Cleaner hulls. Lower drag. Stronger records. Faster port calls.

BluFlow delivers robotic marine surface maintenance and digital reporting for shipowners, ports, ship agents and offshore operators across the GCC.

Our core in-water service covers hull cleaning, inspection and reporting, with cargo hold and tank cleaning offered as method-reviewed services. Together they protect vessel performance, reduce avoidable fuel cost and support compliance with IMO 2023 biofouling guidance – without the delays and overheads of dry-dock.

The challenge
Biofouling is an operational cost, not just a maintenance task

In Gulf operating conditions – warm waters, high salinity and intensive vessel movement – fouling can build quickly. Hull roughness translates directly into drag, fuel burn and emissions, and affects charter party performance and IMO 2023 biofouling readiness. The longer biofouling is left unmanaged, the higher the commercial and compliance cost.

Why now
Hull condition is no longer a deferred concern

Fuel cost, compliance pressure and charterer expectations have changed how hull maintenance is managed. Several factors are converging across GCC operations:

- **Fuel cost pressure.** Hull fouling is a direct variable cost. In Gulf conditions, fouling can build in weeks rather than months. Each percentage point of additional drag translates into measurable additional fuel spend per voyage.

- **Performance loss and voyage data.** Biofouling-related performance loss does not show on a condition survey – it appears in voyage data. Charterers and technical managers are increasingly using performance analysis to identify unexplained fuel consumption and to attribute it to hull condition.
- **IMO 2023 biofouling guidance.** The IMO's updated biofouling guidance introduces a structured readiness framework. Vessels are expected to maintain a biofouling management plan and keep inspection records available for port state and flag state review.
- **Shorter port windows.** Turnaround time is a commercial variable. Pre-arrival hull readiness reduces the risk of port delays related to biofouling inspection or compliance review.
- **Demand for documented evidence.** Charterers, owners and operators increasingly require a structured record confirming hull condition and cleaning scope – not a verbal confirmation or an unverified contractor report.

The BluFlow approach
Cleaner vessels, structured records, one regional partner

Every BluFlow engagement combines robotic execution, HSE-controlled operations and digital reporting – delivered by a UAE-based team that handles the equipment, the permits and the documentation. BluFlow removes uncertainty: assess the condition, recommend the right action, execute safely and deliver documented evidence.

Client situation	What BluFlow delivers
Fouling suspected; cleaning not yet confirmed as necessary	Inspection-only engagement – condition report with photo and video evidence and a clear recommendation.
Vessel due for cleaning ahead of the next voyage	Robotic in-water cleaning at anchorage, no dry-dock, with a digital report on completion.
Method-reviewed hold cleaning support	Reduced work-at-height and shortened preparation for the next cargo, subject to vessel type, access and cargo history.
Documentation support and compliance-readiness	Records aligned with IMO 2023 biofouling guidance and the vessel's management plan.
Fleet operator seeking predictable maintenance	Framework agreements with consistent pricing logic and planned cleaning windows.

Digital reporting
Every job ends with evidence, not just a cleaned surface

Reporting is part of the service, not an extra. Every BluFlow operation produces a structured digital record with before and after evidence, observations and a clear recommendation. This is included as standard and does not require a separate request.

Structured reporting serves a commercial purpose: it gives shipowners evidence for charterers, gives port and maritime authorities an auditable record, and gives fleet operators the data to plan future cleaning windows efficiently.

What the report contains

- Vessel name, IMO number, date, location and scope
- Inspected and cleaned zones, with any limitations clearly noted
- Before and after photo and video evidence where available

- Operating hours, HSE observations and environmental observations
- Recommendations and, where possible, client representative sign-off

How we work
Inspect → Clean → Report → Maintain

From first contact to documented record

Clients can engage at any step. Most start with an inspection or a single pilot operation and progress to recurring programmes once the reporting standard is established.

The full engagement process

- **Inspect** – hull or surface condition assessment with photo and video evidence
- **Assess** – review of fouling level, access, HSE and operational feasibility
- **Quote** – structured quotation based on vessel, scope, location and urgency
- **Clean** – operation executed with the robotic system and trained crew
- **Report** – digital report with before and after evidence and observations
- **Monitor** – vessel records maintained for planned future cleaning windows

Clients and benefits
Shipowners, ports, ship agents and offshore operators

Client	Operating challenge	What BluFlow delivers
Shipowner or technical manager	Fouling builds quickly in Gulf conditions, increasing fuel costs and charter performance risk. Charterers and flag states increasingly require evidence of hull condition and biofouling management.	Cleaner hulls, fuel and performance evidence, structured records for charterers, and fleet-level planning instead of one-off jobs.
Port or maritime authority	Cleaning operations at anchorage require assurance that environmental controls and HSE standards are in place. Uncontrolled or unverified cleaning creates liability.	Controlled cleaning method, HSE documentation, environmental observations and standardised reporting that supports the oversight role.
Ship agent	Last-minute vessel condition issues require a fast, coordinated response and documentation that can be produced without lengthy lead time.	Fast response, clear coordination on permits and access, and reliable documentation for last-minute vessel issues.
Offshore operator	Access to hull and marine surfaces is restricted. Cleaning and inspection campaigns need to be planned, HSE-controlled and documented for asset records.	Difficult-access surface maintenance, inspection records, HSE control and planned campaigns that protect asset uptime.

Services
Service portfolio

Core services

Robotic hull cleaning	In-water cleaning at anchorage, no dry-dock required, with biofouling recovery and a digital report on completion.
Inspection & reporting	Condition report and recommendation as a low-commitment first engagement. Supports informed decisions on whether cleaning is required.
Biofouling readiness support	Documentation and compliance-readiness support aligned with IMO 2023 biofouling guidelines and the vessel's management plan.

Extended / method-reviewed services

Cargo hold cleaning	Method-reviewed cleaning of tanker and bulker holds, reducing work-at-height and shortening turnaround between cargoes. Subject to vessel type, access and cargo history.
Vessel tank cleaning	Subject to method review and HSE assessment for the specific vessel and cargo history.
Equipment supply (partnership)	Available on a selected partnership and distribution basis for shipyards and fleet operators, rather than as a standard service line.

Why BluFlow
A regional partner for marine surface maintenance

- UAE-based, GCC-focused operations in the region where client vessels operate
- European robotic technology from CLIIN (Denmark), delivered by local crews
- HSE and permit readiness handled before mobilisation, not at the gangway
- Structured digital reporting as a standard deliverable on every operation
- Scalable model – from single inspections to fleet-wide programmes

BluFlow does not sell cleaning when inspection shows it is not needed. Assessment is honest and the recommendation will say so clearly if dry-dock attention or a deferred clean is the right call.

Engagement options
Five ways to engage BluFlow

Engagements can scale from a single vessel inspection to a fleet-wide programme.

- **Inspection only** – single-vessel assessment with condition report and recommendation. Recommended starting point for first-time clients.
- **Pilot cleaning** – one cleaning operation with full digital reporting. Recommended starting point for first-time clients.

- **Framework agreement** – pre-agreed terms and pricing for repeat operations across vessels. Suitable for clients with recurring needs.
- **Fleet programme** – planned, recurring inspection and cleaning across the fleet. Suitable for clients with recurring needs.
- **Emergency cleaning** – short-notice mobilisation for urgent biofouling or readiness issues.

Operating principles
The BluFlow standards

Prepared before mobilisation

Permits, HSE documentation and operational planning are completed in advance. Risk reviews and stop-work criteria are agreed with the client before the operation begins.

Evidence-based reporting

Every operation produces a structured digital report with before and after evidence, observations and recommendations. Reporting is included as standard and does not require a separate request.

Honest scoping

Cleaning is recommended only when the condition justifies it. If a vessel requires dry-dock attention or if a cleaning operation is not yet warranted, the assessment will say so clearly.

Regional responsiveness

Operations are coordinated from the UAE across the GCC, with crews and equipment mobilised regionally rather than from outside the region.

Contact

Start with an inspection, a pilot cleaning operation or a port-ready documentation review. For any of these, please contact the relevant team member below.

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