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# Shipping Regulations & Guidance Your Weekly Update in Summary

Week 49, 2016

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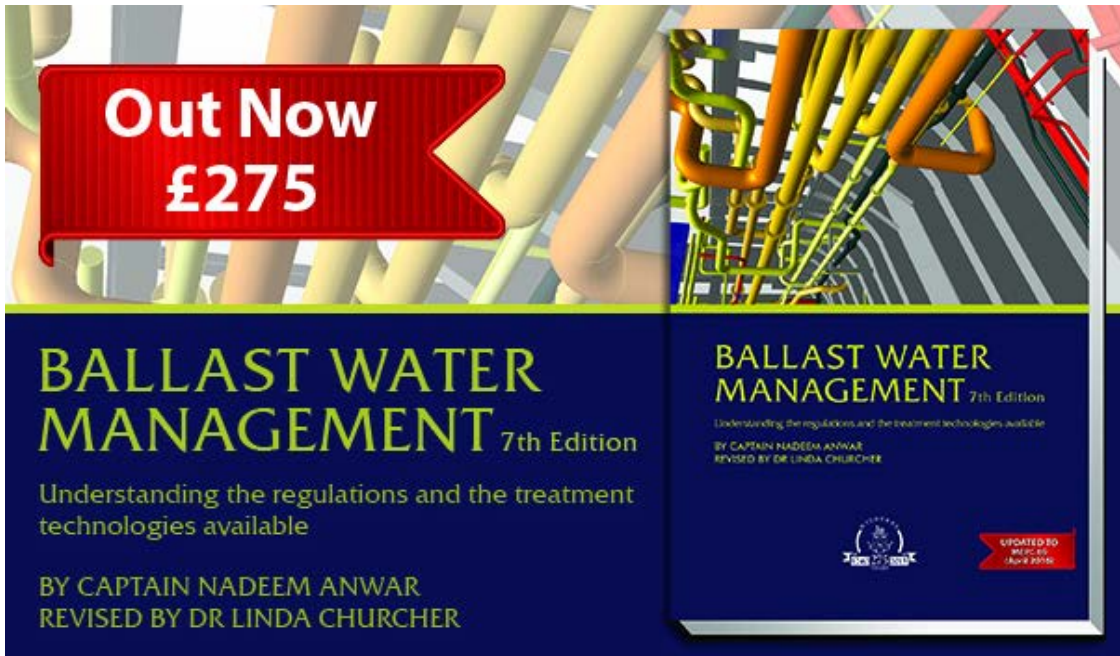


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## News - Ballast Water Update - First USCG Type Approval

On 2nd December 2016, the Optimarin OBS/OBS Ex ballast water management system was issued with a type approval certificate by the USCG Marine Safety Center. This is the first ballast water management system to be approved under the United States government testing regime. We have published a brief article to help explain the implications of this decision.

[CLICK HERE](#) To View Our USCG BWM Update Article



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## Recent Flag State Regulation and Guidance Updates

- **Bahamas - Technical Alert - STCW**

The Bahamas has issued a new Technical Alert detailing their approach to interpretation of the IMO guidance relating to seafarers who hold certificates and documents that do not comply with the 2010 amendments to the STCW Convention and Code. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 08/12/2016.*

- **Panama - Marine Circular - HRA**

The Panama Maritime Authority has issued a revised Merchant Marine Circular on High Risk Areas (HRAs) and precautionary zones. [Read more.](#)

*Issued December/2016.*

- **United Kingdom - MSN - Marine Equipment**

The UK MCA has issued a new Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN) on the Marine Equipment Directive, concerning 'other approval' and standards. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 02/12/2016.*

- **USA - Marine Bulletin - Ballast Water**

The USCG has published a Marine Safety Information Bulletin with an update on their Ballast Water Management (BWM) extension programme. [Read more.](#)

Issued 02/12/2016.

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

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## Recent Class Society Guidance

- **ABS - Rules and Guides - 2017**

The American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) has released new editions of its Rules and Guides for 2017.

These include steel vessel rules, offshore vessel rules, yacht rules, barge rules, bulk carrier rules and high speed craft rules. [Read more.](#)

Issued December/2016.

- **IRClass - Technical Circular - Tuvalu**

The Indian Register has released a technical circular containing guidance with regards to the Tuvalu marine circular on implementation of electronic documents and recognition of colour copies of original documents. [Read more.](#)

Issued December/2016.

- **Lloyd's Register - Statutory Alert - Hong Kong**

Lloyd's Register has released a statutory alert highlighting certification changes that affect Hong Kong flagged vessels with regards to anti-fouling systems (AFS). [Read more.](#)

Issued 05/12/2016.

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

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



## Recent P&I Club Guidance

- **American Club - Circular - MLC**

The American Club has issued a new circular on the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006, as amended, with regards to the application process for MLC certificates. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 02/12/2016.*

- **Standard Club - Alert - Chinese Ports**

The Standard Club has issued a web alert to advise that the winter months of December, January and February are the high season for theft on-board merchant ships in northern China. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 06/12/2016.*

- **UK P&I Club - Risk Focus - Engine Room**

The UK P&I Club has issued a risk focus report on engine room fires. They advise that engine room fires are one of the most common fires at sea and appropriate precautions and training should be taken. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 05/12/2016.*

- **West of England - News - Singapore**

The West of England P&I Club has issued an update news article on the new bunkering procedure in Singapore. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 02/12/2016.*

For a full list of recent P&I Club guidance log in to [Shipping Regulations & Guidance.](#)

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## Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- **News - Indian Ocean - Counter-Piracy**

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has now officially ended its counter-piracy mission in the Indian Ocean after a large decrease in the number of attacks. NATO has begun moving its resources to the Black Sea to act as a deterrent to Russia and also to prevent the illegal transportation of persons across the Mediterranean. [Read more.](#)

*Issued December/2016.*

- **Europe - EMSA Newsletter**

The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) has published its December newsletter. Some of the topics covered include a look by investigation experts and maritime administrations at fire safety on board ro-ro ferry decks; support in maintaining a hazardous materials inventory in light of the EU's ship recycling regulation and EMSA cost-effectiveness study of measures taken to implement the Port State Control Directive. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 06/12/2016.*

- **United Kingdom - Consultation Outcome**

The UK MCA has published the outcome on the consultation on the consolidation of the Merchant Shipping (Hours of Work) Regulations 2002 and amendments. The MCA will now take the consolidated regulations and MSN forward with amendments, with a view to bringing the regulations into force in April 2017. [Read more.](#)

*Issued 08/12/2016.*

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## Recent Accident Reports

- **Germany - Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation - Interim Investigation Report**

The German Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation has published a new interim investigation report on the fire of two cargoes of charcoal on the container ship 'MSC Katrina' on 20 November 2015 and on the container ship 'Ludwigshafen Express' on 21 February 2016. [Read Report.](#)

*Issued 02/12/2016.*

- **Malta - Marine Safety Investigation Unit - Final Report**

The Maltese government has published a new final accident report on the collision between the 'MV Maraki' and the 'MV Ivory Arrow' that occurred on 5 December 2015 in a TSS, with a crossing situation between Dover Strait and West Hinder. [Read Report.](#)

*Issued December/2016.*

- **UK - MAIB - Accident Investigation Report**

The United Kingdom Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) has published a new report on the loss of one life, following a man overboard situation, that occurred on the vessel 'Our Sarah Jane'. [Read Report.](#)

*Issued 08/12/2016.*

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

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### Service Update for the Christmas Holidays

On Friday 16th December 2016 subscribers will receive an email as usual. There will then be no email service from us for 2 weeks. The Shipping Regulations email will resume on Friday 6th January 2017. The team at [Witherby Publishing Group](#) would like to thank you for your continued interest in our email service and wish you, whether at home or at sea, a most Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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## IMO Recent Circulars

- **MSC.1/Circ.1560 - 06/12/16**

ADVICE FOR PARTIES, ADMINISTRATIONS, PORT STATE CONTROL AUTHORITIES AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS ON ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN CASES WHERE NOT ALL SEAFARERS CARRY CERTIFICATES AND ENDORSEMENTS MEETING THE 2010 MANILA AMENDMENTS TO THE STCW CONVENTION AND CODE FROM 1 JANUARY 2017. [View Circular.](#)

- **MEPC.2/Circ.22 - 01/12/16**

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

- **STCW.2/Circ.69 - 30/11/16**

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW), 1978, AS AMENDED. [View Circular.](#)

- **STCW.2/Circ.68 - 30/11/16**

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW), 1978, AS AMENDED. [View Circular.](#)

- **SN.1/Circ.244/Rev.1 - 15/11/16**

GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF THE UN/LOCODE IN THE DESTINATION FIELD IN AIS MESSAGES. [View Circular.](#)

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

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## A Guide to What's Happening at the IMO

- Council - 5th to 9th December 2016 - 117th session
- Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) - 16th to 20th January 2017
- Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW) - 30th January to 3rd February 2017
- Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC) - 13th to 17th February 2017
- Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation, Communication and SAR (NCSR) - 6th to 10th March 2017
- Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE) - 20th to 24th March 2017

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

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## IMO Regulations Recently Entered into Force

- **SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 19 - In Force 01/07/16**

Cargo ships, other than tankers, of 50,000 gross tonnage and upwards constructed before 1st July 2013, not later than the first survey on or after 1st July 2016, must be fitted with an ECDIS if engaged in international voyages. [Read more.](#)

- **SOLAS Chapter VI & Regulation XI-1/9 - In Force 01/07/16**

Updated cargo information requirements regarding mandatory verification of the gross mass for cargo carried in containers (Chapter VI, regulation 2); addition of new regulation 7 to Chapter XI-1 – Atmosphere testing instrument for enclosed spaces; updated details of life-saving appliances in Records of Equipment for Cargo Ship Safety Forms C and E (appendix). [Read more.](#)

- **ESP Code Amendments - In Force 01/07/16**

The 2011 ESP Code on the enhanced programme of inspections during surveys of bulk carriers and oil tankers is amended by the addition of sections related to rescue and emergency response equipment, the addition of sections relating to the Ship Construction File (SCF) and updated requirements for cargo tank testing. [Read more.](#)

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

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## DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS & FLAG STATE LEGISLATION

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