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## KOTC chooses Alfa Laval PureBallast 3 for ballast water treatment throughout its fleet – including VLCCs

**Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC) is one of many ship owners choosing UV ballast water treatment over electrochlorination for large ballast water flows. Alfa Laval PureBallast 3 will be installed on vessels throughout the KOTC fleet, including VLCCs with flows of 6000 m<sup>3</sup>/h each.**

Founded in 1957, KOTC has a present fleet capacity of around 2.4 million barrels – roughly the equivalent of Kuwait's daily oil production. Of the 28 vessels KOTC owns, 12 are VLCCs with a deadweight of over 300,000 tonnes. These massive tankers will now be retrofitted with Alfa Laval PureBallast 3, which will also be the choice for VLCC newbuilds and the smaller vessels under KOTC ownership.

“PureBallast 3 is the right equipment to have on bigger ships like VLCCs,” says Jamil Al-Ali, Manager Fleet Engineering Group at KOTC. “Alfa Laval has a tried, tested and proven system for supporting that huge capacity of ballast water without delays to the cargo operations.”

### **Safety and security in chemical-free UV**

The choice of UV technology for ballast water treatment fits well with a company like KOTC, which strives to maintain a green profile. “Environmental protection is one of our focus areas,” Al-Ali says, “so we try to be ahead of the game, to be a good corporate citizen.”

For Bader Al Najjar, Team Leader Dry Docking, KOTC Fleet Engineering Group, a major factor in UV treatment's favour is the avoidance of chemical handling and the safety measures that would be required by electrochlorination. “There aren't all the chemicals involved, and the added advantage is that it doesn't have an effect on the ballast tank coatings,” he says. “And it's very safe for the ship's operating staff.”

### **Economy and reliability for the largest flows**

In terms of UV treatment for large vessels like VLCCs, KOTC is one of many ship owners making the shift away from electrochlorination. Al Najjar points out the overall economy of a UV solution, especially when operating costs are considered. “When it comes to the operational cost over many years, PureBallast 3 doesn’t have much because of its UV and filtration technology,” he explains.

Since the VLCCs owned by KOTC have a ballast water flow of 6000 m<sup>3</sup>/h, two 3000 m<sup>3</sup>/h PureBallast 3 systems will be installed on each vessel. This will create a natural redundancy, which KOTC finds beneficial. “If one system should fail, the other can support the ballasting and deballasting operations,” says Al Najjar. “This is a crucial point for a ship owner, who cannot stop operations because of an equipment failure.”

“We build ships with enhanced redundancy and reliability aspects considered from the design phase,” Al-Ali concurs. “Any compliance issues can affect the ship’s business, whether it’s a matter of vessels being detained or being rejected for certain business.”

### **An established supplier with the resources needed**

Apart from the technical reliability of PureBallast 3, KOTC finds advantages in Alfa Laval’s long-established presence in the marine industry. KOTC has cooperated with Alfa Laval for decades in areas like fuel treatment and heat transfer, and the company feels secure in Alfa Laval’s well-developed resources, training and service offering in ballast water treatment.

“There are a lot of companies in the market who were just established yesterday, and they want to sell ballast water treatment systems because there’s a need,” says Al Najjar. “This is not the way that KOTC works. It’s not only about the equipment. It’s also about the support and knowledge that Alfa Laval has to install the equipment, as well as to run it in the long term.”

“Service and support is one of the strength areas for Alfa Laval,” Al-Ali agrees. “When issues come up, we want them to be resolved as fast and effectively as possible. And that type of support is one of the reasons why we’re working very closely with Alfa Laval.”

### **Partnership over the vessel lifetime**

In describing the company's investment, the idea of partnership with Alfa Laval is one that Al-Ali returns to frequently. "They are a trusted partner when it comes to maritime products," he says. "We like to think of them as partners, not just a vendor."

In an application like ballast water treatment, which is relatively new but also critical to operations in a global market, selection and installation are only the first steps. For KOTC, the relationship with Alfa Laval is one that will last the lifetime of the vessels, with ongoing cooperation as a cornerstone of compliance.

"We put our trust in each other," Al-Ali emphasizes. "I think that is a recipe for success."

To learn more about Alfa Laval PureBallast 3 and Alfa Laval's approach to ballast water treatment, visit [www.alfalaval.com/pureballast](http://www.alfalaval.com/pureballast)

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**Editor's notes**

About Alfa Laval PureBallast

PureBallast, which was the first commercially available ballast water treatment solution, is a chemical-free technology sold and serviced by Alfa Laval. A vital component of PureBallast is the enhanced UV reactor, which was developed jointly by Alfa Laval and Wallenius Water based on Wallenius Water technology. All PureBallast systems are available with both IMO and U.S. Coast Guard type approvals.

#### About Alfa Laval

Alfa Laval is a leading global provider of specialized products and engineering solutions based on its key technologies of heat transfer, separation and fluid handling.

The company's equipment, systems and services are dedicated to assisting customers in optimizing the performance of their processes. The solutions help them to heat, cool, separate and transport products in industries that produce food and beverages, chemicals and petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, starch, sugar and ethanol.

Alfa Laval's products are also used in power plants, aboard ships, oil and gas exploration, in the mechanical engineering industry, in the mining industry and for wastewater treatment, as well as for comfort climate and refrigeration applications.

Alfa Laval's worldwide organization works closely with customers in nearly 100 countries to help them stay ahead in the global arena. Alfa Laval is listed on Nasdaq OMX, and, in 2017, posted annual sales of about SEK 35.3 billion (approx. 3.6 billion Euros). The company has about 16 400 employees.

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