

Shell Mex and B. P. Ltd.

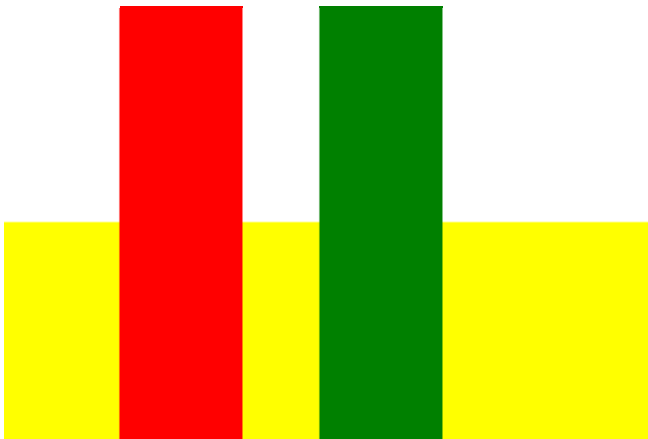


image by *Jarig Bakker*, based on the [website of the National Maritime Museum](#).

From the [website of the National Maritime Museum](#), the house flag of Shell Mex and B. P. Ltd., London. A rectangular flag divided horizontally white over yellow with a red and a green vertical stripe placed, slightly separated, across the centre. The flag is made of a wool and synthetic fibre bunting. It has a cotton hoist and is machine sewn."

Jarig Bakker, 28 August 2004

The red and green vertical stripes on this flag are based in the flag of Mexico, to which the company name also refers.

António Martins-Tuválkin, 17 March 2005

[Loughran \(1979\)](#) shows an image with yellow extending from bottom to top between the red and green stripes. I suspect a printers' error has extended the yellow to the top of the flag. The company was actually involved in the UK coastal UK oil trade from c.1919 to 1975 as a joint venture between Shell-Mex and BP so I don't know about involving the Mexican colours. More likely I imagine it is a combination of the Shell colours with red-white and yellow with those of BP with green, red, yellow and white.

António Martins-Tuválkin, 19 March 2005

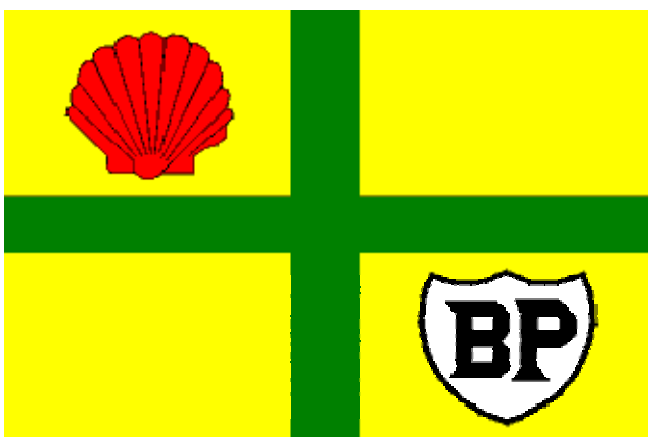


image by *Jarig Bakker*

Shell-Mex & B.P. Ltd. Up until 1963 they had a yellow flag with a green cross, in the canton a red shell and in the 4th quarter a white shield bearing a black "BP". [Loughran \(1979\)](#) shows a slightly different version of the next flag which is shown here with the vertical bands becoming a narrow triband of red-yellow-green placed at the centre, whilst Ridley Chesterton in his 1967 book *Coastal*

Ships describes a flag of white over yellow over white bands (see below).
Neale Rosanoski, 17 March 2005



image by *António Martins-Tuválkin*, 17 March 2005

The Ridley Chesterton flag I have doubts on as it is possible that he has just assumed that it would be the same as the funnel bands and I would have thought that if it had existed then [Loughran \(1979\)](#), with his book of 12 years later, would have noted its existence. But he has described it so fair enough that it be shown.

António Martins-Tuválkin, 19 March 2005

What was originally Bowring Petroleum became, or was taken over by, Anglo-Mexican Petroleum, who sold Mex Motor Spirit. By 1921 Shell had taken over Anglo-Mexican and become Shellmex. Later the suffix 'mex' was dropped.

David Prothero, 26 March 2005

Shell Tankers Ltd.



image by *Jarig Bakker*,

based on the [website of the National Maritime Museum](#).

From the [website of the National Maritime Museum](#), the house flag of Shell Tankers Ltd., London. A red rectangular flag with a white disc in the centre bearing a gold shell. The flag is made of a wool and synthetic fibre bunting. It has a cotton hoist and is machine sewn."

Jarig Bakker, 28 August 2004



images by *Jarig Bakker*,

Shell Tankers Ltd. The flag was common to members of the international group. According to [Loughran \(1979\)](#) in 1963 there was a change to white with a broad red pale bearing the yellow shell followed in 1972 by a change in design of the shell with the flutings reduced to 7 though he shows 8 in his image and this is confirmed by photos of the shell appearing on funnels.
Neale Rosanoski, 17 March 2005



In 1973 the flag was altered to unequal vertical bands of yellow-red-white with the shell outlined red and placed on the white.
Neale Rosanoski, 17 March 2005