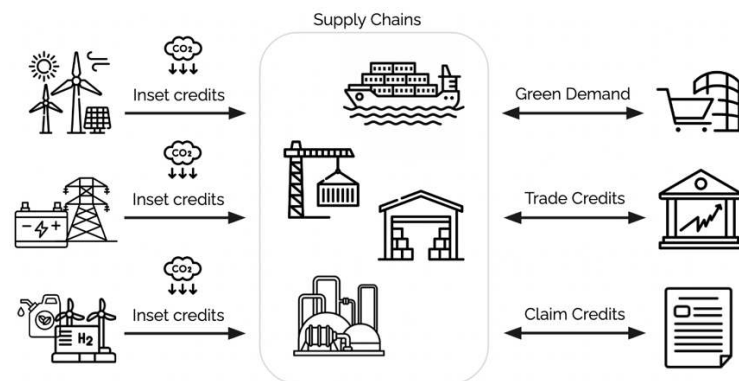
Impact on Compliance Costs

By 2030, non-compliance with EU ETS and other regulations could cost the shipping industry billions annually. For instance:

- **EU ETS Costs:** Ships entering EU ports may face carbon costs of €100-200 per ton of CO₂ under the ETS, translating to millions in additional costs per vessel.
- **CBAM Implications:** Although primarily targeting imports, this mechanism could indirectly affect shipping by increasing costs for carbon intensive goods, pressuring the industry to decarbonize.

C3 as a Financial Instrument

Carbon3 (C3) offers a market-driven solution to these challenges by certifying incremental GHG emission reductions as tradable "inset credits." These credits can be monetized, providing a revenue stream that helps offset the high costs of decarbonization projects for the maritime industry.



Financial and Strategic Benefits

For Shipping Companies

- **Revenue Generation:** Selling inset credits can offset 20-30% of CapEx for decarbonization projects. For example, a €100 million investment could be partially funded by €10-20 million from credit sales over the vessel's lifetime.
- **Cost Savings:** Energy-efficient vessels reduce fuel consumption, lowering operational costs.
- **Competitive Advantage:** Early adopters gain a market edge, appealing to ESG-conscious clients, avoiding future regulatory penalties, and enabling value chain partners to directly reduce Scope 3 emissions by trading and sharing inset credits.

For Value Chain Stakeholders

- **Ports:** Can use C3 to finance shore power systems, reducing emissions from vessels.
- **Fuel Suppliers:** Can invest in alternative fuel production, with emission reductions certified as inset credits to attract investment.
- **Shipbuilders:** Benefit from increased demand for low-emission vessels, with C3 as a mechanism to monetize the reduction benefits.

Using C3, companies can reduce their Scope 1-3 emissions, avoiding penalties and reinvesting savings into further sustainability initiatives.

Visit carbon3.net to learn more and get in touch.