About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

The aim of the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB) is to provide a digest of news and publications focusing on subject areas related to the work of IMO. Each CAB issue presents headlines from the previous month. For copyright reasons, the Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB) contains excerpts only. Links to the complete articles or abstracts on publishers' sites are included when available, though access may require payment or subscription.

The MKC Current Awareness Bulletin is published monthly and issues from the current and the past year are free to download from this page.

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CONTENTS

IMO / UNITED NATIONS NEWS & EVENTS .................................................................................................................. 2

INDUSTRY NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

CASUALTIES .................................................................................................................................................. 4
ENVIRONMENT ........................................................................................................................................... 7
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ..................................................................................................................... 10
HEALTH AND SAFETY .............................................................................................................................. 12
IMO ................................................................................................................................................................. 12
LAW AND POLICY ..................................................................................................................................... 13
MARINE TECHNOLOGY ............................................................................................................................ 20
MARITIME SAFETY .................................................................................................................................. 22
MARITIME SECURITY ............................................................................................................................... 22
MARITIME TRAINING ................................................................................................................................ 24
MIGRANTS .................................................................................................................................................... 27
NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATIONS ................................................................................................. 28
PIRACY ......................................................................................................................................................... 30
PORT STATE CONTROL ............................................................................................................................... 30
PORTS AND HARBOURS ............................................................................................................................ 31
RECYCLING OF SHIPS ............................................................................................................................... 32
REGULATIONS ............................................................................................................................................ 33
SEARCH AND RESCUE ............................................................................................................................... 36
SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIR ............................................................................................................ 37
SHIPPING .................................................................................................................................................... 38
RESEARCH ................................................................................................................................................... 46
WHAT’S NEW

Kenya’s Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology to host Africa Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre

International Maritime Organization (IMO) has announced that Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya, has been selected to host the regional Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre (MTCC) for the Africa region, under an ambitious project, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by IMO, to help mitigate the harmful effects of climate change.

Under the Global MTTC Network (GMN) project, JKUAT will host MTCC-Africa in collaboration with Kenya Ports Authority and Kenya Maritime Authority. The selection of JKUAT followed a competitive international tendering process.

In December 2016, IMO announced that Shanghai Maritime University in China will host MTCC-Asia, while the University of Trinidad and Tobago will host MTCC-Caribbean.

In the coming months two further MTCCs will be established in other target regions - Latin America and the Pacific – to form a global network of such centres.

The five regional MTCCs will deliver the agreed project milestones over a three-year period, making a significant contribution to IMO’s continuing, widespread efforts to ensure effective implementation and enforcement of the global energy-efficiency regulations for international shipping.  Full Story: Briefing 8 - 03/02/2017

IMO MEETINGS FOR 2017

Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC)
4th session, 13 – 17 February 2017

IMO PRESS BRIEFINGS

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE  (Issue 4, 2016)

IMO PUBLISHING  Just Published: 2017  February 2017 Newsletter

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

European Shipping Week Event – Safety in the Intermodal Supply Chain
27 February 2017, Brussels, Belgium

Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC),
4th session, 13 – 17 February 2017 (Opening remarks)
UNITED NATIONS NEWS

High-level event underscores urgency and importance of conserving oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) [Online]. 14 February 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/B7oZlr With an estimated 40 percent of the world's oceans heavily affected by unsustainable practices, global leaders are gearing up for an historic Ocean Conference (June 5-9), to renew momentum towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, 'Life Below Water'.

UN chief Guterres announces steps towards reforming Organization's peace and security architecture. UN News Centre [Online]. 14 February 2017. Available from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56173 United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres today announced the establishment of an internal review team that will take forward the reforms to the UN Secretariat peace and security strategy, functioning and architecture, which he outlined when he was appointed the Secretary-General last year.

UN kicks off preparations for upcoming summit on oceans, launches voluntary commitment website. UN News Centre [Online]. 15 February 2017. Available from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56179 The world dumps the equivalent of one garbage truck of plastic into the ocean every minute, the United Nations heard today at the start of a two-day meeting to prepare for this June's Ocean Conference that will aim to help safeguard the planet's oceans and help them recover from human-induced problems.

**CASUALTIES**


Rough seas hinder tow of cargo ship broken down off southwest Newfoundland.
The foreign cargo ship which has been disabled and floating off the southwestern coast of Newfoundland since Tuesday is still waiting to be towed.

Cruise ship bound for NZ drifting off the coast of Australia after breaking down.
Thousands of distressed passengers are onboard a cruise ship bound for New Zealand that has broken down and is drifting off the coast of Australia.

A ferry crashed into a pier on the Isle of Man as the captain tried to dock in strong winds.

Tugs and firefighters were deployed this morning to Algoa Bay in South Africa where a number of boxes on the 6,350 teu APL Austria had caught fire, leading to the majority of the ship's crew to evacuate.

The Seabourn Encore berthed at the Port of Timaru this morning and, according to the Port's website, was due to leave for Akaroa about 6pm.

Fire on cargo vessel at Port of Ngqurha under control: SAMSA.
Work to salvage the last batch of about 32 containers in hatch No4 of the fire ravaged Liberian flagged cargo vessel currently docked at the port of Ngqurha was due to begin on Wednesday morning, on condition that the fire in the hold had been successfully extinguished, the South African Maritime Authority (SAMSA) reported on Tuesday night.

Specialist hazardous cargo fire experts have been flown in from London and Austria to assist with extinguishing the fire aboard a container ship docked at the Port of Ngqura.

El Faro hearing told there was no safety training for Polish workers on the ship.
A Polish electrician who had worked on El Faro in the past, on Wednesday told the hearing into the cargo ship's sinking that he and his fellow nationals aboard were never formally given safety procedure training.


Remembering the Leros Strength. By John Dalziel, Department of Industrial Engineering, Dalhousie University. *Maritime Executive* [Online]. 25 February 2017. Available from: http://maritime-executive.com/editorials/remembering-the-leros-strength Twenty years ago this month, on February 8, 1997 the master of the *Leros Strength* contacted the rescue co-ordination center in Stavanger, Norway, requesting immediate assistance. After approximately three minutes the radio contact was abruptly cut off.

At around 3:45am today (Friday 24 February 2017) UK Coastguard was notified of a fire on board the US car carrier ‘Honor’ in the English Channel whilst it was on route to Baltimore from Southampton.


The *Al Khattiya* LNG carrier, owned by Qatar’s Nakilat and managed by Shell’s shipping unit Stasco, has suffered damage on its starboard side after a collision with an oil tanker off Fujairah.


Officials in Ecuador are coordinating the environmental response and salvage of the general cargo ship *Isla Bartolome*, which ran aground and partially sank last Thursday in the main shipping channel from the port of Guayaquil.

ENVIRONMENT


Brace yourselves for a climate change showdown at the G20 in July.


China backs UN conference on ocean development. By Wang Qingyun. *China Daily.Com* [Online]. 8 February 2017. Available from: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-02/08/content_28141802.htm Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said on Wednesday that China will actively take part in the preparation for The Ocean Conference the UN will hold in New York from June 5 to June 9, and will make its own contributions to the sustainable development of oceans.


Ocean literacy conference to be held in Malta. *Times of Malta* [Online]. 13 February 2017.
Available from: [http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20170213/environment/ocean-literacy-conference-to-be-held-in-malta.639506](http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20170213/environment/ocean-literacy-conference-to-be-held-in-malta.639506) The European Marine Science Educators Association event will focus on promoting a greater awareness of the sea and the role it plays in human lives as laid down in the seven principles of ocean literacy.

Dolphin populations 'will take 40 years to recover from *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill'.
By Kirsteen Paterson. *The National (Scotland)* [Online]. 13 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/GuVMPh](http://www.goo.gl/GuVMPh) It will take 40 years for dolphins in the Gulf of Mexico to recover from the devastating *Deepwater Horizon* disaster, an international study has found.


The Digital Ocean: Our Next Information Frontier. By Gary Gysin. *Scientific American* [Online]. 16 February 2017. Available from: https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/guest-blog/the-digital-ocean-our-next-information-frontier/ When the term Information Highway was coined, little did the majority of the world realize the impact this concept and the resulting Internet Superhighway would have on humanity.

Scientists have just detected a major change to the Earth’s oceans linked to a warming climate. By Chris Mooney. *Washington Post* [Online]. 15 February 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/Ztss3Y A large research synthesis, published in one of the world’s most influential scientific journals, has detected a decline in the amount of dissolved oxygen in oceans around the world - a long-predicted result of climate change that could have severe consequences for marine organisms if it continues.

Our oceans need protecting. This is how we can help. By Jose Maria Figueres, Pascal Lamy, and John D. Podesta. *World Economic Forum* [Online]. 17 February 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/vdYO76 The ocean is changing - and not for the better.

The Biggest Environmental Challenges of 2017. *Nature Conservancy* [Online]. 2 February 2017. Available from: https://global.nature.org/content/environment2017 The environmental challenges the world faces have never been greater or more complex.


The WWF is promoting the principles of sustainable blue economy for the Northern Mozambique Channel. *WWF* [Online]. 24 February 2017. Available from: http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/search_wwf_news/?293270/The-WWF-is-promoting-the-principles-of-sustainable-blue-economy-for-the-Northern-Mozambique-Channel On the sidelines of preparatory meeting on February 15, 2017 at the UN headquarters in New York, the WWF presented the principles of sustainable blue economy and in particular the main lines of its Western Indian Ocean Economy Report.


**ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**


Air quality on cruise ships '20 times worse' than in a busy city centre. By Soo Kim. *The Telegraph* [Online]. 1 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/cruises/news/air-pollution-levels-200-times-higher-on-cruise-ships/](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/cruises/news/air-pollution-levels-200-times-higher-on-cruise-ships/) Passengers on a cruise ship could be inhaling "60 times higher concentrations of harmful air pollutants " than they would in natural air settings, Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU), a German environmental association, has warned.

Extreme air pollution levels found on deck of cruise ship.

Effects of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill on Sea Turtles and Marine Mammals.

Clean-up enters final lap, but ecological concerns loom. By S V Krishna Chaitanya.
New Indian Express [Online]. 8 February 2017. Available from: http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/2017/feb/17/clean-up-enters-final-lap-but-ecological-concerns-loom.html The Coast Guard on Tuesday claimed that the clean-up has entered the final lap and Dornier aircraft were deployed to ensure there are no traces of oil in the sea.


New Study Helps Explain How Garbage Patches Form in the World’s Oceans.


Oil in sea could persist in environment for months if not removed: ITOPF study.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**Good Knowledge Of Nutrition Must Be High On The Agenda For Catering Crews To Beat Fatigue In Seafarers – Says MCTC.** *Hellenic Shipping News* [Online]. 9 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/good-knowledge-of-nutrition-must-be-high-on-the-agenda-for-catering-crews-to-beat-fatigue-in-seafarers-says-mctc/](http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/good-knowledge-of-nutrition-must-be-high-on-the-agenda-for-catering-crews-to-beat-fatigue-in-seafarers-says-mctc/) Crew members must be provided with nutritionally-balanced meals while onboard to avoid high levels of fatigue, says catering training provider Marine Catering Training Consultancy (MCTC) following the findings of InterManager's recent study into tiredness levels.

**IMO**


**JKUAT to Host IMO's Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre.** *Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (Kenya)* [Online]. 6 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.jkuat.ac.ke/jkuat-host-imos-maritime-technology-cooperation-centre/](http://www.jkuat.ac.ke/jkuat-host-imos-maritime-technology-cooperation-centre/) Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology has won an international competitive bid to host the regional Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre (MTCC) for the Africa region.

**IMO will for the first time work from an exact strategy.** *ShippingWatch* [Online]. 13 February 2017. Available from: [http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9362370.ece](http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9362370.ece) A new strategy for the International Maritime Organization, IMO, will break from the historically very wide focus employed by the UN's maritime body.

IBIA raises awareness of sulphur compliance verification challenges at IMO. 

On January 17 this year, IBIA put on a lunchtime presentation in the main hall at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for delegations attending the fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 4).

New complex to spur achieving of maritime authority's agenda. By Gitonga Marete.  

The Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) has begun constructing a Sh1.8 billion building that will house its headquarters and the Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre (MTCC) for Africa region.

**LAW AND POLICY**

Why Singapore and friends cannot ignore the new Silk Road. By Andre Wheeler. 

At the recent briefing looking at China's One Belt One Road strategy and Myanmar opportunities, held in Yangon, attendance was good and the discussion robust.

Court to solve Kenya, Somalia maritime border dispute. By John Njagi.  

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) will on Thursday rule on a case filed by Kenya in its maritime border dispute with Somalia, the Attorney-General said.

UT researchers looking for possibilities for sustainable growth of maritime economy in the Gulf of Finland and the Archipelago Sea.  

Within the Estonian-Finnish joint project Plan4Blue "Maritime Spatial Planning for Sustainable Blue Economies", UT researchers are studying the possibilities for planning and developing marine and maritime economies in the era of high and rapidly increasing demand for maritime space.

Trump executive order to impact shipping. By Dale Wainwright.  

President Trump's executive order restricting entry to the US by citizens from seven predominantly Muslim countries could impact the shipping sector, say P&I Clubs.

Shipping Ministry orders inquiry into oil spill from Chennai ship collision.  
By C Shivakumar.  

The Union Shipping Ministry ordered an inquiry into the collision of cargo ships *M V Dawn Kancheepuram*, owned by Mumbai-based Arya Group and British vessel *B W Maple*. 
SHIPPING FEATURE: Sulfur emission cap - 2020 deadline fuelling challenges. 
By Sameer Mohindru and Shriram Sivaramakrishnan.  
Bunkerworld [Online]. 31 January 2017.  Available from:  
Legal frameworks and detection methods remain inadequate, and fines and sanctions are currently up to the individual member countries to enforce.

Arctic heavy-fuel oil ban backed by EU political groups.  
https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/arctic-heavy-fuel-oil-ban-backed-eu-political-groups  
Today's vote by MEPs to call for a ban on the use of heavy fuel oil (HFO), the dirtiest of all fuel types, by ships when operating in the Arctic has been welcomed by sustainable transport group Transport & Environment.

Protect the Arctic from emerging risks, urge MEPs.  
As the geopolitical importance of the Arctic region is growing, with climate change effects and competition for natural resources bringing new environmental and security risks for the region and for the world, the EU should speak with one voice and push to keep the Arctic an area of cooperation, says a resolution adopted by the Foreign Affairs and Environment committees on Tuesday.

Oman holds oil spill emergency preparedness drill.  
By Gautan Viswanathan.  
Times of Oman [Online]. 31 January 2017.  Available from:  
Petroleum Development Oman, in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Affairs and Oman Petroleum and Environmental Services Company (PESCO), organised a drill on Monday morning to simulate the preparedness of emergency response units when faced with an oil spill.

Philippines’ Duterte asks China to patrol piracy-plagued waters.  
By Manuel Mogato.  
Reuters [Online]. 31 January 2017.  Available from:  
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippine-militants-china-idUSKBN15F1AV  
Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Tuesday said he had asked China to help in the fight against Islamic State-linked militants by sending ships to patrol southern waters plagued by raids on commercial vessels.

Court to declare Hanjin Shipping bankrupt on Feb. 17.  
Yonhap News Agency (South Korea) [Online]. 2 February 2017.  Available from:  
http://www.goo.gl/G8WEAI  
A South Korean court said Thursday that it has decided to end a rehabilitation plan for embattled Hanjin Shipping Co., heralding the liquidation of the country’s one-time top shipping line.

Namibia and Germany Initial Merchant Shipping Agreement.  
On 31 January 2017, after two days of negotiations, government delegations of Germany and Namibia initialled a bilateral merchant shipping agreement in Windhoek.

Maersk Line fined by Russia for alleged price fixing.  
By Lena Rutkowski.  
ShippingWatch [Online]. 6 February 2017.  Available from:  
http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article9345099.ece  
The Russian competition authorities, FAS, have issued Maersk Line with a fine of USD 12 million for allegedly fixing prices together with several competitors on the Russian market, in a case when began in 2013.
The Philippines ratified MARPOL and its Annexes I to V in 2000.


Ship operators see limited impact from China's new emission control areas. 
The expansion of China's emission control area or ECA rules to several key ports from the start of 2017 has had little impact on ship operators and owners due to low bunker fuel prices and ample preparation time, market sources said recently.

During a port state control of the "Amber 1" on Feb 7, 2017, the water police in Kiel found false waste and missing notices and suspected that food waste was disposed of at sea.


Chennai Port Trust to procure response vessel after Kamarajar port oil spill. By C Shivakumar. *New Indian Express* [Online]. 16 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/Opdp1t9](http://www.goo.gl/Opdp1t9) Chennai Port Trust is now taking steps to augment its capacity to contain oil spills by planning to have an oil spill response vessel.


Italian court investigates whether smugglers finance rescue boats. By Antonella Cinelli and Steve Scherer. *Reuters* [Online]. 17 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.reuters.com/article/europe-migrants-italy-ngo-idUSL8N1G24W2](http://www.reuters.com/article/europe-migrants-italy-ngo-idUSL8N1G24W2) Feb 17 The chief prosecutor of a Sicilian court said on Friday that a task force is looking into whether people smugglers may be financing rescue boats run by humanitarian groups that operate off the coast of Libya.


MARINE TECHNOLOGY


Forget Autonomous Cars—Autonomous Ships Are Almost Here. By Oskar Levander, VP Innovation, Rolls Royce. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) [Online]. 28 January 2017. Available from: http://spectrum.ieee.org/transportationmarine/forget-autonomous-cars-autonomous-ships-are-almost-here My colleagues and I at Rolls-Royce anticipate that the first commercial vessel to navigate entirely by itself could be a harbor tug or a ferry designed to carry cars the short distance across the mouth of a river or a fjord and that it or similar ships will be in commercial operation within the next few years.

AkzoNobel and partners developing drone technology to make marine industry safer. AkzoNobel [Online]. 1 February 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/x17fsD Safety in the marine industry is set to be improved after AkzoNobel, oil and gas tanker operator Barrier Group and DroneOps joined forces to develop a drone capable of remotely inspecting enclosed spaces and ballast water tanks.

MPA Expands MOU with DNV GL to include Autonomous Systems and Intelligent Shipping. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) [Online]. 3 February 2017. Available from: http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/6172e16c-583f-4b79-8fa9-d7f3adca81ca A memorandum of understanding (MOU) to promote research and development (R&D) and innovation in the maritime industry was renewed between DNV GL and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) today.


**MARITIME SAFETY**

**Increase in frequency of fires onboard car/ro-ro passenger vessels.** *Ship Management International* [Online]. 8 February 2017. Available from:  
The International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI) has today (Wednesday) published a position paper voicing its concerns with fires on ro-ro passenger vehicles.

Position Paper  
The deadly fires aboard the ferries "Norman Atlantic" just before New Year 2014 and the "Sorrento" in April 2015, prompted an international response from the UN International Maritime Organization (IMO) in May 2015.

**New route to compliance for ferries.** *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)* [Online]. February 2017. Available from:  
https://www.rina.org.uk/New_route_to_compliance_for_ferries.html  
Passenger ship safety was high on the agenda at the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee meeting MSC 97 in November as regulators pushed forward with new proposals on damage stability and "survivability" in the event of a collision. For the moment, changes to the rules must wait, with further work on the proposals deemed necessary before the MSC meets again in June next year.

**Safety discrepancies addressed, Majesty cleared to sail by USCG. By Anne Kalosh.** *Seatrade Cruise News* [Online]. 14 February 2017. Available from:  
Royal Caribbean International's *Majesty of the Seas* sailed Tuesday afternoon from Port Canaveral after safety discrepancies were addressed, a US Coast Guard public affairs officer said.

**MARITIME SECURITY**

**EU boosts Libya coastguard training to stem migrant flow.** *EurActiv* [Online]. 31 January 2017. Available from:  
The European Union on Monday (30 January) kicked off the second stage of a training scheme for Libya's coastguard to stem the trafficking of migrants.

https://www.marad.dot.gov/msci/advisory/2017/22729/  
This message announces the launch of the new U.S. Maritime Advisory System, which represents the most significant update since 1939 to the U.S. government process for issuing maritime security alerts and advisories.

**Shipping industry vulnerable to cyber attacks and GPS jamming. By Luke Graham.** *CNBC* [Online]. 1 February 2017. Available from:  
The shipping industry is increasingly at risk from cybersecurity attacks and a gap in insurance policies is leaving them vulnerable, industry experts have told CNBC.

Addressing maritime insecurity in the Horn of Africa. *Oceans Beyond Piracy* [Online]. February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/gV5pn6](http://www.goo.gl/gV5pn6) Recent security incidents targeted at both military and commercial vessels in the Horn of Africa may indicate an evolving maritime threat that could lead to major maritime disruptions, particularly in the Bab el Mandeb.


Dignity Operation seizes foreign commercial ship en route to Misrata.


Coast Guard offloads in Puerto Rico over $125 million dollars' worth of seized cocaine interdicted in the Atlantic Ocean. *United States Coast Guard* [Online]. 27 February 2017. Available from: https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1897163 The Coast Guard offloaded Monday approximately 4.2 tons of seized cocaine, worth an estimated $125 million in wholesale value, at Coast Guard Sector San Juan.

**MARITIME TRAINING**


Most Training Providers Expect to Implement Revised International Maritime Standards by the Deadline Despite Challenges. US Government Accountability Office (GAO) [Online]. 31 January 2017. Available from: http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-17-40 Most training providers (80 percent) who responded to GAO's survey reported that they were satisfied with guidance the U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) provided to assist them in implementing the revised International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) requirements.

Yong: Time for a maritime academy. Daily Express (Malaysia) [Online]. 2 February 2017. Available from: http://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news.cfm?NewsID=115496 Tragic incidents at sea, which could have been avoided, can be greatly reduced if Sabah has complete infrastructure for its maritime economy and a culture of professionalism among a pool of trained mariners backed by fully equipped maritime authorities.


Debunking the human error myth. By Professor Margareta Lützhöft. Australian Maritime College [Online]. 6 February 2017. Available from: http://www.amc.edu.au/about-amc/news-and-events/news-items/debunking-the-human-error-myth Over the last decades, the divide between humans and systems is widening as technology - which now intrudes on almost all aspects of our lives - frequently fails to be designed for the person who will be using it.


Grupo Navega supporting the Boarding Program for Maritime Cadets. All About Shipping [Online]. 11 February 2017. Available from: http://www.allaboutshipping.co.uk/2017/02/11/grupo-navega-supporting-the-boarding-program-for-maritime-cadets/ Capt. Antonio M. Padrón y Santiago, "IMO Maritime Ambassador" and Maritime Authority of Tenerife, held a meeting with Mr. Sergio W. Smit, CEO of GRUPO NAVEGA, during his visit to Tenerife.


Skills training for seagoing Engineering Cadets. *Cape Peninsula University of Technology (South Africa)* [Online]. 23 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.cput.ac.za/newsroom/news/article/3292/skills-training-for-seagoing-engineering-cadets](http://www.cput.ac.za/newsroom/news/article/3292/skills-training-for-seagoing-engineering-cadets) In yet another first for the African continent, CPUT has teamed up with industry and the College of Cape Town (CCT) to launch a project to boost the skills of marine engineering students.


MEDITERRANEAN MIGRANT ARRIVALS REACH 5,483 DEATHS AT SEA: 253.
IOM reports that 5,483 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 29 January.

We reaffirm our determination to act in full respect of human rights, international law and European values, and in conjunction with UNHCR and IOM.

EU leaders are discussing plans to stop people embarking from Libya by reaching Europe's shores, the details of which seem unworkable, counterproductive and morally dubious, writes Imogen Sudbery.

MEDITERRANEAN MIGRANT ARRIVALS REACH 11,010; DEATHS: 255.
IOM reports that 11,010 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 5 February – about 85 percent arriving in Italy and the rest in Greece.

LEGAL MIGRATION, RIGHTS, PROTECTION FOR VULNERABLE AFRICAN MIGRANTS KEY TO IMPLEMENTATION OF 2015 VALLETTA ACTION PLAN: IOM. International Organization for Migration (IOM) [Online]. 7 February 2017. Available from: http://www.iom.int/news/legal-migration-rights-protection-vulnerable-african-migrants-key-implementation-2015-valletta/IOM will highlight the need for more legal channels, better migrant protection and the centrality of human rights in its contribution to discussions starting Wednesday (8/2) at the first intercontinental, high-level meeting to follow up on progress made since the Valletta Summit on Migration held in November 2015.

MORE RESCUE BOATS, MORE MIGRANTS DROWNING IN THE MED. By Natalie Huet. Euronews [Online]. 15 February 2017. Available from: http://www.euronews.com/2017/02/15/more-rescue-boats-more-migrants-drowning-in-the-med Yet the number of people dying en route from Libya to Italy has hit a record high, as smugglers pack ever more people onto unseaworthy boats.

Risk Analysis for 2017

ICS CALLS ON UN TO ACT ON MIGRANT DEATHS. By Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd's List [Online]. 17 February 2017. Available from: https://www.lloydslist.com/l/sector/ship-operations/article549924.ece The elimination, or at least the reduction, of the deaths of migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea must become a priority backed by a co-ordinated UN effort, the International Chamber of Shipping recently argued.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 12,381; Deaths: 272.

IOM reports that 12,381 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 15 February – just under 9,500 to Italy, just under 2,000 to Greece, and 1,000 to Spain.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 13,170, Deaths: 272.

IOM reports that 13,170 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017, through 19 February, with over 75 percent arriving in Italy and the rest in Greece and Spain.


The migrants found in the container appear to have been locked inside it for several days as it was transported to the coast at Khoms, where they were to attempt to cross the Mediterranean towards Europe, the Red Crescent said in a statement.


In a new report, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, details the impact of the increased border restrictions introduced in 2016 on refugee and migrant movements towards and inside Europe.


The number of refugees and migrants arriving by sea to Europe decreased significantly in 2016 from 2015 with a further decrease since March mostly due to fewer people using the Eastern Mediterranean route.

**NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**


The «Shturman Ovtsyn» set course for the history books when it in late December left the yard of the Samsung Heavy Industries in South Korea.

Don’t swim against the tide, make the most of your crew’s connection. **By Trevor Whitworth, Globecomm Maritime.** *Splash 24/7* [Online]. 8 February 2017. Available from: [http://splash247.com/dont-swim-tide-make-crews-connections/](http://splash247.com/dont-swim-tide-make-crews-connections/) The shipping industry’s response to improved communications at sea has failed to reflect the needs of seafarers or the potential of new technology.

**Northern Sea Route requires port infrastructure, skilled personnel — FESCO.** *TASS Russian News Agency* [Online]. 13 February 2017. Available from: [http://tass.com/economy/930637](http://tass.com/economy/930637) Those factors are the week port infrastructure, lack of repairing and refuelling bases, high costs of icebreaker’s exploration, shortage of trained personnel, and others, he said. While in the Arctic's western part some projects on NSR development have begun, in the eastern part this work is at the very beginning.

**Arctic Shipping Traffic Has Been Rising for Decades. By Eva Holland.** *Hakai Magazine (Canada)* [Online]. 13 February 2017. Available from: [https://www.hakaimagazine.com/article-short/arctic-shipping-traffic-has-been-rising-decades](https://www.hakaimagazine.com/article-short/arctic-shipping-traffic-has-been-rising-decades) Last summer, when the *Crystal Serenity* weaved through Canada's Arctic maze, it became the first large-scale, luxury cruise ship to transit the Northwest Passage.


PIRACY

Nigerian pirates take Russian, Ukrainian sailors hostage. TASS Russian News Agency [Online]. 8 February 2017. Available from: http://tass.com/world/929662 Seven Russian citizens and one Ukrainian citizen have been kidnapped from the ship, according to the Russian embassy.


Libyan Militants Release Car Carrier Morning Compass. World Maritime News [Online]. 21 February 2017. Available from: http://worldmaritimeneews.com/archives/213302/libyan-militants-release-car-carrier-morning-compass/ After Libyan militants seized the car carrier Morning Compass, the vessel was released from captivity on February 21, the ship’s charterer Korean shipping firm EUKOR Car Carriers informed.

PORT STATE CONTROL

Building on American relationships. Marine Professional / IMarEST [Online]. 1 February 2017. Available from: https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/item/3088-building-on-american-relationships Like others in the classification business of equivalent experience, the working life of ClassNK Los Angeles Office general manager John J. Kim has coincided with profound change in maritime regulations brought about by the creation of port state control (PSC).

PORTS AND HARBOURS

Shipping’s data revolution, its environmental responsibilities and its continuing reliance on 'the human factor' will be the focus of attention as the eyes of the maritime world turn once more to Rotterdam between 7th-10th November 2017, for the staging of the long-established, and always well-supported Europort event, the event organizers say in a press release.

Over 100 years ago, the first Swedish American Line vessel sailed for the USA from Stigbergskajen in Gothenburg.

The Ministry of Shipping, as a part of its 'Green Port Initiative' has been emphasizing on use of renewable sources of energy to power Major Ports across the nation.

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) said it had increased activities at various jetties and terminals across the country.

New Zealand’s southernmost port, South Port, is reaping the benefits of a commitment to the "Lean" production philosophy as well as ensuring the maximum utilisation of its infrastructure, as evidenced by consecutive annual records in both profit and cargo volume.

Through the integration of new digital standards and innovative loading systems, the Port of Tallinn is making shipping more efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable for all parties.

A joint operation aimed at deterring criminality at major WA ports has resulted in dozens of ID checks and vessels being boarded for compliance inspections.

A number of factors are coming together to propel the container port market along the west coast of Africa between the two desert states of Mauritania in the north and Namibia in the south.


**RECYCLING OF SHIPS**


Ship recycling contributing significantly to economy: Amu.
Industries minister Amir Hossain Amu today said ship recycling is contributing significantly to the national economy as the sector is supplying raw material to the steel and re-rolling mills.

**REGULATIONS**


Guido Harling, Executive Director and Founder of ETS verification GmbH, says the reporting of shipping emissions under MRV Regulation is a ‘daunting task’ and advises how companies shall get prepared for the monitoring plan up to the Aug 31st deadline.


**Ramping up for BWM installation.** *The Motorship [Online]. 20 February 2017. Available from: http://www.motorship.com/news101/industry-news/ramping-up-for-bwm-installation* The first batch of US Coast Guard type approved ballast water management systems (BWMS) may have a valuable head start, but all suppliers face challenges in the run up to the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention, writes Gavin Lipsith.

**Dutch shipowners want state aid for environmental regulations.** *By Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch [Online]. 27 February 2017. Available from: http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9394242.ece* The Dutch government should help the country’s crisis-stricken carriers pay for complying with environmental requirements, such as new ballast water systems, the shipowner association’s chairman tells ShippingWatch.
Ballast Water Management Convention success dependent on cooperation.  
The Ballast Water Management Convention aimed at establishing standards and procedures to prevent the spread of aquatic organisms, enters into force and takes effect on 8 September this year.

**Stena backs IMO regulations over EU. By Nick Roumpis.**  *Trade Winds* [Online].
Stena Line chief executive Niclas Martensson has criticised the European Union (EU) for introducing separate regulations and added the International Maritime Organization (IMO) should make such decisions.

### SEAFARERS

**Seven Gujarat sailors in Iranian jail for a year, families seek Centre's help. By Hiral Dave.**  *Hindustan Times (India)* [Online]. 6 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/m5TrNP](http://www.goo.gl/m5TrNP)
Families of seven Gujarati sailors languishing in an Iranian jail for more than a year for allegedly smuggling oil have sought the Modi government's intervention to bring the seamen home.

The Mission to Seafarers is pleased to announce that Tom Boardley, Executive Vice President of Lloyd's Register has been appointed as the new Chairman of the global maritime welfare charity.

**Travel ban to USA - What does this mean for Crew?**  *UK P&I Club* [Online]. 30 January 2017.
The travel ban has been stayed in full temporarily and upheld by Circuit Court of Appeals.

Crewmen on detained tanker *Sea Emperor* 'had no warm clothes and were left without pay for three months'. By Chris Yandell.  *Southern Daily Echo (UK)* [Online]. 7 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/PEfp1p](http://www.goo.gl/PEfp1p)
An international seafarers' charity says crewmen aboard a tanker detained in Hampshire had no warm clothes and had not been paid for three months.

**The ITF Seafarers' Trust Port-Based Welfare Services Survey 2016: Summary Report.**  
The ITF Seafarers’ Trust Port-Based Welfare Services Survey 2016 Summary Report presents the findings of a research project conducted by the Seafarers’ Trust between July 2015 and February 2016.  [Summary Report](#)

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA in Lagos says beneficiaries of the Nigerian Seafarers' Development Programme (NSDP) would obtain their Certificate of Competency (CoC) by undergoing requisite sea time training.
IMarEST and MARINA support Filipino seafarers through MOU. Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) [Online]. 7 February 2017. Available from: https://www.imarest.org/policy-news/institute-news/item/3105-imarest-and-marina-support-filipino-seafarers-through-mou The MOU, spearheaded by Adm Santos, Chair of the IMarEST’s Manila Branch, has been put in place to further support the recognition of seafarers through routes to registration, providing a pathway for seafarers to use their Certificates of Competency and experience gained, to work towards an international qualification, Chartered Marine Engineer (CMarEng) for engineers and Chartered Marine Technologist (CMarTech) for deck officers.

Seafarers Awareness Week 24-30 June 2017. Seafarers UK [Online]. 9 February 2017. Available from: http://www.seafarers.uk/news/maritime-jobs-at-sea-and-ashore-and-sea-ports-for-prosperity-2/ Announcing the themes ‘Maritime Jobs at Sea and Ashore’ and ‘Sea Ports for Prosperity’, Seafarers UK has launched this year’s Seafarers Awareness Week campaign, with the focus on promoting maritime career opportunities, both at sea and ashore, including in the UK’s thriving port industry.


**Shipowners should invest in crew internet connectivity.** *By Martyn Wingrove, Editor, Marine Electronics & Communications. Riviera Maritime Media Ltd (UK)* [Online]. 22 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/5sGl3c](http://www.goo.gl/5sGl3c) Crew welfare and ship connectivity have become important issues that the whole industry needs to address.

**SEARCH AND RESCUE**


**MARITIME HISTORY: AMSA awards seafarers after PNG ferry rescue mission, five years ago.** *By David Sexton. Lloyd's List Australia* [Online]. 23 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/a8ULkK](http://www.goo.gl/a8ULkK) Back in February 2012, Captain Pavlo and his crew received an AMSA award for their role in rescuing 53 survivors of the *Rabaul Queen*, the Papua New Guinean ferry that sank en route from Kimbe to Lae earlier that month.
SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIR

Finnish based wind propulsion expert, Norsepower Oy Ltd, has signed an agreement with Viking Line to install its Rotor Sail Solution onboard the ‘M/S Viking Grace’, the operator's flagship LNG-fuelled cruise ship.

After some challenging years, the Finnish shipbuilding industry is again resurgent, buoyed by a supportive government and a cooperative spirit.

She will run on LNG for her maiden voyage, after a few days of loading LNG delivered by trucks at the shipyard.

Arctic cruising has captured the imagination of a futuristic designer who has developed a concept vehicle called the Resolute - an all-season, all-terrain cruise vessel designed to explore the Arctic and Antarctic regions on tracks.

In order to comply with the new regulation, oil companies develop their own brand fuels as Ultra Low Sulfur Heavy Fuel Oil (ULSHFO) which contain 0.5% of sulfur or below.

The world's largest leisure travel company, today announced that its cruise joint venture in China has signed a new memorandum of agreement (MOA) to order the first-ever cruise ships built in China for the Chinese market.
SHIPPING

BWMS: What does it mean for onboard operations? By Matthew Bonvento, Senior Manager for Safety, Vanuatu Maritime Services Ltd.  
As of September 8, 2016 the Ballast Water Convention officially was ratified by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), crossing the necessary threshold of 35% of world tonnage signed on courtesy of the ratification by Finland.

The Smart Connected Ship, Big Data and Cybersecurity towards Smart shipping.  
By Frank Coles, CEO, Transas.  
Frank Coles, CEO, Transas, points out that with all the talk about smart ships, automation and even unmanned ships there remains three key elements that need to be resolved: the ecosystem in which they would operate, the connectivity that they require and the overall cybersecurity picture.

What happens when you flush the loo on a cruise ship? By John Honeywell.  
The largest modern cruise ships, such as Harmony of the Seas, carry more than 6,500 passengers and 2,400 crew.

PM Underscores the Importance of Maritime Sector to the Economy.  
Prime Minister Andrew Holness says the maritime sector, which boasts remarkable infrastructure, is important to the Jamaican economy.

Shipbroking’s role in the 21st century. By Panos Patsadas, Managing Director, Target Maritime Transport.  
The frenzy following BHP’s decision to use an online bidding platform and to cut out the brokers has raised one important question regarding the future of shipbrokers.

Panama Maritime uniting the shipping sector.  
The Megapolis Convention Center will be the venue for the Panama Maritime XIII Conference and World Exhibition that will take place from the 12th to the 14th of March.

UK shipping must 'step up' says Henderson. By Julian Bray.  
Safety, the environment, jobs and innovation are key areas where British shipping needs to improve as the UK heads towards exit from the European Union, says Shell's Grahaeme Henderson.

Shipping must become 'an industry that works for all' – UK Chamber President.  
UK Chamber President Grahaeme Henderson called for an 'industry that works for all' at his address to the UK Chamber of Shipping Annual Dinner.


The sad story of a small island state. By Olaf Merk.  *Shipping Today* [Online]. 4 February 2017. Available from: [http://shippingtoday.eu/sad-story/](http://shippingtoday.eu/sad-story/)  A country you might have never heard of were it not for its ship registry, one of the largest in the world.


Northern Sea Routes’ cargo turnover exceeded record 6.9 million tonnes in 2016.
*TASS Russian News Agency [Online].* 13 February 2017. Available from: [http://tass.com/economy/930620](http://tass.com/economy/930620) "The Ministry of Economic Development reports a record level of cargo turnover along the Northern Sea Route in 2016 - as of December 1, 2016, 6.9 million tons were transported there, which is a record in that transport corridor’s history, including the Soviet times,” he said.

UGS objective - maintaining Greek shipping’s leading status in maritime affairs.


EU Member States Must Reject European Parliament’s Proposal to Include Global Shipping into Regional CO2 Trading System. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) [Online].* 15 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/SyQI1j](http://www.goo.gl/SyQI1j) The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) – which represents over 80% of the world merchant fleet – says it is ‘disappointed but not surprised’ by today's vote in the European Parliament to propose that international shipping (including non-EU flag ships) should be incorporated into the EU Emissions Trading System from 2023.

EU votes to include shipping in CO2 quota scheme. *By Mette Mandrup. ShippingWatch [Online].* 15 February 2017. Available from: [http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9368269.ece](http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9368269.ece) If a global CO2 emission trading system for shipping is not in place by 2021, the European part of the sector will be included in the EU emission trading scheme, ETS.

Downturn brings shipping closer to the general public. By Sam Chambers.  *Splash 24/7* [Online]. 17 February 2017. Available from: [http://splash247.com/downturn-brings-shipping-closer-general-public/](http://splash247.com/downturn-brings-shipping-closer-general-public/) The past eight years of recession in the shipping and offshore industries has actually shown the hardware of these all to often invisible sectors to the general public more than normal thanks to the thousands of laid up vessels around the world.

Hanjin Shipping declared bankrupt, ending 40-year run.  *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)* [Online]. 17 February 2017. Available from: [http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/02/17/0200000000AEN20170217003551320.html](http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/02/17/0200000000AEN20170217003551320.html) Hanjin Shipping Co., a major shipping line in South Korea, was officially declared bankrupt by a Seoul court Friday, ending its 40-year run and heralding a fundamental change in the country's shipping landscape.


IRClass receives authorisation from Iran; opens office in Tehran.  *Indian Register of Shipping (IRClass)* [Online]. 20 February 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/1JdtLa](http://www.goo.gl/1JdtLa) Indian Register of Shipping (IRClass), a leading classification society, has received authorisation as a Recognised Organisation from Iran's maritime administration – Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO).
Japan ready for LNG bunkering as marine industry turns to cleaner fuels.

Japan, the world's largest LNG importer and accounting for about 35% of global demand, is set to play a significant role in LNG bunkering as the marine industry turns to cleaner fuel options to comply with stricter environmental regulations.


Two days ago, the European Parliament has voted in favour of the inclusion of CO2 emissions from shipping in the EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) and the establishment of a maritime climate fund "in the absence of progress at international level" as from 2023.


The Table provides an annual overview of the performance of the world's flag states against a number of criteria such as port state control records, ratification of international maritime Conventions and attendance at IMO meetings. *Shipping Industry Flag State Performance Table 2016/2017*.


Ask a roundtable of industry insiders what the fuel of the future is and it's a fair bet that a few, if not most, will say liquefied natural gas (LNG).


Flinders Port Holdings (FPHG) chief executive, Vincent Tremaine, said environmental management had been a focus for South Australia's largest privately-run port group, for more than a decade.

**Tanker charterers expected to bear part of post-2020 hikes in bunker costs.**

With the International Maritime Organization cutting the sulphur content in marine fuel to 0.5% globally from 2020, versus 3.5% now, shipping market participants will have to pay more to use more eco-friendly products.

**Hyundai Global Services Enters into Eco-friendly Ship Services Business with KSS Line.**

Hyundai Global Services (HGS), Hyundai Heavy Industries’ (HHI) newly spun-off company specializing in providing total marine services announced today it signed an MOU with KSS Line, a Korean shipping company, for entering into eco-friendly ship business.

**Shipowners isolated as maritime industry supports EU’s 'first move' to regulate CO2.**

Support from ports and cargo owners for last week’s vote by MEPs to include shipping emissions in the EU emissions trading system (ETS) has been sharply criticised by shipowners.

Are Compliance Officers the Next "Must Have" for the Bunker Industry? Ship & Bunker [Online]. 23 February 2017. Available from: http://shipandbunker.com/news/world/314161-are-compliance-officers-the-next-must-have-for-the-bunker-industry When it comes to technology and standards, the bunker industry is often, and rightly, accused of being stuck in the past. If you need convincing of this, look no further than two milestone events for the industry from the last 12 months.

Feature: Panama Canal's green ambitions could be big boost for LNG. S&P Global Platts [Online]. 22 February 2017. Available from: http://www.platts.com/latest-news/shipping/houston/feature-panama-canals-green-ambitions-could-be-21962633 Since January 1, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) has been running its Environmental Premium Ranking initiative, where ships that reach certain environmental or energy efficiency standards receive extra percentage points per transit, which can improve their position in the waterway's Customer Ranking System.

New white paper informs on the current BW regulatory. Green4Sea [Online]. 22 February 2017. Available from: http://www.green4sea.com/new-white-paper-informs-on-the-current-bw-regulatory/ Alfa Laval has published a white paper providing an overview of the most influential ballast water regulations and their enforcement, guidance and a few information about selecting a system and supplier to match a particular vessel's needs, and about what to consider when planning the installation.

Ballast water management: An overview of regulations and ballast water treatment technologies. Alfa Laval Corporate AB [Online]. February 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/21tALi To minimize and ultimately eliminate the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens, various international, national and regional maritime bodies have worked for several years to establish standards for managing ballast water.


Mr. Julien Dufour, CEO, Verifavia Shipping, comments current developments regarding the inclusion of shipping in ETS and stresses that regardless the offsetting scheme is finally run by either IMO or an ETS, it is important for the industry not to deviate from the initial object; the reduction of the GHG emissions from shipping.


**A Bigger Pie – Can You Get A Good Slice?** *Clarksons Research* [Online]. 24 February 2017. Available from: [https://clarksonsresearch.worlpress.com/2017/02/24/a-bigger-pie-can-you-get-a-good-slice/](https://clarksonsresearch.worldpress.com/2017/02/24/a-bigger-pie-can-you-get-a-good-slice/) With the ClarkSea Index around $9,000/day, and many if not most of the major shipping markets under severe pressure, it's hard to escape the conclusion that the shipping markets are a tough place right now, with limited pickings to share between owners.

**Hinchliffe: Arrogant Europe is alienating IMO member countries.** By Helen Kelly. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 27 February 2017. Available from: [https://www.lloydslist.com/l/l-sector/regulation/article550262.ece](https://www.lloydslist.com/l/l-sector/regulation/article550262.ece) One of the biggest battles in maritime regulation is being played out in gory detail this month with the European Union in one corner wielding a big stick on CO2 emissions and the International Maritime Organization in the other, bruised and bloodied, but so far standing firm.


RESEARCH


Decline in global oceanic oxygen content during the past five decades. By S. Schmidtko, L. Stramma et al. *Nature*. [Online]. (2017). Available from: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature21399](http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature21399) Ocean models predict a decline in the dissolved oxygen inventory of the global ocean of one to seven per cent by the year 2100, caused by a combination of a warming-induced decline in oxygen solubility and reduced ventilation of the deep ocean.

The *Current Awareness Bulletin* (CAB) is published by the Maritime Knowledge Centre and is not an official IMO publication. Inclusion does not imply any endorsement by IMO.

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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.