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IMO / UNITED NATIONS NEWS & EVENTS

IMO IN 2013

2013 saw IMO actively pursuing its targets and objectives in a wide range of subject areas. In these pages some of the highlights of what was a busy, varied and successful year for the Organization are presented. Full Story »

PROGRAMME OF IMO MEETINGS FOR 2014

IMO PRESS BRIEFINGS

IMO Secretary-General launches 2014 World Maritime Day theme: “IMO conventions: effective implementation”
Briefing: 04, January 21, 2014 Speech

IMO Secretary-General's New Year Address
Briefing: 03, January 21, 2014

Goal-Based Standards (GBS) verification process is underway
Briefing: 2, January 3, 2014

SOLAS, MARPOL amendments entered into force on 1 January 2014
Briefing: 01, January 2, 2014

Recent Speeches by IMO Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu

Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC), 1st session (closing remarks)

Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC), 1st session (opening address)

IMO PUBLISHING Just Published: 2014 January 2014 Newsletter
CASUALTIES AND SALVAGE


Chinese helicopter lifts passengers from stranded Russian research ship. By Helen Kelly. Lloyd's List [Online]. 2 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article434687.ece A Chinese helicopter has reached Russian research ship Akademik Shokalskiy stranded in Antarctica for nine days and is beginning to pick up passengers who spent Christmas and the new year trapped in ice.

MSC Monterey will sail on after provisional repairs. By Damian Brett. Lloyd's List [Online]. 2 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article434683.ece A provisional repair plan has been formulated for the 4,870 teu MSC Monterey which suffered a crack in its main deck as it sailed from Europe to North America.

Hanjin boxship and Nakilat LNG carrier collide. By Jing Yang. Lloyd's List [Online]. 6 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article434769.ece A 10,000 teu containership operated by Hanjin Shipping has been involved in a collision with a 216,224 cu m liquefied natural gas carrier operated by Qatar Gas Transport Co, also known as Nakilat, according to Lloyd's List Intelligence.


One killed, four injured in blast aboard chemical tanker off Turkey. By Tom Leander. Lloyd's List [Online]. 21 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/tankers/article435456.ece One crewmember was killed and four injured in an explosion aboard 6,300 dwt Tibil, a chemical tanker that was underway not far from Istanbul.


**Second collision off Singapore as NYK boxship collides with barge.** By Tom Leander. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 30 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435964.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435964.ece)  A second collision has taken place in Singapore waters within 12 hours when an NYK containership collided with the barge AZ Fuzhou early on Thursday at East Keppel Fairway about 2.4 miles south of Marina South.

**Chemical tanker and Cosco boxship collide in Straits of Singapore.** By Nicola Good. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 29 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435953.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435953.ece)  A Hong Kong-flagged chemical tanker Lime Galaxy is reported to have been involved in a collision with with China-flagged containership Fei He in the Strait of Singapore.


ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION


Downward trend in spills is maintained despite blip. *International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF)* [Online]. 14 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.itopf.co.uk/information-services/data-and-statistics/statistics/index.html](http://www.itopf.co.uk/information-services/data-and-statistics/statistics/index.html) ITOPF’s tanker spill statistics released today showed a slight increase in the number of large spills from tankers in 2013 compared to the previous two years but the downward trend is maintained.


Carriers to extend voluntary low-sulphur switch in Hong Kong ahead of 2015 mandate. By Jing Yang. *Lloyd’s List* [Online]. 21 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article435423.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article435423.ece) A total of 17 carriers have agreed to continue a voluntary low-sulphur fuel switch while at berth in Hong Kong for the year ahead before possible legislation mandates so in 2015, as the industry seeks to push forward inter-governmental talks over an emission control area that covers the entire Pearl River Delta region in South China.


Industry questions regulators’ understanding of vessel operations as emissions rules are debated.


Globe Express Services (GES), a leading global logistics provider, say they have appointed V4 Advisors, an environmental advisory services company with extensive experience in the field of emission reduction, energy and water audit, air pollution, and renewable energy, to help them significantly reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions.


Dubai Maritime City has launched a strategic initiative to focus on the sustainable future of the Emirate’s maritime industry in cooperation with Dubai Supreme Council of Energy.


The Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) and Alaska Maritime Prevention and Response Network (Network) today announced a "Strategic Alliance" to support NTVs in meeting new Federal regulations and enhance oil spill response in Western Alaska and Prince William Sound.


The Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) and Alaska Maritime Prevention and Response Network (Network) have formed a “Strategic Alliance” to support Non-Tank Vessels (NTVs) in meeting new Federal regulations and enhance oil spill response in Western Alaska and Prince William Sound.


Canada's Prince Rupert Port Authority (PRPA) has followed local Port Metro Vancouver to become the second in the world to offer financial incentives to vessels with low carbon emissions.


The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) confirms that the flow of natural gas from the A-7 well, Vermilion Block 356, located in the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 108 miles southwest of Lafayette, Louisiana, has been stopped by pumping weighted drilling fluids into the well.


The Prince Rupert Port Authority launched its Green Wave environmental stewardship program this month to further reward shippers for their commitment to sustainable practices.
Sea the future: New research on ocean conditions will aid planners. By David Smalley.  


**IMO**


IMO’s implementation theme. *Carbon Positive* [Online]. 31 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.carbonpositive.net/media-centre/industry-updates/2246-imos-implementation-theme.html](http://www.carbonpositive.net/media-centre/industry-updates/2246-imos-implementation-theme.html). There will be widespread approval within the industry for the 2014 theme for the International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) World Maritime Day, which will be "IMO conventions - effective implementation". A problem that is as old as IMO itself, the slow pace of implementation of IMO instruments has been regretted by successive IMO Secretary-Generals.
LAW AND POLICY


Masters and owners face increased risk of civil penalties for casualties. By Liz McMahon. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 15 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article435197.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article435197.ece) The increased use of “black box” data in casualty investigations means that masters and owners face greater civil penalties if they cannot accurately account for the sequence of events leading up to a casualty, a leading lawyer has warned.

Law firm fights to free Seaman Guard Ohio crew. By Liz McMahon. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 17 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article435303.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article435303.ece) Heavyweight law firm Ince & Co is campaigning to support the 35 men from *Seaman Guard Ohio* who have been imprisoned without trial in India following the vessel's detention on October 12.


MARINE TECHNOLOGY

The Japanese are developing greener sailboats. *Clean Technica* [Online]. 4 January 2014. Available from: [http://cleantechnica.com/2014/01/03/japanese-developing-greener-sailboats/](http://cleantechnica.com/2014/01/03/japanese-developing-greener-sailboats/) The government of Japan is working with a consortium of maritime shipping companies and the University Of Tokyo to develop more energy-efficient sailboats.


Next generation of boxships better equipped for the unexpected. By Janet Porter. *Lloyd’s List* [Online]. 27 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article435732.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article435732.ece) Containerships of the future will be stronger than those in service today and better able to cope with the unexpected, but new construction requirements should not add significantly to building costs.


**Alternative Fuels extended technical article** [PDF] [http://www.dnv.com/binaries/Alternative%20fuels%20feature%20story%202014%2001%2023_tcm4-592865.pdf](http://www.dnv.com/binaries/Alternative%20fuels%20feature%20story%202014%2001%2023_tcm4-592865.pdf)


Fuel efficient designs take a bow. By Sandra Speares. *Naval Architect*. 1 January 2014, pp 22-25. A number of new ship design have been realised over the last year with significant fuel savings for owners and reductions in emissions.


**MARITIME SECURITY**


Libyan navy opens fire to prevent tanker entering rebel-held port. By Liz McMahon. *Lloyd’s List* [Online]. 7 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article434878.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article434878.ece) Libya’s navy has fired warning shots at the Malta-flagged tanker Baku, accusing the ship of seeking to load crude illegally at the port of Es Sider, which has fallen into rebel hands.

**Seaman Guard Ohio** crew to remain in custody. By Liz McMahon. *Lloyd’s List* [Online]. 9 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article434980.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article434980.ece) An Indian judge has rejected the conditional bail granted to 35 crew members of Seaman Guard Ohio, who have been imprisoned following the vessel’s detention on October 18.


MARITIME TRAINING


NAVIGATION COMMUNICATIONS


Panama Canal has a Plan B if building work stops. By Roger Hailey. Lloyd's List [Online]. 2 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article434707.ece Panama Canal Administrator Jorge Quijano has a Plan B in place if construction firms halt work expanding the key waterway from January 19 in a dispute over $1.6bn of alleged overrun costs.

Channel Tunnel deja vu. By Roger Hailey. Lloyd's List [Online]. 3 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article434735.ece The Panama Canal expansion dispute, centred on $1.6bn in overrun construction costs, has echoes of a similar big ticket engineer project dispute, the Channel Tunnel between the UK and France.

Suez Canal invites bids for logistics hub master plan. By Roger Hailey.  *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 6 January 2014.  Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/l/sector/containers/article434820.ece  The Suez Canal Authority has invited 14 consortia to draw up master plans to develop the international waterway as an industrial and logistics hub and has set the ambitious deadline to select the winner within three months.

Bigger Panama Canal will bring unexpected boost to LNG shipping. By Hal Brown.  *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 6 January 2014.  Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/l/sector/tankers/article433529.ece  Expansion of the Panama Canal to allow passage for liquefied natural gas carriers in late 2015 is set to have a far greater impact on the LNG shipping market than previously thought, as new LNG export projects in the US are approved and others await approval, according to a new study.

Authority prepared to step in to complete Panama Canal expansion. By Roger Hailey.  *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 7 January 2014.  Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/l/sector/ship-operations/article434834.ece  The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) has "reaffirmed its commitment" to the international maritime community that it will "successfully complete" the strategic waterways' expansion programme.


Panama Canal expansion could be delayed three years, claims contractor. By Roger Hailey. Lloyd’s List [Online]. 9 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article434995.ece Salini Impregilo, the Italian member of the building consortium in a $1.6bn dispute on overrun costs with the Panama Canal Authority, has warned that the switch to a new contractor would delay the opening of an expanded canal by three years.


Impact of the Polar Code on engineering to be highlighted at forthcoming London-based arctic conference. IHS Maritime 360 [Online]. 17 January 2014. Available from: http://www.ihsmaritime360.com/article/10954/impact-of-the-polar-code-on-engineering-to-be-highlighted-at-forthcoming-london-based-arctic-conference The Polar Code has been under development at the IMO for a considerable length of time but will reach fruition during 2014 after which it will be offered to the various nations to ratify.

Joint financing plan for Panama Canal. By Roger Hailey. Lloyd’s List [Online]. 21 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article435469.ece GUPC, the consortium building the third set of locks for the Panama Canal, has proposed a co-financing deal to end the dispute on $1.6bn of project overrun costs.
Expanding Arctic ocean to get its own shipping rules. By Balazs Koranyi. *Reuters* [Online]. 21 January 2014. Available from: [http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/01/21/uk-arctic-shipping-idUKBREA0K0KL20140121](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/01/21/uk-arctic-shipping-idUKBREA0K0KL20140121). Maritime nations are close to a landmark deal on the Polar Code, aimed to improve safety, lead to lower insurance premiums and help the rise of traffic, industry insiders said.


PIRACY


Germany authorises more private security firms to protect flagged fleet. By David Osler. Lloyd's List [Online]. 3 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article434718.ece The number of private maritime security companies authorised to protect Germany-flagged vessels has risen from two to seven, according to a media report citing the country's Bundesamt fur Wirtschaft und Ausfuhrkontrolle, known as BAFA.

Safe anchorage area offers a 'Nigerian solution to a Nigerian problem'. By Liz McMahon. Lloyd's List [Online]. 6 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article434765.ece The newly launched safe anchorage area 10 miles from Lagos could act as an effective deterrent to piracy where other options remain limited, but its success will depend on how it is managed and price, according to industry experts.

Firm tackling Somali piracy expecting £12m turnover. By Alex Bell. Manchester Evening News [Online]. 6 January 2014. Available from: http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/business/business-news/port2port-maritime-ltd-headquartered-manchester-6469311 A security firm which works to tackle Somali piracy on ships is expecting a turnover of more than £12million – two years after it was founded.

Two kidnapped crewmen released off Nigeria. Maritime Executive [Online]. 8 January 2014. Available from: http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/Two-Kidnapped-Crewmen-Released-Off-Nigeria-2014-01-08/ A Ukrainian captain and Greek engineer who were kidnapped from their ship by pirates off the Nigerian coast last month have been released, the Greek coast guard said on Wednesday.


Dutch owners demand the right to use private maritime security companies. By David Osler. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 16 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435325.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435325.ece) The Dutch government must grant the country's shipowners the right to use private military security companies within a matter of months, the head of the main industry trade association in the Netherlands has demanded.


Eritrean forces board ship in Red Sea, not pirates: officials. *Reuters* [Online]. 19 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/01/19/us-somalia-hijack-idUSBREA0I03P20140119](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/01/19/us-somalia-hijack-idUSBREA0I03P20140119) Eritrean forces have boarded a merchant vessel that was in their territorial waters in an incident the crew initially reported as a pirate attack, maritime officials said on Sunday.


The year 2013 was certainly good for Nigeria as far as the international maritime scene is concerned. This is however not without the branding of the country early in the year as worse than Somalia on the issue of piracy.

Piracy and maritime crime in Nigerian waters is likely to move "closer to home" with only sporadic ventures farther afield into the Gulf of Guinea.

DYNACOM Tankers Management has confirmed that pirates hijacked 74,998 dwt, 2009 built *Kerala*, the product tanker that went missing on January 18 off Angola.

INTERTANKO'S recent amendments to its West Africa piracy clauses have sparked criticism, reflecting concerns about what geographical scope the new requirements cover.

The threat of prison is not a deterrent - armed guards are, says US academic.

A seafarer was injured when a gang of pirates boarded and hijacked the panamax tanker *Kerala* off Angola last week, Dynacom Tankers has revealed.

The Nigerian Navy has intercepted a Greek owned merchant tanker, *MT KERALA* allegedly hijacked off the coast of Luanda after a four day search in the Gulf of Guinea.

The president of the European Commission has said the issue of the Italian marines in India may have an "impact" on the European Union-India relations and "will be assessed carefully".

Suspect pirates apprehended by EU Naval Force flagship transferred to the Seychelles. *EU NAVFOR Somalia* [Online]. 30 January 2014. Available from: [http://email.netdreams.co.uk/t/ViewEmail/r/F03A4938598B27A92540EF23F30FEDED/C2393E5E5BE16A7AA0F01D70678E0DEE](http://email.netdreams.co.uk/t/ViewEmail/r/F03A4938598B27A92540EF23F30FEDED/C2393E5E5BE16A7AA0F01D70678E0DEE)
On 29 January 2014, international collaboration in the fight against piracy resulted in the transfer of five men by the EU Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) Somalia Operation Atalanta flagship, *FS Siroco*, to the Republic of Seychelles, with the aim of prosecuting them for acts of piracy.
**PORT STATE CONTROL**


Circulated to all 190 INTERPOL member countries the Notice, requested by New Zealand supported by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries, seeks information about the individuals and networks which own, operate and profit from the suspected illegal activities of the vessel, currently believed to be called ‘Thunder’.


A French military plane flying over Senegal's Exclusive Economic Zone detected some of the same vessels that had been stripped of their licences continuing to fish in these waters.


Oleg Naydenov, a 108 metre long Russian-flagged trawler that is no stranger to law-breaking in Senegal.


Filipino workers stuck on a ship at Tilbury are owed almost £100,000 in wages... with some having not been paid for three months.

**PORTS AND HARBOURS**


Europe's port user community has urged Members of the European Parliament to avoid further dilution of proposed port services regulation that would create "empty shell" legislation.


Marshall Islands-flagged general cargo and container carrier *Isis* has been arrested at Tilbury, UK, amid claims by the International Transport Workers' Federation that the crew is owed at least $130,000 in back pay.

**RECYCLING OF SHIPS**


With 1119 ships broken up this year, 2013 confirms the good health of the ship-breaking industry.
SAFETY


Liquefaction risk rises after lifting of Indian iron ore export ban. By Tom Leander. Lloyd's List [Online]. 24 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/dry-cargo/article435680.ece The London P&I Club has sounded an alarm that liquefaction of ore cargos – iron ore as well as nickel – is a risk for owners and their crews following the lifting of the ban on iron ore export by the Indian Supreme Court in December.


NOAA satellites helped save 253 people last year. U.S.National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) [Online]. 17 January 2014. Available from: http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2014/20140117_sarsatrescue.html The same NOAA satellites that helped forecasters predict severe weather, such as the Moore, Okla., tornado last May and November's deadly Midwest tornado outbreak, also played a key role in rescuing 253 people from potentially life-threatening scenarios throughout the United States and its surrounding waters last year.

Royal Caribbean international statement regarding Explorer of the Seas. Royal Caribbean Press Centre [Online]. 26 January 2014. Available from: http://www.royalcaribbeanpresscenter.com/press-release/1069/royal-caribbean-international-statement-regarding-explorer-of-the-seas/ Explorer of the Seas will return home from its 10-day cruise two days early, after an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness that spiked over the weekend. New reports of illness have decreased day-over-day, and many guests are again up and about.


Since the *Concordia* shipwreck, safety advances and room for improvement. By Hannah Sampson. *Miami Herald* [Online]. 12 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/01/12/3867369/since-the-concordia-shipwreck.html](http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/01/12/3867369/since-the-concordia-shipwreck.html) In the two years since the deadly *Costa Concordia* shipwreck, cruise companies have taken steps to improve safety and comfort when systems fail. But is it enough?


*Maritime Maisie* fire put out as owner renews calls for place of refuge. By Tom Leander. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 17 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/tankers/article435357.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/tankers/article435357.ece) The fire on board 44,404 dwt chemical tanker *Maritime Maisie* has been put out, but the ship still lacks permission to sail to a place of refuge in either Japan or South Korea.


SEAFARERS

Stranded sailors signal more danger than Somali pirates. Bloomberg [Online]. 15 January 2014. Available from: http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-01-15/stranded-sailors-signal-more-danger-than-somali-pirates.html. The Moldova-flagged cargo ship JSM had been tethered in the Greek port of Kiato for more than five months. The freighting's owner couldn't be reached, according to the captain, and there was no money for salaries or supplies.


Isis crew receive back pay but await money for repatriation costs. By Liz McMahon. Lloyd's List [Online]. 31 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article436150.ece. Following the arrest of general cargo vessel Isis, operators Derna Carriers have paid its crew $132,000 in back pay but face a five-day deadline for repatriation costs.


SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIR

CSCL upgrades container newbuildings to 19,000 teu. By Jing Yang. Lloyd's List [Online]. 20 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article435398.ece. China Shipping Container Lines has upgraded its five 18,400 teu newbuildings at Hyundai Heavy Industries to 19,000 teu, topping the world's record in the size of containerships, according to the shipbuilder.

SHIPPING


Evaluation of the Arctic Shipping Season 2013. By Kathrin Keil. Arctic Institute [Online]. 13 January 2014. Available from: http://www.thearcticinstitute.org/ Volumes shipped along the NSR are predicted to grow to 4 million per year in 2015, 65 million tons in 2020 and even 120 million tons in 2030, predominantly due to the rapid growth of oil and gas development in Russia.


Marshall Islands flag reaches 100m gt milestone. By Nigel Lowry. Lloyd's List [Online]. 30 January 2014. Available from: http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article435975.ece The Marshall Islands Registry has reached the magic 100m gt mark with a pair of tanker deliveries this week to Scorpio Group, one of the flag's fastest-growing users.


2013 events likely to affect box shipping for years to come. By Janet Porter. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 21 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article435458.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/containers/article435458.ece) Five major stories dominated the container shipping industry in 2013: a price war, the arrival of the new generation of ultra-large boxships, a maritime catastrophe, plans to establish the biggest vessel-sharing agreement to date and an antitrust investigation.

**US holds all the cards in LPG. By Hal Brown.** *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 31 January 2014. Available from: [http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/tankers/article436121.ece](http://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/tankers/article436121.ece) A lot is riding on exports of liquefied petroleum gas from the US: shipping companies have been set up in recent months specifically to target opportunities to carry the expected surge in the country's LPG exports.


**SPECIAL REPORTS**

**Green Shipping.** *Naval Architect*. 1 January 2014, pp 22-29.

**Ice Class.** *Naval Architect*. 1 January 2014, pp 30-37.
RESEARCH ARTICLES


http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1088937X.2013.845859#.Uvnm1LR_KSo


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About the cover:

The CAB Cover is a photograph of the international memorial to the world’s seafarers, past, present and future which graces the entrance to IMO Headquarters in London. The memorial, a seven-metre high, ten-tonne bronze representation of the bow of a cargo ship with a lone seafarer on the deck, is the work of internationally renowned British sculptor Michael Sandle.