

## **Media Monitoring**

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### **Chemoil rises to ninth position on Singapore bunker supplier list**

Global bunker supplier Chemoil was the ninth largest provider by volume in Singapore in 2009, up from 19th in 2008, as BP continued to reign supreme at the top of the list for the seventh consecutive year, according to statistics posted on the republic's Maritime and Port Authority website.

ExxonMobil sold the second largest volume of bunker fuel last year while South Korean energy giant SK Energy clinched the third position. Independent bunker supplier Global Energy slipped from the third spot on the list to fourth.

Meanwhile independent bunker supplier Consort, which was a common fixture on the top 20 list in previous years, failed to make the cut after it handed back one of its licenses to supply bunker fuel in Singapore.

Last year, the company found itself at the center of a fraud case that saw one of its former employees named as the payer of bribes to surveyors, who in turn pleaded guilty to taking the cash, for ignoring short-deliveries of fuel.

In 2009, Singapore sold 36.4 million mt of bunker fuel, up 4.2% from 2008, despite the global economic downturn. The republic also recorded a 10.1% increase in vessel arrivals in terms of shipping tonnage to 1.78 billion gross mt compared with 2008.

Calling 2009 a challenging year, transport minister Raymond Lim in a speech last week said: "We had to contend with global economic uncertainties, falling freight rates and tightening liquidity."

"The Singapore Port continued to be the world leader in container throughput, vessel arrival tonnage and bunker sales," he added.