

**The Only  
IMO-Certified Solution  
Suited for Operational  
Constraints, Trusted  
by Port State Control  
Officers Worldwide.**



## INTRODUCTION

Global Strategic Alliance (GSA) Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, a major player in the region's maritime sector, faced the challenge of adhering to the stringent IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention's D-2 standard. This standard, designed to prevent the spread of invasive marine species, introduced operational hurdles including tight testing schedules and the need for rapid, accurate results during Port State Control (PSC) inspections.

For GSA, affiliated with major shipping agencies, ensuring efficient vessel movement while maintaining strict compliance was paramount. Recognizing the limitations of traditional testing methods, GSA sought a solution that would streamline operations without compromising accuracy. Their selection of Chelsea Technologies' FastBallast, a cutting-edge ballast water sampling device, marked a pivotal moment.

This case study delves into how GSA leveraged FastBallast to revolutionize their compliance processes, achieving significant improvements in operational efficiency and solidifying their market leadership.

The IMO BWM Compliance with the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention has introduced stringent regulations for ballast water discharge, aiming to prevent the spread of invasive species and harmful microorganisms.

The D-2 standard, which sets strict limits on viable organisms and harmful microbes, poses significant operational challenges for vessels and port authorities, such as:

- Ensuring compliance testing aligns with tight schedules and operational demands.
- Avoiding health and safety issues and cost implications associated with traditional methods involving filters and chemicals.
- Maintaining rapid and accurate results during Port State Control (PSC) inspections to prevent delays or fines.



GSA Team and FastBallast.

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“At GSA, we partnered with Chelsea Technologies for their industry-leading innovation and cutting-edge technology. FastBallast, their ballast water sampling device, demonstrated exceptional efficiency and reliability, perfectly aligning with our commitment to operational excellence.

Since 2017, FastBallast has supported our operations by delivering accurate, near-instantaneous data without substantial issues. This partnership has allowed us to maintain our rigorous schedules, ensuring smooth and efficient operations while reinforcing our competitive edge in the market.”

- Adnan Bahamdein (Chief Executive Officer at GSA)

## Why Did GSA Choose Chelsea Technologies?

Global Strategic Alliance (GSA) Saudi Arabia, affiliated with all major shipping agencies in Saudi Arabia, sought a solution to reliably meet IMO standards while maintaining operational efficiency across their fleets.

Since 2017, GSA has conducted over 12,000 ballast water sampling analyses using FastBallast. A coordinated crew of technicians boards vessels daily, disembarking swiftly within 30 minutes to match loading schedules. The exceptional performance of FastBallast has empowered GSA technicians to exceed their stringent timelines, contributing to operational efficiency and market leadership.



Global Strategic Alliance Co.  
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## THE SOLUTION

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The new FastBallast continues to provide a cutting-edge solution for fast and accurate ballast water compliance testing without disrupting vessel operations in a sleeker compact package. Originally developed through a grant to measure extremely low concentrations of phytoplankton cells, FastBallast ensures that ballast water treatment systems function effectively. Its compliance monitoring systems determine phytoplankton cell density within the IMO D-2 standard with greater confidence than traditional laboratory analysis.

FastBallast's advanced design delivers highly accurate and representative reports on discharge compliance. Its advanced design enables rapid and detailed analysis, completing compliance testing in under 10 minutes to minimise delays during inspections.

Unlike conventional methods it requires no filters or chemicals, reducing environmental impact and operational complexity.

As the maritime industry moves toward full D-2 compliance, efficient and reliable ballast water testing is more critical than ever. Chelsea Technologies new FastBallast leads the way as the only CMD solution that meets IMO requirements while accommodating operational constraints. Its speed, accuracy, and ease of use make it an essential tool for pilot boats, large vessels, and port authorities worldwide. With minimal sample preparation required, FastBallast empowers the maritime industry to confidently navigate ballast water compliance challenges while maintaining operational excellence.



## THE RESULTS

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By implementing FastBallast, GSA achieved significant improvements in both compliance and operational efficiency.

The system allows for on-site testing without disrupting vessel schedules, enabling faster port turnaround times and streamlining operations.

Additionally, FastBallast enables ship operators to easily verify compliance with IMO D-2 standards ahead of PSC inspections, supporting consistent and confident regulatory performance.

Ultimately, this enables operators to protect schedules, reduce costly delays and demonstrate a proactive commitment to environmental stewardship, strengthening both commercial performance and reputation in a highly regulated market.



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“Partnering with Chelsea Technologies has been a game-changer for GSA. The FastBallast device has revolutionised our ballast water sampling analysis, providing accurate and reliable data almost instantaneously. Its swift performance has empowered our technicians to meet and exceed stringent timelines, ensuring smooth and efficient operations.

This innovative solution has not only enhanced our operational efficiency but also given us a significant competitive edge, helping us maintain our market position while contributing to marine environmental preservation.

We are proud to uphold our commitment to innovation and environmental stewardship through this exceptional partnership.”