

World's first wind-assisted Aframax product tanker named in China

The world's first wind-assisted Aframax product tanker Brands Hatch built for Union Maritime has been named.

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Photo: BAR Technologies

The tanker ordered by UK-based Union Maritime was named at Shanghai Waigaoqiao Shipbuilding.

The 114,000dwt tanker, with an overall length of 249.95 meters and a beam of 44 meters, can carry more than 800,000 barrels of crude oil products.

The ship is equipped with three rigid WindWings sails developed by BAR Technologies, which can intelligently adjust their angle and curvature to optimise aerodynamic performance and enhance energy efficiency, as well as reduce carbon emissions.

As the first classification society in China to participate in the verification of wing sail-powered tankers, Lloyd's Register provided comprehensive technical support throughout the entire process.

Deng Shourong, President of Lloyd's Register Greater China, stated at the naming ceremony, "The Brands Hatch tanker project represents the successful application of innovative technologies in actual shipbuilding, fully demonstrating our close collaboration with Chinese shipyards to advance green shipping."

Under ideal sea conditions, the vessel's system can save an average of 14.5 tons of fuel per day and reduces CO₂ emissions by 45 tons, achieving an annual fuel saving of 12%, cutting nearly 5,000 tons of carbon emissions. Each wind wing is able to save approximately 1.5 tons of fuel daily, reducing CO₂ emissions by over five tons per day.