



September 7, 2026

NS United Kaiun Kaisha, Ltd.

“SETO AZURE” Conducts Osaka Bay’s First LNG Bunkering Operation Using the STS Method

The LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) bunkering vessel SETO AZURE, managed and operated by NS United Coastal Tanker Kaisha, Ltd., a member of the NS United Kaiun Group, conducted the first LNG bunkering operation in Osaka Bay using the Ship-to-Ship (STS) method on September 4. The LNG fuel was supplied to an LNG-fueled car carrier calling at Kobe Port.

SETO AZURE is an LNG bunkering vessel that supplies LNG fuel to LNG-fueled vessels primarily in the Osaka Bay and Seto Inland Sea areas via the Ship-to-Ship (STS) method. In an STS bunkering operation, a bunkering vessel comes alongside an LNG-fueled vessel moored at a berth or anchored offshore to transfer LNG fuel. This method is attracting attention as a next-generation fuel supply infrastructure for ports.

As the shipping industry advances efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vessels, LNG has been increasingly utilized as one of the options for lowering the carbon intensity of marine fuels. This operation will help establish a stable LNG fuel supply system for LNG-fueled vessels in Osaka Bay, while also contributing to enhancing the competitiveness of Osaka Bay as a port capable of accommodating LNG-fueled vessels.

The NS United Kaiun Group will continue to contribute to the realization of a decarbonized society through initiatives such as these.

【SETO AZURE outline】

Built : April, 2026

Length Overall: 86.29 m

Breadth: 17.60 m

Draft: 4.60 m

Gross Tonnage: 4,350 GT

LNG Cargo Capacity: 3,610 m³

Propulsion System: Electric propulsion powered by a dual-fuel engine capable of using LNG and fuel oil



SETO AZURE, which conducted Osaka Bay's first LNG bunkering operation using the STS method

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