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# Shipping Regulations & Guidance Your Weekly Update in Summary

Week 11, 2017

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## Recent Flag State Regulation and Guidance Updates

- **EMSA - Regulation Update**

The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) has issued a legislative update advising of Regulation 2015/757 amending Directive 2003/87/EC. The regulation is to improve and extend the greenhouse gas emission allowance trading scheme of the community. [Read more.](#)

*Issued March/2017.*

- **Marshall Islands - Marine Notice**

The Republic of the Marshall Islands has published a marine notice on oil filtering equipment and the control of operational discharges of oil as per MARPOL Annex I. [Read more.](#)

*Issued March/2017.*

- **Panama - Circular**

Panama has issued two merchant marine circulars on ballast water. The [first circular](#) is on recognised organisations authorised for the issuance of the provisional certificate under the International Ballast Water Management Convention, 2004 and the [second circular](#) is an update to the Panamanian ballast water policy.

*Issued March/2017.*

- **United Kingdom - MSN 1874**

The MCA has issued an updated Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN) on marine equipment. The notice is in regards to the Marine Equipment Directive 2014/90 of the EU. It should be read with the Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2016. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 08/03/2017.*

For full details of updates from flag States log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance](#).

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## Recent Class Society Guidance

- **DNV - Statutory Guidance**

DNV has issued a new statutory guidance article to give clarifications on ECDIS upgrading as a result of the new International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO's) standards. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 08/03/2017.*

- **Class NK - Technical News**

Class NK has issued TEC 1004 containing information on the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention in regards to treatment on Panamanian ships and the recently issued circular from Panama. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 13/03/2017.*

- **LR - Statutory Alert**

Lloyd's Register (LR) has issued a statutory alert on the application of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention. [Read more.](#)

Issued 14/03/2017.

To view all recent Class Society Guidance, log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance](#).

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**ECDIS**  
.....  
**PASSAGE PLANNING  
AND WATCHKEEPING**  
*3rd Edition*

Now in its third edition, this book has been fully revised and updated to provide practical guidance on the appraisal, planning, execution and monitoring stages of ECDIS passage planning, as well as on the correct use of ECDIS by the OOW in keeping the navigational watch.

**PRICE: £125**

**COMING SOON**

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## Recent P&I Club Guidance

- **The American Club**

### ***Alert - Ballast Water in the US***

The American Club has issued an alert to advise of an update to USCG ballast water requirements.

Reference is also made to their recent BWM Circular. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the American Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance](#).

- **GARD**

Two guidance notices have been issued this week, including:

### ***Alert - Ballast Water in the US***

GARD has issued an alert to advise that the USCG has provided additional 'post type-approval' guidance to its ballast water regulations. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by GARD log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance](#).

## The North P&I Club

Three guidance notices have been issued this week, including:

### **Article - Bunker Disputes**

The North P&I Club has issued guidance on bunker quantity disputes in regards to mass flow meters being used in Singapore. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the North P&I Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

- **The Shipowners' Club**

### **Article - Layup**

The Shipowners' Club has issued a brief guidance article on ships that are considered in layup and utilised for non-standard operations. They advise that ships must ensure compliance with the relevant certifying authority and/or flag and have a maintenance programme in place to maintain safety standards. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the Shipowners' Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

- **The Standard Club**

Three guidance notices have been issued this week, including:

### **Alert - Zika Virus**

The Standard Club has issued a web alert to advise that there has been a reported change in respect to the port entry requirements for vessels entering China from Zika affected countries. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the Standard Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

- **The Swedish Club**

Three guidance notices have been issued this week, including:

### **Alert - Panama Canal**

The Swedish Club has released an alert to advise of new mooring line requirements in the Panama Canal. Ships are required to have six manila or synthetic mooring lines forward and six aft, in good condition, prior to commencing the transit. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the Swedish Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

- **The UK P&I Club**

Three guidance notices have been issued this week, including:

### **Update - China**

The UK P&I Club has issued an update to advise of the Emission Control Area (ECAs) in the People's

Republic of China. They state that the port of Tianjin has recently imposed ship penalties. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the UK P&I Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

- **The West of England P&I Club**

### **News - Admiralty Courts**

The West of England P&I Club has advised that new Admiralty rules have been adopted in the English High Court on the use of electronic track data in collision claims and cases. A link to an explanatory PDF is included. [Read more.](#)

To view all notices issued by the West of England P&I Club log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

## **IMO - Meeting Summary NCSR 3**

The IMO has issued a [meeting summary](#) for the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications, Search and Rescue (NCSR), 3rd session, that took place between the 29th February and 4th March 2017. Among the subjects discussed:

- Galileo was recommended as a component of World Wide Radionavigation System
- Various ship routing systems were approved
- Draft amendments agreed for navigation around offshore multiple structures
- Updated SafetyNet and NAVTEX manuals agreed
- GMDSS review was completed, with a modernisation plan to be developed
- Recognition of Iridium as a GMDSS service provider was considered
- Standards for equipment to accommodate other GMDSS providers
- E-navigation work continued in discussion
- Harmonisation of aeronautical and maritime search and rescue

## **Other Regulations and Guidance in the News**

- **IMarEST - Overview of HTW 4**

The Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) has released an overview of the 4th Session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW 4). [Read more.](#)

- **News - Digital Navigational Warnings**

A new standard for digitalising navigational warnings is being developed by the European Union (EU). It is based on the International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO's) S-124 draft standard for Navigational

Warnings. [Read more.](#)

- **News - Polar Code**

The Polar Code, which came into effect on 1 January 2017, was one of the main topics discussed at the two-day 10th Arctic Shipping Summit. The need for further refinements and expansions to the Code was discussed. [Read more.](#)

- **OCIMF - Inert Gas**

OCIMF has issued a new information paper on Inert Gas Systems (IGS) concerning the use of inert gas for the carriage of flammable oil cargoes. [Read more.](#)

- **SIGTTO - Newsletter**

SIGTTO has released its Spring 2017 newsletter. [Read more.](#)

- **USCG - Towing**

The USCG has published an article to clarify the new policy letters on the US Code of Federal Regulations Subchapter M implementation (concerning towing vessels). [Read more.](#)

- **Warnings from IMO and INTERTANKO - Piracy**

The 'Aris 13', a small oil tanker, was hijacked off Somalia on the 13th March. This is the first commercial piracy hijacking in the region since 2012. The IMO has issued a [press release](#) to urge vigilance. They state that ships transiting the high-risk area are advised to follow IMO guidance and best management practices. INTERTANKO has also issued a [warning message](#) urging ships who use the area to do so with extreme caution.

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## Recent Accident Reports

- **Malta - Investigation Report**

The Maltese Marine Safety Investigation Unit (MSIU) has issued a marine investigation report on the engine room fire that occurred on the oil/chemical tanker 'Askara' off China. The fire was a result of a fuel oil leak that ignited after contact with the main engine exhaust manifold. [View Report.](#)

*Issued March/2017.*

- **Norway - Accident Report**

The Accident Investigation Board of Norway (AIBN) has published a report into the grounding of the ferry 'MF Godfjord'. The grounding occurred following a failure to keep a safe navigational watch; the Master failed to adequately monitor the autopilot and check the ship's position as his attention was

focused on completing work orders at the chart table. [View Report.](#)

*Issued March/2017.*

- **Sweden - Final Report**

The Swedish Accident Investigation Authority has published its final investigation report into the man overboard incident from the cargo ship 'Nordic Stani'. The casualty, the ship's Chief Engineer, has not been found and is assumed to have perished at sea. [View Report.](#)

*Issued 16/03/2017.*

For all recent accident reports, log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

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Visit [shippingregs.org](http://shippingregs.org) for  
more detailed guidance.

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## IMO Recent Circulars

- **MEPC.2/Circ.22/Corr.1 - 14/03/17**

PROVISIONAL CATEGORIZATION OF LIQUID SUBSTANCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH MARPOL ANNEX II AND THE IBC CODE. Corrigendum. [View Circular.](#)

- **NCSR 4/J/4/Rev.1 - 08/03/17**

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WORKING, EXPERTS AND DRAFTING GROUPS ESTABLISHED DURING NCSR 4 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NAVIGATION WORKING GROUP. [View Circular.](#)

- **NCSR 4/J/1 - 08/03/17**

PROVISIONAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS. [View Circular.](#)

- **NCSR 4/J/6 - 07/03/17**

LONG-RANGE IDENTIFICATION AND TRACKING OF SHIPS (LRIT). Status of the second modification testing (as of 6 March 2017). [View Circular.](#)

- **STCW.2/Circ.73 - 06/03/17**

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during December 2016. [View Circular.](#)

For all recent IMO public circulars, log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

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## Regulations Recently Entered into Force

IMO and ILO regulations and amendments that have entered into force this year include:

### From 1 January 2017 -

- Amendments to the 2010 Guidelines for Monitoring the Worldwide Average Sulphur Content of Fuel Oil Supplies for Use On-board Ships (MEPC.192(61))
- The Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and Code
- SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 19 - BNWAS
- International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low Flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code) - SOLAS
- The Polar Code and SOLAS XIV
- Amendments to the Annex of MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV and V (making the use of the environment-related provisions of the Polar Code mandatory)
- Amendments to Regulation 12 of MARPOL Annex I
- International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code (IMSBC Code) Amendment 03-15

### From 18 January 2017 -

- Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (on financial security arrangements for the protection of seafarers)

For a summary of the regulations and a full list of recent IMO regulations log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

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# A Guide to What's Happening at the IMO

- Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE) - 20th to 24th March 2017
- Facilitation Committee (FAL) - 4th to 7th April 2017
- Legal Committee (LEG) - 26th to 28th April 2017
- Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) - 7th to 16th June 2017
- Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) - 3rd to 7th July 2017
- Technical Co-operation Committee (TC) - 17th to 19th July 2017
- Council - 24th to 28th July 2017
- Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC) - 11th to 15th September 2017
- Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III) - 25th to 29th September 2017
- London Convention and Protocol Meetings - 9th to 13th October 2017
- Council (extraordinary session) - 20th to 24th November 2017
- Assembly - 27th November to 6th December 2017

For full details log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance](#).

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