

Press Release

Year of the Sea 2025: PoSEABle and Wind for Goods, two events organized in Nantes and Saint-Nazaire to invent the future of maritime transport

Nantes, March 17, 2025 – France has the second-largest maritime area in the world, a space that needs to be cared for and is being honored nationwide as part of the Year of the Sea 2025. Today, 90% of the world's goods are exchanged through maritime transport, and this sector is expected to account for 17% of global CO2 emissions by 2050 (compared to 3% today) in the absence of a binding regulatory framework.

To reduce this environmental impact, stakeholders in the sector are developing new uses and innovative technologies to decarbonize maritime transport and design ships that are both efficient and environmentally friendly. The Nantes Saint-Nazaire region benefits from a complete ecosystem of historical and emerging actors committed to these challenges. In 2025, all these actors are mobilizing and organizing two professional events to collectively invent solutions for decarbonizing maritime transport: PoSEABle on May 13 in Nantes and Wind for Goods on June 19 and 20, 2025, in Saint-Nazaire. These two events are labeled "La Mer en Commun" as part of the Year of the Sea 2025, supported by the Ministry of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, Forests, Sea, and Fisheries. They are part of a rich program of maritime-dedicated events in 2025 in our region, with highlights such as Débord de Loire in June and the inauguration of the Neoliner Origin in July.

According to Johanna Rolland, Mayor of Nantes, President of Nantes Métropole and Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement: "I commend the organization of these two events in the Nantes Saint-Nazaire region to think and, above all, collectively build the future of decarbonized maritime transport. Our region and its innovation ecosystem, from startups to production plants, indeed have all the assets to be at the forefront of the ecological transition of the maritime sector, a strategic industry for the region and a job creator."

PoSEABle: The First Maritime Decarbonization Event, May 13, 2025, in Nantes

On May 13 in Nantes, PoSEABle, the first national event dedicated to the decarbonization of maritime activities, will take place. This unprecedented event aims to open up discussions, break down silos, and collectively reflect on the challenges and opportunities for a more sustainable maritime future, particularly in maritime transport. With a national scope, this event is aimed at all actors and experts in the sector: researchers, industrialists, professional networks, institutions, and students.

Throughout the day, exchanges will be structured around plenary sessions, prospective workshops, networking, and B2B meetings. Co-organized by the Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement agency and the Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique, in partnership with Nantes Métropole and the CCI Nantes St-Nazaire, the PoSEable event is supported by all actors engaged in the transitions of the maritime sector: Région Pays de la Loire, Saint-Nazaire Agglo, Nantes Saint-Nazaire Port, Neopolia, MEET2050, Weamec, Centrale Nantes, Isemar, CEA. Nearly 250 participants from the maritime world, as well as related sectors, are expected.

Among the experts attending, notable figures include:

- Philippe Bihoux: Engineer, specialist in mineral resources, and author of the comic book "Ressources: un défi pour l'humanité"
- Nelly Pons: Author and speaker, known for her works such as "Choisir de ralentir" and "Le grand épuisement," which explore themes of individual and ecological exhaustion.

Practical information and registrations are available on the #PoSEable website.

Wind for Goods: 3rd Edition of the International Sailing Transport Event, June 19 and 20, 2025, in Saint-Nazaire

Launched in 2021, this biennial event is the unique international gathering dedicated to the maritime transport of goods and passengers by sail. For this 3rd edition, organized in Saint-Nazaire on June 19 and 20, 2025, Wind for Goods will focus on the theme: "Sailing maritime transport, the challenge of large-scale deployment." Over two days, leaders and national and international actors in the sector will present concrete solutions and innovations contributing to the decarbonization of maritime transport and debate the challenges of this key sector in the energy transition.

About 70 exhibitors (including around twenty international companies) and nearly 1,000 visitors are expected to exchange ideas on the major developments in the sector, create synergies, and support its growth. All national and international actors in the value chain will be present this year at Wind for Goods: shipbuilders and sail propulsion systems, shipowners, charterers, transporters, ship designers, digital solutions, logistics and handling equipment, service providers, regulatory bodies, professional associations and institutions, HR, and training.

Organized by the Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement agency, in partnership with Nantes Métropole, Saint-Nazaire Agglomération, the CCI Nantes St-Nazaire, the Pays de la Loire region, ADEME, and Nantes Saint-Nazaire Port, the event will feature plenary conferences with experts from the sector and B2B meetings. The program will be available soon, and registrations for the event are already open on the windforgoods.fr website.

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About Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement : The Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement agency aims to promote the responsible economic development of the Nantes and Saint-Nazaire regions. It works to federate, attract, and



enhance the impact of economic actors in the territories of Nantes and Saint-Nazaire, particularly in the following priority ecosystems: decarbonized industry & tech, maritime economy, reuse and circular economy, health and life sciences, responsible business tourism. Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement has supported more than 750 companies over the past 10 years and contributed to the creation of over 10,000 jobs in the region.

With the motto "Faire cap cammun!", it became the first mission-driven agency in France in 2024 and expanded its governance to include about ten structures from the region to support the economic, social, and environmental transformations of the territory. Funded by Nantes Métropole, the Communauté d'agglomération de la région nazairienne (CARENE), and the CCI Nantes St-Nazaire, it is led by Nicolas Debon and currently has 35 employees.

Website: www.nantes-saintnazaire.fr