

PROJECT NEWSLETTER NO. 1

July 2021



Sustainable urban freight transport with autonomous zero-emission vessels

Interreg
North Sea Region
AVATAR

European Regional Development Fund



EUROPEAN UNION

Welcome to the AVATAR Newsletter | First year of project work, first publications | Solar Impulse Efficient Solution Label | Multi-project webinar on autonomous shipping

On our own account: AVATAR Newsletter launched



Picture: AVATAR project

09.07.2021 – The AVATAR project has now been running for about one year and the first results and deliverables have recently been published. To mark this occasion, the AVATAR project consortium is now publishing project newsletters at regular intervals, about three to four times a year, in which the main events, results, progresses made and general topics relating to

the project are going to be addressed. You can find this and all subsequent newsletters on the AVATAR website.

Read more here: [AVATAR website](#)

Project partner E. Van Wingen awarded with "Solar Impulse Efficient Solution" Label



Picture: Solar Impulse Foundation

02.07.2021 - AVATAR project partner E. Van Wingen has been awarded the "[Solar Impulse Efficient Solution](#)" label for its solution of environmentally friendly energy and heat production using an ICE-CHP system. The same system will be used in the future within the AVATAR project to power the vessel currently under construction.

Read more here: [LinkedIn](#) & [E. Van Wingen website](#)

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First project publication: AVATAR Market review on city freight distribution using inland waterways



Market review on city freight distribution using inland waterways

Picture: AVATAR project (POM East Flanders, Logistics Initiative Hamburg)

10.06.2021 – The AVATAR project aims to deploy zero-emission automated vessels that can do regular trips between urban consolidation centres outside of a city and inner city hubs. As part of the projects' work package 4, the AVATAR project partners Logistics Initiative Hamburg and POM East Flanders have prepared and recently published a market review on existing and pilot cases for city freight distribution using inland waterways. The Market Review is available for download [here](#).

Read more here: [AVATAR Website](#)

KU Leuven presented AVATAR project at a multi-project webinar on autonomous shipping



WEBINAR
MOVING FREIGHT BY WATER: SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE AND
INNOVATIVE VESSELS

Picture: AUTOSHIP project

20.04.2021 - The webinar, organized by SINTEF Ocean AS, addressed the challenges for the successful implementation of highly automated ships in the transportation industry. During the webinar, several project consortia and companies had the opportunity to present their ideas, such as the AUTOSHIP project, AVATAR project, NOVIMAR project, SEAFAR and the AEGIS project.

In addition to topics such as economic feasibility, the topics of regulation and security were addressed during the webinar. The AVATAR presentation by KU Leuven is available [here](#).

Read more here: [AUTOSHIP website](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

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Get to know the project partners. This time: Logistics Initiative Hamburg



Picture: Logistics Initiative Hamburg

With more than 500 member companies and institutions from the Hamburg metropolitan region and beyond, the public-private partnership is the largest location network in the logistics industry in Europe. The network consists logistics service providers, industry & trade, research & development, start-ups, numerous public institutions and industry-related companies.

The Logistics Initiative Hamburg (LIHH) and its partners are the first point of contact for questions concerning the logistics industry in Hamburg as a business location. As a catalyst, initiator and manager of innovation projects at regional, national and international level, LIHH creates benefits for the entire logistics sector and Hamburg as a logistics location. In doing so, relevant topics are identified at an early stage, the initialization of projects is coordinated and members are mobilized to implement successful joint activities.

In the AVATAR project, LIHH is acting as work package leader for the development of use cases and business cases in an urban context and for the analysis of the political and legal framework for the use of highly

automated shipping in the participating regions. Hamburg is also hosting the 2021 ITS World Congress on intelligent transport systems and services, where LIHH will be presenting the AVATAR project at one of the congress sessions.

Read more here: [LIHH website](#)

About the Interreg AVATAR project

AVATAR – Autonomous vessels, cost-effective transshipment, waste return. AVATAR is a project co-funded by the INTERREG North Sea Region Programme 2014 - 2020.

The AVATAR project aims to tackle challenges of city freight distribution by developing, testing and assessing adequate technologies and business models for urban autonomous zero-emission IWT. Through this, the project unlocks the economic potential of urban vessels and corresponding waterways, increases available solutions for full-cycle automation and sets up a sustainable supply chain model for urban goods distribution and waste return.

Further information and project news can be found on the project website

<https://northsearegion.eu/avatar>.

Contact for queries

To get in touch with AVATAR, please contact the lead beneficiary organisation.

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