

IMPORT/EXPORT

SMOG ACROSS THE WATERS

WORLD TRADE gets the blame for all sorts of ills, from the loss of well-paying factory jobs in the U.S. to the rise of sweatshops in China and other developing nations. Now add global warming to the list.

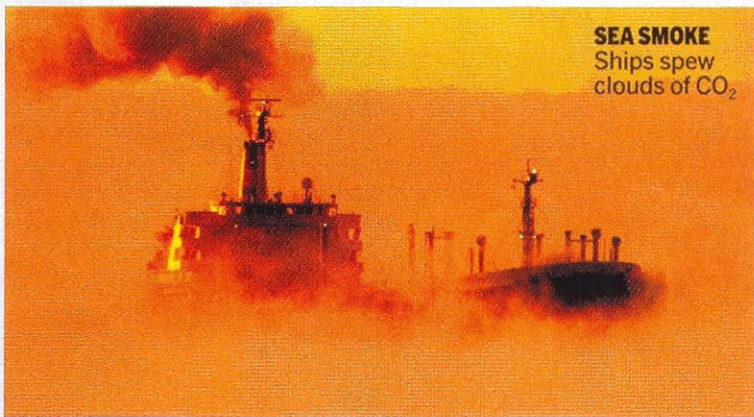
The more than 90,000 commercial vessels crisscrossing the oceans produce more carbon dioxide than all but 10 of the 39 industrialized nations originally included in the Kyoto Protocol, says a study by the **International Council on Clean Transportation**. That includes the Netherlands, Poland, and Spain. This massive global flotilla also emits more sulfur dioxide than all the cars, trucks, and

buses on the planet, and a sixth of all the nitrogen oxide pumped into the atmosphere, says the study.

The outsize emissions at sea reflect the limitations of world politics. While national governments have forced giant reductions in discharges from vehicles and smokestacks, the **U.N.'s International Maritime Organization** has maintained looser limits on ships, in part because 139 countries are

involved in crafting controls. Some fuel burned in ships, for instance, contains 27,000 parts per million of sulfur on average. In the U.S., diesel fuel cannot have more than 15 parts per million. The IMO plans to take up new pollution standards at a midsummer meeting.

—Michael Arndt



SEA SMOKE

Ships spew clouds of CO₂