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Capt. Mayed Alameiry
Harbour Master
Port of Fujairah

How have Fujairah operations faired during Covid?

We had 13,147 vessels calling at the Fujairah port offshore anchorage area last year. This compares to a peak of 15,000 in 2016, and this year we expect a similar number to 2020. We've seen an increase in vessel movements inside the port itself, up 6% compared to last year. The pandemic did hit our crew changes. We would usually have an average of around 4000 crew change activities in a month, but we had to reduce those during Covid because of restrictions on some nationalities. The good news is that these restrictions were lifted in September, and we are expecting to get back to normal soon.

What is Fujairah's outlook to accommodate alternative fuels?

We welcome any new alternative fuel that wants to come into Fujairah and be part of the fuel mix. So far, we have received a lot of interest for LNG. The majority of world tonnage is still burning either heavy fuel oil or shifting towards LNG. As for other clean fuels like methanol and ammonia, the infrastructure is not there yet and also carries its own risk and safety issues. I don't see that developing in the next few years. ■

**Paraphrased comments*

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