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Ultranav and Beyond the Sea: a strategic partnership to propel shipping into the kite era

Ultranav, a global shipping leader, and Beyond the Sea, a French pioneer in kite-powered propulsion, have announced a co-development agreement. Together, they will equip an Ultranav chemical tanker with the SeaKite® system, scaling up from a 100 m² kite (¼ scale) to a full-scale 400 m² kite by 2027.

This agreement reflects a shared ambition: integrating innovative, operational, and ready-to-deploy technology to cut CO₂ emissions, anticipate future IMO regulations, and accelerate shipping's energy transition.

Timeline:

- 2025: Implementation study and installation of a 100 m² SeaKite®
- 2026–2027: Installation of a full-scale 400 m² SeaKite®

Yves Parlier, founder of Beyond the Sea:

"This agreement with Ultranav is a decisive step to demonstrate the industrial potential of kite propulsion. We're no longer in the experimental phase: the SeaKite® is a ready-to-use solution designed to meet shipowners' real needs. Cutting emissions, reducing fuel consumption, improving vessel environmental performance — that's what we aim to prove with this partnership on a reference chemical tanker."

Cristian Widow, Ultranav:

"At Ultranav, we take a pragmatic approach to innovation: we need solutions that are efficient, operationally suited, and aligned with our environmental goals. Working with Beyond the Sea marks a new milestone in our decarbonization strategy. This project is not just a test — it's a clear commitment to integrating breakthrough technologies into our fleet to anticipate the future of cargo shipping."

About Ultranay:

Ultranav is a privately-owned shipping group established in 1960 in Chile by Captain Albert von Appen. Present in 19 countries, Ultranav operates through 12 specialized entities in five key segments: tankers, gas, dry bulk, coastal shipping, and towage/offshore. Its diverse fleet comprises more than 420 vessels, including tankers, bulk carriers, container ships, tugboats, and offshore vessels.

More information: <u>ultranav</u>

About Beyond the Sea:

Beyond the Sea develops and markets kites that can be used on all types of vessels — from leisure boats to large cargo ships. These kites harness wind power to complement engine propulsion, lowering ships' energy needs and proportionally reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. They also provide an additional safety feature, as they can be deployed as emergency backup propulsion.

More information: <u>beyond the sea</u>

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