

World's first autonomous shipping company announced in Norway

By [Ben Coxworth](#)

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Last May we heard about the [Yara Birkeland](#), which is planned to be the world's first all-electric and autonomous container ship. When it enters full autonomous control in 2020, it will likely be under the auspices of the just-announced world's first autonomous shipping company, Massterly.



Plans call for Massterly to design and build autonomous ships (Credit: Kongsberg)

The Yara Birkeland is being developed in a partnership between Norwegian chemical company Yara, and Norwegian maritime technology company Kongsberg.

Massterly is, in turn, the result of a collaboration between Kongsberg and Norway's Wilhelmsen ship management company.

Plans call for Massterly to design and build autonomous ships, along with creating their control systems and logistics services. Land-based control centres will be used to monitor (and sometimes remotely operate) the vessels, both in Norwegian waters and internationally.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

An experienced freelance writer, videographer and television producer, [\[https://newatlas.com/author/ben-coxworth/ Ben\]](https://newatlas.com/author/ben-coxworth/)'s interest in all forms of innovation is particularly fanatical when it comes to human-powered transportation, film-making gear, environmentally-friendly technologies and anything that's designed to go underwater. He lives in Edmonton, Alberta, where he spends a lot of time going over the handlebars of his mountain bike, hanging out in off-leash parks, and wishing the Pacific Ocean wasn't so far away.

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