

The cargo ship researching the pollution of its own industry

Shipping is one of the fastest growing sources of pollution in the world. But some research units and companies are waking up to the fact that the ships which plough the world's oceans every day, carrying goods between continents, may also be ideally placed to carry out research into the planet's changing climate.

Rebecca Davis had a look at one such ship, Maersk's Lars Maersk, which docked in Cape Town on Monday, 10 June 2013.

When you think about the pollution that arises from shipping, oil spills are often the first thing that springs to mind. They receive a lot of media attention because oil dumps have a direct, visible effect, and provide poignant visuals of fish, birds and mammals struggling for life. This in turn usually evokes a great deal of public anger; corporate heads roll; and commitments to increased safety standards are reinforced.

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