



Image: Evergreen Marine

Evergreen first out with concrete EU ETS charges

Nick Savvides | Nov 15, 2023

In what will be the first of a series of announcements Evergreen has declared the charges it will levy to cover the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) which goes live in less than seven weeks' time.

From 1 January next year all vessels calling at European ports will pay a carbon charge through a system of EU Allowances (EUAs), the measuring and reporting of calls will begin in January and carriers will pay charges to the appropriate EU body, depending on which ports are called at most. Payments will be made in September 2025.

Alphaliner reported that Evergreen's rates are similar to indications from CMA CGM, which quoted a potential EUR25 per teu for Asia to Europe freight, compared to Evergreen's EUR27 per teu (Evergreen charges set out in tables below this story).

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"As already noted, however, there appears to be significant divergence among carriers, with Maersk predicting a possible EUR70 per teu for the same trade, while Hapag-Lloyd quoted a theoretic EUR12 per teu. It remains to be seen if the surcharge will be used by lines as a competitive tool," said Alphaliner.

Calculations for the charges will be made on 100% of intra-European journeys and on 50% of journeys that begin or end outside of European waters.

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EUAs will be paid on 40% of emissions in the first year, rising to 70% the year after and 100% in 2026. At today's prices a EUR27 per teu charge from Asia to Europe would be priced at EUR67.50 per teu from 2026, for a dry container. While a reefer which is charged EUR41/teu in 2024, could be priced at EUR102.50.

A raft of new measures are being introduced, the Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII) is already in place, and will be reviewed in 2026, along with the Energy Efficiency for Existing ships Index (EEXI) FuelEU, which will mandate the use of low greenhouse gas fuels will be applied from January 2025 with monitoring beginning from 31 August 2024.

These measures allied with the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, which will support low carbon operations, effective from January.

In addition, the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, which will protect EU green regulations from being undermined by nations with less ambitious carbon targets, otherwise known as carbon leakage, effective from October this year.