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 abstract 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.

Email us if you would like to receive email notification when the most recent Current Awareness Bulletin is available to be downloaded.

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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WHAT’S NEW

25 June, 2017 Day of the Seafarer: Seafarers Matter

This year, once again, 25 June will mark the annual Day of the Seafarer (DotS). DotS was established in a resolution adopted by the 2010 Diplomatic Conference in Manila to adopt the revised STCW Convention. Its stated purpose is to recognize the unique contribution made by seafarers from all over the world to international seaborne trade, the world economy and civil society as a whole.

The resolution "encourages Governments, shipping organizations, companies, shipowners and all other parties concerned to duly and appropriately promote the Day of the Seafarer and take action to celebrate it meaningfully”. This year our theme is "Seafarers Matter”.

For 2017, we want to particularly engage ports and seafarer centres to demonstrate how much seafarers matter to them. The idea is for ports and seafarer centres to share and showcase best practices in seafarer support and welfare.

We want them to organize special activities for seafarers on that Day, for example:

• social event organised in port to celebrate seafarers
• public open day at seafarer centres
• free wi-fi in port for a day

Official video message by Kitack Lim, IMO Secretary-General 📹

View IMO’s interactive world map showcasing best practices in seafarer support and welfare.

IMO MEETINGS FOR 2017

Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) (07/06/2017 - 16/06/2017)

IMO PRESS BRIEFINGS

Protecting ships, people and the polar environment
Briefing: 15, May 16, 2017

Pacific Community to host Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre for Pacific
Briefing: 14, May 15, 2017

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE (Spring 2017)

IMO PUBLISHING Just Published: 2017 April 2017 Newsletter
RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

**IMLI Graduation ceremony**
Malta, 27 May 2017

**Speech to European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) staff**
EMSA, Lisbon, Portugal, 24 May 2017

“International maritime conventions and the global shipping industry” - International Maritime Forum
Shanghai University, 15 May 2017

**Launch of MTCC-ASIA**
Shanghai Maritime University, 15 May 2017

**Relevance of IMO’s role to the "One Belt One Road" vision, Beijing Summit (Belt and Road Forum)**
Address during the Parallel Meeting, 14 May 2017

**Third Joint Ministerial Conference of the Paris and Tokyo Memoranda of Understanding on Port State Control, Vancouver, Canada**
Vancouver, Canada, 3-4 May 2017
UNITED NATIONS NEWS


Next month's ocean conference eyes cutting $35 billion in fisheries subsidies – UN trade officials. UN News Centre [Online]. 10 May 2017. Available from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56725 Harmful fishing subsidies that contribute to overfishing are estimated to be as high as $35 billion, fisheries experts from the United Nations trade and development agency today said, highlighting one of the key issues that will be debated at next month’s Ocean Conference.


News comment by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, on Mediterranean crossings over the weekend. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) [Online]. 7 May 2017. Available from: http://www.unhcr.org/uk/news/press/2017/5/590f216a4/news-comment-united-nations-high-commissioner-refugees-filippo-grandi-mediterranean.html Since Friday, we’ve seen over 6,000 people crossing the Mediterranean to reach Italy – bringing the total this year to over 43,000.

Mediterranean: Coast guard on alert after shipwrecks as smugglers take advantage of calm waters. UN News Centre [Online]. 9 May 2017. Available from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56716 About 6,600 migrants and refugees were rescued in the past few days trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea, United Nations authorities have said, as rescuers are on the lookout for up to 245 people missing after two shipwrecks this weekend.


CABINET

Cabinet approves ordinance on Sewol investigative committee. Yonhap News Agency (South Korea) [Online]. 2 May 2017. Available from: http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/search1/2603000000.html?cid=AEN20170502008300320 The Cabinet on Tuesday passed an ordinance detailing the makeup and operational duties of a committee that will investigate the cause of the deadly ferry sinking that killed more than 300 people.


Flooding Forces Reefer’s Crew to Abandon Ship. Maritime Executive [Online]. 8 May 2017. Available from: http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/flooding-forces-reefers-crew-to-abandon-ship On Friday, the refrigerated cargo ship Uruguay Reefer suffered a “massive intake of water” in her number two hold, and 48 hours later her crew abandoned ship due to worsening flooding.


Fire reported at Samsung Heavy shipyard in Geoje. *Yonhap News Agency* (South Korea) [Online]. 17 May 2017. Available from: [http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/05/17/0501000000AEN20170517003500315.html](http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/05/17/0501000000AEN20170517003500315.html) A fire broke out at a shipyard of Samsung Heavy Industries Co. in the south eastern port city of Geoje on Wednesday, but it was put out without any casualties, firefighters said.


Five Killed in Fire Aboard Indonesian Ferry. By Mike Schuler. *gCaptain* [Online]. 22 May 2017. Available from: [http://gcaptain.com/five-killed-in-fire-aboard-indonesian-ferry/](http://gcaptain.com/five-killed-in-fire-aboard-indonesian-ferry/) At least five were killed after a fire broke out aboard a car and passenger in the Java Sea on Friday, Indonesian authorities confirmed over the weekend.


On 13 September 2016 at Marseille, an abandon ship drill planned for a part of the crewmembers of the cruise ship HARMONY OF THE SEAS was organised with the 9 port lifeboats.


ENVIRONMENT


WWF Arctic Council Conservation Scorecard. *Arctic Council* [Online]. May 2017. Available from: [http://wwf-ap.org/apps/acscorecard/](http://wwf-ap.org/apps/acscorecard/) For more than 20 years, the Arctic states, through the Arctic Council (AC), have pursued conservation efforts to safeguard the Arctic environment. Assessment Report

Pacific islands are on a collision course with the shipping industry. By Moses Kouni Mose, Solomon Islands ambassador to the European Union. *Climate Home* [Online]. 15 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.climatechangenews.com/2017/05/15/pacific-islands-collision-course-shipping-industry/](http://www.climatechangenews.com/2017/05/15/pacific-islands-collision-course-shipping-industry/) Yet it is a significant and growing source of carbon emissions which, unless it is controlled, will undermine all our national efforts to achieve the agreement’s temperature goals.


Report delivers stark warning for region. *Cayman News Service* [Online]. 17 May 2017. Available from: [https://caymannewsservice.com/2017/05/report-delivers-stark-warning-for-region/](https://caymannewsservice.com/2017/05/report-delivers-stark-warning-for-region/) Much more needs to be done to reduce human pressures on island systems in the Caribbean to make states more resilient to climate change, a new report by a Commonwealth institution has found.


Climate change is turning Antarctica green, say researchers. By Nicola Davis. *The Guardian* [Online]. 18 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.theguardian.com/science/2017/may/18/climate-change-is-turning-antarctica-green-say-researchers](https://www.theguardian.com/science/2017/may/18/climate-change-is-turning-antarctica-green-say-researchers) In the past 50 years the quantity and rate of plant growth has shot up, says study, suggesting further warming could lead to rapid ecosystem changes.


**ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**


Oil spill flows into Venezuela waters. By Sascha Wilson. *Guardian (Trinidad and Tobago)* [Online]. 30 April 2017. Available from: [http://www.guardian.co.tt/news/2017-04-30/oil-spill-flows-venezuela-waters](http://www.guardian.co.tt/news/2017-04-30/oil-spill-flows-venezuela-waters) Despite mop-up operations by Petrotrin following an oil spill two Sundays ago which saw 300 barrels of oil leaking into the sea, the oil has crossed into international waters and has reached the eastern coastline of Venezuela.


Florida passes bill that should see **Deepwater Horizon** settlement money paid to eight counties. By Donal Scully. *Splash 24/7* [Online]. 2 May 2017. Available from: [http://splash247.com/florida-passes-bill-that-should-see-deepwater-horizon-settlement-money-paid-to-eight-counties/](http://splash247.com/florida-passes-bill-that-should-see-deepwater-horizon-settlement-money-paid-to-eight-counties/) The State of Florida has moved closer to dishing out hundreds of millions in financial assistance to communities hit by the effects of the 2010 **Deepwater Horizon** disaster.


Europe must say No to heavy fuel oil in the Arctic. By Sirpa Pietikäinen, Substitute Member, European Parliament, Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee. *Lloyd’s List* [Online]. 3 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article555063.ece](https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article555063.ece) If spilled in the colder waters of the Arctic, HFO breaks down more slowly and also emits black carbon, which has a greater climate warming effect at higher latitudes.


Oil billionaire who vowed to give away fortune funds ship to remove plastic from the ocean. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)* [Online]. 4 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.cbc.ca/news/](http://www.cbc.ca/news/) A man who got rich in the oil and gas industry is funneling funds towards a research vessel designed to remove plastic from the ocean and destroy it.

The Ocean Cleanup raises 21.7 million USD in donations to start Pacific cleanup trials. *The Ocean Cleanup* [Online]. 3 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/mGL259](http://www.goo.gl/mGL259) The Ocean Cleanup, the Dutch foundation developing advanced technologies to rid the oceans of plastic, today announced that it has successfully raised 21.7 million USD in donations since last November.


Indonesia sues Thailand’s PTT, PTTEP for $2 billion over oil spill. Reuters [Online]. 6 May 2017. Available from: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-thailand-oil-idUSKBN182063 The Indonesian government is suing Thailand’s state-owned PTT and PTTEP Exploration and Production for around $2 billion for alleged damage to the environment from an oil spill in the Timor Sea eight years ago.


Aboud: Discrepancies in oil spill. By Radhica Sookraj. Guardian (Trinidad and Tobago) [Online]. 10 May 2017. Available from: http://www.guardian.co.tt/news/2017-05-09/aboud-discrepancies-oil-spill Demanding to know why no navigational warnings were issued after high density oil escaped from the ruptured Tank 70 at Petrotrin’s facility, corporate secretary of Fishermen and Friends of the Sea Gary Aboud says there are too many discrepancies in the oil spill reports which happened last April.


No escaping ocean plastic: nearly 38 million bits of litter on one of world’s remotest islands. University of Tasmania [Online]. 16 May 2017. Available from: http://www.media.utas.edu.au/general-news/all-news/no-escaping-ocean-plastic-nearly-38-million-bits-of-litter-on-one-of-worlds-remotest-islands The beaches of one of the world’s most remote islands have been found to be polluted with the highest density of plastic debris reported anywhere on the planet, in a study published in the prestigious US scientific journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

ICS commits shipping to ambitious CO2 reduction objectives. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) [Online]. 15 May 2017. Available from: http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2017/05/15/ics-commits-shipping-to-ambitious-co2-reduction-objectives At its AGM in Istanbul, ICS has agreed to urge the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to adopt some dramatic CO2 reduction objectives – on behalf of the international shipping sector as a whole – in order to match the ambition of the Paris Agreement on climate change.


**Australian oil well leaked into ocean for months – but spill kept secret.** By Michael Slezak. *The Guardian* [Online]. 17 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/may/18/australian-oil-well-leaked-into-ocean-for-months-but-incident-kept-secret](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/may/18/australian-oil-well-leaked-into-ocean-for-months-but-incident-kept-secret) Offshore oil and gas regulator says there was a 10,500-litre spill in April 2016 but refuses to reveal where it occurred or company responsible.


**Remote Arctic communities defenseless against oil spills, reports conclude.** By Andrew Dumbrille, Senior Specialist, Sustainable Shipping. *WWF Canada* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: [http://blog.wwf.ca/blog/2017/05/24/remote-arctic-communities-defenseless-oil-spills-reports-conclude/](http://blog.wwf.ca/blog/2017/05/24/remote-arctic-communities-defenseless-oil-spills-reports-conclude/) As mining increases and less summer sea ice makes the Arctic more passable, the risk of a ship-based oil spill will only grow.

**Sub-zero waters a barrier to oil spill recovery.** *Phys Org* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: [https://phys.org/news/2017-05-sub-zero-barrier-oil-recovery.html](https://phys.org/news/2017-05-sub-zero-barrier-oil-recovery.html) Sub-zero temperatures in the deep waters of the North Atlantic would significantly hamper the ability of oil-eating bacteria to help the ocean recover from a major oil spill, according to new research.


**HEALTH AND SAFETY**


**Selective management of seafarers' health and safety.** By Carolyn Graham, PhD Student, Seafarers' International Research Centre. *Splash 24/7 [Online]. 8 May 2017.* Available from: [http://splash247.com/selective-management-seafarers-health-safety/](http://splash247.com/selective-management-seafarers-health-safety/) There is enough evidence pointing to high rates of a number of work-related diseases and illnesses among seafarers as well as the customary slips, trips and falls leading to injuries and fatalities in many cases.

**Seafarer mental health branded ‘a serious concern’ as part of Mental Health Awareness Week.** *Hellenic Shipping News [Online]. 8 May 2017.* Available from: [http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarer-mental-health-branded-a-serious-concern-as-part-of-mental-health-awareness-week/](http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarer-mental-health-branded-a-serious-concern-as-part-of-mental-health-awareness-week/) As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, the Mission to Seafarers is highlighting the mental health challenges faced by seafarers and calling on the industry to offer wider services that could help safeguard their welfare.


**Software upgrade simplifies work hour record keeping.** *Safety 4 Sea [Online]. 9 May 2017.* Available from: [http://www.safety4sea.com/software-upgrade-simplifies-work-hour-record-keeping/](http://www.safety4sea.com/software-upgrade-simplifies-work-hour-record-keeping/) The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and IT Energy have announced the launch of the latest release of their acclaimed ISF Watchkeeper software, ISF Watchkeeper 3.5, which is developed for maintaining records of individual seafarers' work hour records, as required by IMO and ILO regulations, and to help prevent crew fatigue and to avoid issues with Port State Control.


Crew distraught after captain's death. *Apostleship of the Sea (AoS)* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: http://apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/crew-distraught-after-captains-death Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) has responded to the faith and pastoral needs of a group of seafarers after their captain was found dead on their ship during a voyage from New York, United States to Tilbury, Essex.


The Role of the International Maritime Organization in Preventing the Pollution of the World's Oceans from Ships and Shipping. UN Chronicle [Online]. May 2017. Available from: https://unchronicle.un.org/article/role-international-maritime-organization-preventing-pollution-worlds-oceans-ships-and As the United Nations agency responsible for developing and adopting measures to improve the safety and security of international shipping and to prevent pollution from ships, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has an integral role in meeting the targets set out in United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.


Hope rises for Nigeria's return to IMO council. By Sulaimon Salau. Guardian (Nigeria) [Online]. 17 May 2017. Available from: https://guardian.ng/business-services/hope-rises-for-nigerias-return-to-imo-council/ Nigeria may soon regain its membership in the council of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), as the country's Alternate Permanent Representative (APR) in the IMO, Diko Balla, recently disclosed of efforts being made by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety (NIMASA) to return to the fold.


**LAW AND POLICY**


Arctic Council ministerial – View from Russia. By Ellis Quinn. *Radio Canada International (RCI)* [Online]. 8 May 2017. Available from: http://www.rcinet.ca/eye-on-the-arctic/2017/05/08/arctic-council-ministerial-view-from-russia/ Foreign ministers from all eight Arctic states: Canada, Finland, Denmark/Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Russia and the United States are scheduled to attend the ministerial meeting where the accomplishments of the last two years will be announced and the forum's leadership is officially passed on.


Scraping the Le Touquet treaty will damage both sides - UK Chamber CEO. *UK Chamber of Shipping* [Online]. 9 May 2017. Available from: https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/scraping-le-touquet-treaty-will-damage-both-sides-uk-chamber-ceo/ Responding to reports that ferry companies will be asked to assume responsibility for border controls at ferry ports if President-elect Macron cancels the Treaty of Le Touquet, Guy Platten, CEO of the UK Chamber of Shipping said: 'The Government knows that the policy of treating ferry operators as auxiliary immigration officers does not work'.

**Tillerson gives nod at Arctic meet to climate change action.** By Timothy Gardner. *Reuters* [Online]. 12 May 2017. Available from: [http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-arctic-summit-idUKKBN1870EH](http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-arctic-summit-idUKKBN1870EH). U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson signed an agreement recognising the landmark Paris climate accord at a meeting of Arctic nations in Alaska on Thursday, but said President Donald Trump was not rushing to decide whether to leave or weaken U.S. commitments to the pact.

**Fairbanks Declaration 2017: On the Occasion of the Tenth Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council.** *Arctic Council* [Online]. 11 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/8u5wvw](http://www.goo.gl/8u5wvw). We, the Ministers representing the eight Arctic States, joined by representatives of the six Permanent Participant organizations, have gathered in Fairbanks, Alaska, at the conclusion of the second United States Chairmanship, at the Tenth Ministerial meeting of the Arctic Council.

**Crew members on Vancouver-docked cruise ship arrested for drugs.** *CTV News (Canada)* [Online]. 11 May 2017. Available from: [http://bc.ctvnews.ca/crew-members-on-vancouver-docked-cruise-ship-arrested-for-drugs-1.3410240](http://bc.ctvnews.ca/crew-members-on-vancouver-docked-cruise-ship-arrested-for-drugs-1.3410240). A Princess Cruise departure from downtown Vancouver was delayed for hours this week after police allegedly found several crew members with an undisclosed quantity of drugs, CTV News has learned.

**Bereaved families of 17 missing sailors of Stellar Daisy reach settlement with shipper.** *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)* [Online]. 15 May 2017. Available from: [http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/05/15/0200000000AEN20170515009900320.html](http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/05/15/0200000000AEN20170515009900320.html). The South Korean shipping company of an ill-fated cargo ship that sank in the South Atlantic has reached a compensation agreement with the bereaved families of most missing crew members following the end of an on-site search, officials said Monday.


The Government of Canada is working to ensure that goods are transported in a safe and responsible way while protecting our marine environment and clean water.

If you are a master mariner, it is difficult not to put yourself in the position of Captain Francesco Schettino, as his ship's systems died in front of his eyes following the contact with the rock off the Isle of Giglio on that fateful evening in January 2012.

A French-British task force dealt a £75m blow to terrorists after scoring the second major drugs bust in a month.


Unsafe at any draft - Part two. By Andrew Craig-Bennett. Splash 24/7 [Online]. 19 May 2017. Available from: http://splash247.com/unsafe-draft-part-two/ On March 31, in fine weather, with everything onboard as routine as could be, the Stellar Daisy began to list, listed badly, rolled over and sank in a few minutes, taking with her all but two of her crew of 24, and a lot of sintered iron ore fines loaded at Ilha Guiaba in Brazil for carriage to China.

With no legally binding mechanism to enforce any deal on the South China Sea dispute, China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) may, in the meantime, settle for a "gentleman's agreement" to prevent war or at least keep the situation in the region stable.

Philippine and Chinese delegations initialed the terms of reference (TOR) that would be a platform for confidence-building measures to promote maritime cooperation and security, a joint press release from a meeting meant to manage disputes in the South China Sea said on Friday.

In the spirit of the friendly dialogue between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Philippine President Rodrigo Roa Duterte during the latter's State Visit to China in October 2016, and as agreed by both China and the Philippines, the First Meeting of China-Philippines Bilateral Consultation Mechanism on the South China Sea (BCM) was held in Guiyang, Guizhou Province, China on 19 May 2017.


U.S. warship drill meant to defy China’s claim over artificial island: officials.  
By Idrees Ali and David Brunnstrom.  Reuters [Online]. 26 May 2017. Available from: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-southchinasea-navy-idUSKBN18K353 A U.S. warship carried out a "maneuvering drill" when it sailed within 12 nautical miles of an artificial island built up by China in the South China Sea, to show Beijing it was not entitled to a territorial sea around it, U.S. officials said on Thursday.

Parties to FAO’s treaty tackling illegal fishing meet in Oslo.  


How African countries can harness the huge potential of their oceans. By Professor Francois Vreÿ, Stellenbosch University. The Conversation [Online]. 28 May 2017. Available from: http://theconversation.com/how-african-countries-can-harness-the-huge-potential-of-their-oceans-77889 Over the past decade there’s been a steady rise across Africa in the attention given to the responsible use of the oceans to contribute to economic growth – or what’s known as the Blue Economy.


**MARINE TECHNOLOGY**


The technology group Wärtsilä has been awarded model year 2017 certification of emissions compliance from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its Wärtsilä 34DF dual-fuel engine family.

**Black boxes and drones – DTU students get creative on sulphur detection.**


Ideas developed under the SOx Challenge – a student competition on how to detect if ships comply with the international regulation of sulphur emissions.


On Wednesday evening, six teams of engineering students presented their emission control ideas to a panel of judges from industry and the public sector in Denmark, with the winning presentation proposing ships check the emissions of other ships passing by.

**Maritime Alternatives for Drought and Power Outages.** By Harry Valentine.


A drama is presently unfolding in the coastal city of Cape Town, South Africa, and maritime technology could offer a solution here and in other cities around the world.


In cooperation with MAN Diesel & Turbo, a young DTU researcher develops new software that makes it possible to limit emissions of NOx particles and black smoke.


Developing countries are increasingly seen as key players in the fight against climate change.


The vessel "YARA Birkeland" will be the world’s first fully electric and autonomous container ship, with zero emissions.


Mr. Mitrou noted that if shipping has a higher cost of decarbonisation than other sectors of the economy, it may be possible to offset some of shipping’s CO2 emissions by purchasing offsets from other sectors.


Q&A: 3D Planning the World’s Biggest Ship. *Port Technology International* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.porttechnology.org/news/qa_3d_planning_the_worlds_biggest_ship](https://www.porttechnology.org/news/qa_3d_planning_the_worlds_biggest_ship) PTI spoke to Mattias Stenberg, the software development and services company’s Process, Power & Marine’s President, to learn more about the technology that was behind the construction of the shipping leviathan.

**MARITIME SAFETY**


**Stellar Daisy: We are back to square one.** By Captain Manjit Handa. *Splash 24/7 [Online]. 25 May 2017. Available from: [http://splash247.com/stellar-daisy-back-square-one/](http://splash247.com/stellar-daisy-back-square-one/)* The loss of the VLOC *Stellar Daisy* at sea has brought home a feeling that as far as bulk carrier safety is concerned, we are back to square one.


[Marine Mammals of Hudson Strait](http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/05/22/5222017-safety-alert-05-17-dangerous-modifications-found-within-a-gas-valve-unit-room/)
MARITIME SECURITY

Maritime Security in the 'Afro-Asian' Ocean. The Nation (Pakistan) [Online]. 1 May 2017. Available from: http://nation.com.pk/columns/01-May-2017/maritime-security-in-the-afro-asian-ocean The seas have always been gateways to the prosperity and survival of States, facilitating the vast majority of global trade and communications; consequently, maritime security has been of vital importance for the national interests of states.


**MARITIME TRAINING**

**Group condemns Sarumi Panel's report on Maritime Academy.** By Oluwakemi Dauda.  
*The Nation (Nigeria)* [Online]. 2 May 2017. Available from: http://thenationonlineng.net/group-condemns-sarumi-panels-report-maritime-academy/ A group, the Niger Delta Development Initiative (NDDI), has condemned the report of the Committee on the restructuring of the Maritime Academy of Nigeria (MAN) in Oron, Akwa Ibom State. The reports, NDDI said, was in bad faith.

**Dubai Maritime City Authority collaborates with Maersk to explore partnership, knowledge & innovation opportunities.** *Government of Dubai* [Online]. 3 May 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/F4obXL A delegation headed by Amer Ali, Executive Director, Dubai Maritime City Authority (DMCA), recently visited the Maersk Maritime Training Center, the first-of-its-kind center in the Middle East, in line with the Authority's ongoing commitment to promote real partnership with maritime leaders in Dubai.


**Towards an Emirates Marine Environment Protection Association.** By Bob Jaques.  

**SPECIAL REPORT: Training, Education and Career Development.** By David Sexton.  

MIGRANTS


6,000 migrants rescued in Mediterranean in two days. *The Local (Italy)* [Online]. 7 May 2017. Available from: https://www.thelocal.it/20170507/6000-migrants-rescued-in-mediterranean-in-two-days. Some 6,000 migrants hoping to head to Europe were rescued in the Mediterranean on Friday and Saturday in dozens of frantic operations coordinated by the Italian coastguard.


Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 53,912 in 2017; Deaths: 1,316.
IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 53,912 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 14 May, with nearly 85 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain.

In busy day for rescues at sea, migrants cheer when told 'Libya is over'.
By Steve Scherer. Reuters [Online]. 18 May 2017. Available from: http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-europe-migrants-rescue-idUKKCN18E2NK?il=0 Rescues began at dawn on Thursday and by the end of the day some 2,300 migrants had been pulled off 22 wooden and rubber boats in the Mediterranean, with many rejoicing when rescuers told them that their long journey to Europe was almost over.

Dozens drown off Libya as aid groups denounce Tripoli’s coastguard. By Steve Scherer. Reuters [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-rescue-casualties-idUSKBN18K19H At least 34 migrants, most of them toddlers, drowned on Wednesday, as coastguard boats and other vessels tried to save hundreds of others packed into boats off the coast of Libya, rescuers said.

Aid groups rescue over 1,600 migrants in the Mediterranean in one day. By Alex Leff. Public Radio International (PRI) [Online]. 23 May 2017. Available from: https://www.pri.org/stories/2017-05-23/aid-groups-rescue-over-1550-migrants-mediterranean-one-day More than 50,000 migrants have tried to cross the Mediterranean to Europe this year.

MSF accuses Libyan coastguard of endangering people's lives during Mediterranean rescue. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: http://www.msf.org/en/article/msf-accuses-libyan-coastguard-endangering-people%E2%80%99s-lives-during-mediterranean-rescue During a rescue in the Mediterranean Sea on 23 May, the Libyan coastguard approached boats in distress, intimidated the passengers and then fired gunshots into the air, threatening people's lives and creating mayhem, according to aid organisations Médecins Sans Frontières and SOS Méditerranée, whose teams witnessed the violent incident.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 60,521 in 2017; Deaths: 1,530.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 69,574 in 2017; Deaths: 1,569.
NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATIONS


Attention deficit. By Michael Grey. Lloyd's List [Online]. 5 May 2017. Available from: https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article555162.ece Two swallows don’t make a summer, nor two significant casualties to large and well equipped ships a trend, but the “flatlining” of accidents attributed to something going wrong with navigation is something that needs attention.


Latest PLA safety campaign targets human error. Port of London Authority (PLA) [Online]. 9 May 2017. Available from: http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety-Campaign The PLA decided to target human error after analysis of incident data showed that it was the leading cause of navigational incidents on the tidal Thames in the last two years.

Digitalisation in container shipping may not be the carriers’ doing. By Kris Kosmala. Splash 24/7 [Online]. 11 May 2017. Available from: http://splash247.com/digitialisation-container-shipping-may-not-carriers/ Much ink has been spilled on the subject of Maersk and Alibaba striking a deal allowing Maersk's booking process to be accessed on the Alibaba’s e-commerce platform.


PIRACY

The report will cover 1) counter-piracy trends and evolving threats in the Western Indian Ocean, 2) global developments involving kidnap for ransom models of piracy, and 3) a sub-regional breakdown of maritime security threats in Asia. Executive Summary and Reports


Merchant ship fired upon by skiffs off Iran. By Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd's List [Online]. 8 May 2017. Available from: https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ship-operations/article555320.ece A merchant vessel was attacked on Sunday off the southern coast of Iran in the Gulf of Oman and another vessel reported a suspicious approach on Monday, UK Maritime Trade Operations reported.


PORT STATE CONTROL


De-mystifying the targeting process for Port State Control exams. By Andrew J Norris, retired U.S. Coast Guard captain, Senior Regulatory Consultant, Independent Maritime Consulting LLC. Professional Mariner [Online]. 2 May 2017. Available from: http://www.professionalmariner.com/May-2017/De-mystifying-the-targeting-process-for-Port-State-Control-exams/ The U.S. Coast Guard's Port State Control (PSC) program is intended to ensure that foreign-flagged vessels operating in U.S. waters comply with applicable international conventions and U.S. regulations, with the ultimate goal of identifying and eliminating substandard ships from U.S. waters.


PORTS AND HARBOURS

Port of Vancouver promotes quieter ships. By Rachel Carmichael, Communications Manager, North & South America, DNV GL. Green4Sea [Online]. 3 May 2017. Available from: http://www.green4sea.com/port-of-vancouver-promotes-quieter-ships/ Marine mammals, such as whales and dolphins, are impacted by underwater noise.


Kalmar Port 2060 vision. *Kalmar Global* [Online]. 11 May 2017. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xaKAYmBgQ4 We at Kalmar have a vision of the future port.

Spanish cabinet makes second attempt at passing port reform. By Paul Day. *Reuters* [Online]. 12 May 2017. Available from: http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-spain-ports-idUKKBN1881RK The Spanish cabinet passed a decree on Friday aimed at liberalizing the country’s ports, a second effort at a contentious law which has already been rejected by parliament and prompted threats of widespread strikes.

Port Concession: Terminal Operators’ Investments Hit $2bn. By Eromosele Abiodun. *This Day (Nigeria)* [Online]. 15 May 2017. Available from: https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2017/05/15/port-concession-terminal-operators-investments-hit-2bn/ As a result of the huge investment, ship waiting time has been eliminated to zero days while vessel turnaround time has also improved significantly based on cargo type.


The Gothenburg port conflict enters a new stage of deadlock. By Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch* [Online]. 22 May 2017. Available from: http://shippingwatch.com/secure/Ports/article9594876.ece The conflict at the Port of Gothenburg has now intensified again as APM Terminals decided to carry put a partial lock-out of employees after the dockworkers issued a proposal Friday which supposedly did not materialize.

Port-Related Funding Lower in President's FY2018 Detailed Budget. 


Ports of Auckland to Eliminate Methyl Bromide Emissions. Ports of Auckland (New Zealand) [Online]. 25 May 2017. Available from: http://www.poal.co.nz/media/ports-of-auckland-to-eliminate-methyl-bromide-emissions As part of Ports of Auckland's ambition to be the most sustainable port in New Zealand, the company will require the total recapture of methyl bromide gas used for container fumigation by September 1, 2017, and for all cargoes by the end of the year.

RECYCLING OF SHIPS


REGULATIONS


Flag states offer support for owners. *Ballast Water Treatment Technology* [Online]. 5 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.ballastwatermanagement.co.uk/news/view,flag-states-offer-support-for-owners_47556.htm](http://www.ballastwatermanagement.co.uk/news/view,flag-states-offer-support-for-owners_47556.htm) Despite being one of IMO's member states that has not ratified its Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC), Cyprus nonetheless works closely with its shipowners to make sure they comply with it. Ioannis Efstratiou, acting director of its Department of Merchant Shipping (DMS), told BWTT that it is "working towards ratifying the convention."


Environmental Legislation Outlook. By Stamatis Fradelos, Principal Engineer, Operational & Environmental Performance (OEP), ABS. *Green4Sea* [Online]. 8 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.green4sea.com/environmental-legislation-outlook/](http://www.green4sea.com/environmental-legislation-outlook/) The Baltic Sea and North Sea are becoming NOx Emission Control areas in 2021, the 0.5% Sulphur Cap will be effective in 2020 and so does the EEDI Phase 2 while the EEDI Phase 3 is expected beyond 2025, the IMO Data Collection System is starting in 2019, EU Ship Recycling Regulation and IHM for new vessels in 2019 and for existing vessels possibly by 2020, the EU MRV is starting next year, the BWM Convention in September 2017.

2017 — The year of the MRV. By Poul Woodall, Director, Environment and Sustainability, DFDS. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 10 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.lloydslist.com/l/l/sector/regulation/article555418.ece](https://www.lloydslist.com/l/l/sector/regulation/article555418.ece) The European Union's regime for monitoring ships' CO2 emissions will affect the relationships between owners, managers, charterers, pool partners and others, but at what cost?
Costa Concordia: The ISM Code under attack. By Arne Sagen FNI, Accident Investigator, Skagerrak Foundation, Norway. Lloyd's List [Online]. 11 May 2017. Available from: https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/regulation/article555568.ece The Italian Supreme Court in Rome is now handling the appeal from cruise ship master Francesco Schettino, who was sentenced to 16-plus years in prison as the sole responsible body for the capsizing of Costa Concordia on November 13, 2012.


Coast Guard "has not been aggressively enforcing" salvage and marine fire-fighting requirements. American Journal of Transportation (AJOT) [Online]. 22 May 2017. Available from: https://www.ajot.com/news/coast-guard-has-not-been-aggressively-enforcing-salvage-and-marine-fire-fight A top U.S. Coast Guard official admitted at a recent congressional oversight hearing that the Coast Guard "has not been aggressively enforcing the compliance" of vessel response plans filed under federal Salvage and Marine Firefighting (SMFF) regulations.


Fight against illegal fishing: Commission lists Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Comoros as non-cooperating, and issues warning for Liberia. European Commission [Online]. 23 May 2017. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/fight-against-illegal-fishing-commission-lists-saint-vincent-and-grenadines-and-comoros-non_en Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Comoros have been identified as non-cooperating third countries under the EU's regulation to fight and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, while Liberia has been pre-identified.


**Marine insurers brace for new sulfur emission norms. By Sameer C. Mohindru and Surabhi Sahu.**  
Shipping companies will have to upgrade their vessels well in time to adhere to the upcoming global sulfur emission norms to avoid losing their classification and insurance cover, underwriters and insurers said recently.

**SAFETY**

**Watertight doors awareness campaign.**  
Watertight doors are crucial for reducing ship vulnerability in cases of flooding, as witnessed from the time of the Titanic to today.

**Looking for a place of refuge. By Graeme Ewens.**  
The recent episode off Lands End, UK, in which a disabled coaster was taken in tow by two RNLI lifeboats in the absence of a dedicated salvage tug points up the continuing demands to reinstate the four Emergency Towing Vessels (ETVs) that were once based at strategic locations around the UK coast.

**Transport industry failing to improve safety standards. By Janet Porter.**  
Insurance claims in the transport and logistics industry remain much the same as 30 years ago, despite considerable efforts to improve safety in ports, terminals and along the supply chain.

**Inmarsat and IMSO collaborate to promote and enhance maritime safety in Vanuatu.**  
Inmarsat (ISAT.L) has made available five Fleet One units to a pilot initiative that aims to bring change to the way ships connecting island communities in the Pacific archipelago of Vanuatu communicate.

**Alaska House calls for more stringent measures on vessels in Bering Sea. By Davis Hovey.**  
Vessel traffic in the Bering Sea is the focus of a new resolution that passed through the Alaska House of Representatives with a vote of 33-6 on May 16.
SALVAGE


DNV GL salvage support for the "Modern Express": Case Study. *DNV GL* [Online]. 23 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.dnvgl.com/article/dnv-gl-salvage-support-for-the-modern-express-89595](https://www.dnvgl.com/article/dnv-gl-salvage-support-for-the-modern-express-89595) Last year, the "Modern Express", a Panama-registered ship transporting 3,600 tons of construction machinery and timber from Gabon in West Africa to the French port of Le Havre, was caught in a severe storm in the Bay of Biscay.

SEAFARE


Chaplains of the Sea. *BBC World Service* [Online]. 14 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0525g9](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0525g9) With the global shipping industry in financial crisis, we join the chaplains on their daily visits to container ships and supply vessels in Antwerp, Immingham and Aberdeen, to find out why the work of chaplains is more crucial than ever.

Christian charity calls for prayer for victims of real life pirates. By Marcus Jones.  
*Premier UK* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from:  
As millions prepare to watch the latest instalment of the Pirates of the Caribbean franchise, a Christian charity is encouraging prayers for those who are targeted by real-life pirate attacks.

Stranded Indian sailor wants to see his parents. By Sajila Saseendran.  
*Gulf News* [Online]. 29 May 2017. Available from:  
The scorching summer heat is becoming unbearable for Subith K. Sukumaran, an Indian oiler on board the vessel *MV Sharjah Moon* that has docked at Hamriya Port in Sharjah.

**SEARCH AND RESCUE**

Pacific delegates gather to discuss search and rescue.  
*Radio New Zealand* [Online]. 23 May 2017. Available from:  
http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/programmes/datelinepacific/audio/201844853/pacific-delegates-gather-to-discuss-search-and-rescue  
Delegates to a Pacific search and rescue conference underway in Auckland hope to find more effective ways of raising safety awareness among people using the world’s biggest ocean.

Theresa Crossley Appointed CEO of the International Maritime Rescue Federation.  
*International Maritime Rescue Federation* [Online]. 22 May 2017. Available from:  
The International Maritime Rescue Federation (IMRF), the international charity focussed on preventing loss of life in the world's waters, has announced that Theresa Crossley will be its new Chief Executive.

**SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIR**

Six killed in crane collapse at Samsung shipyard in South Korea. By Heekyong Yang and Nerijus Adomaitis.  
*Reuters* [Online]. 1 May 2017. Available from:  
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-samsung-heavy-accident-idUSKBN17X1K6  
Six people died and more than 20 were injured when a crane collapsed at a Samsung Heavy Industries shipyard in South Korea on Monday.

Norwegian billionaire to build giant ship for environment research.  
*The Local (Norway)* [Online]. 2 May 2017. Available from:  
https://www.thelocal.no/20170502/norwegian-billionaire-to-build-giant-ship-for-environment-research  
The 181-meter-long vessel, which is scheduled to be launched in the summer of 2020, will give researchers tools they could not otherwise have dreamed of.

One Sea - Autonomous Maritime Ecosystem introduced roadmaps to autonomous shipping.  
*One Sea* [Online]. 22 May 2017. Available from:  
http://www.goo.gl/cRPaUV  
Top players from marine and IT-industry have teamed up to jointly develop world’s first system of autonomous ships.
SHIPPING

All you need to know about shipping but were afraid to ask: ICS launches 2017 Annual Review. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) [Online]. 3 May 2017. Available from: http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2017/05/03/all-you-need-to-know-about-shipping-but-were-afraid-to-ask-ics-launches-2017-annual-review The International Chamber of Shipping has launched its latest Annual Review, ahead of the ICS Annual General Meeting in Istanbul next week.  


COSCO SHIPPING -- A name card of China in Greece on Maritime Silk Road. By Yan Liang. Xinhuanet (China) [Online]. 7 May 2017. Available from: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/07/c_136263839.htm It is the 22nd day on the sea for the merchant vessel (M.V.) COSCO Netherlands to complete its voyage from China to Europe on a route known as the Maritime Silk Road.


Ballast water rules to help bigger owners in US trade. By Nidaa Bakhsh, Eagle Bulk Shipping Inc. *Lloyd's List* [Online]. 9 May 2017. Available from: [https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/dry-cargo/article555421.ece](https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/dry-cargo/article555421.ece) New ballast water regulations taking effect in September will be advantageous for bigger shipowners that will be able to take market share in the US trade routes from smaller players, according to Eagle Bulk's chief executive Gary Vogel.


Pressure is on for VLCC tankers. By Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News* [Online]. 15 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/pressure-is-on-for-vlcc-tankers/](http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/pressure-is-on-for-vlcc-tankers/) In its latest weekly report, shipbroker Charles R. Weber said that “VLCC rates remained under negative pressure this week as demand in both the Middle East and West Africa markets posted w/w declines while the extent of the May Middle East program appeared likely to conclude below earlier expectations as Suezmax demand surged, leading to weaker VLCC fundamentals.


UK shipowning needs to move with the times. By Sir Michael Bibby, Vice-President, UK Chamber of Shipping. *UK Chamber of Shipping [Online]*. 19 May 2017. Available from: https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/uk-shipowning-needs-move-times-sir-michael-bibby/ Sir Michael Bibby, vice-president of the UK Chamber of Shipping, writes on how British shipping should evolve, not cling on to nostalgia.


Has shipping become commoditised? *Splash 24/7 [Online]*. 24 May 2017. Available from: http://splash247.com/shipping-become-commoditised/ Some argue our industry always has been while others reckon massive failures like Hanjin have halted the process.


'GoodShipping Program' hands cargo owners control of their carbon footprint. *All About Shipping* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.allaboutshipping.co.uk/2017/05/24/goodshipping-program-hands-cargo-owners-control-of-their-carbon-footprint/](http://www.allaboutshipping.co.uk/2017/05/24/goodshipping-program-hands-cargo-owners-control-of-their-carbon-footprint/) The 'GoodShipping Program' enables ocean cargo owners with a quick, transparent and convenient way to reduce their carbon footprint - from the industry itself, and not from alternative mitigation schemes - by driving 'purchasing' biofuel in an initiative that is designed to accelerate low-carbon fuels in the marine fuel mix.


New Record Set for Largest-Capacity Vessel to Transit Expanded Panama Canal. *Panama Canal Authority* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: [http://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2017/05/24/pr625.html](http://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2017/05/24/pr625.html) Today, less than a month after the previous record was set, the Panama Canal welcomed the Neopanamax container vessel OOCL France, making it the largest capacity vessel to transit the Expanded Canal since it was inaugurated in June 2016.

Dubai looking into forming $1 billion shipping investment fund: sources. By Jonathan Saul and Tom Arnold. *Reuters* [Online]. 24 May 2017. Available from: [https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-emirates-shipping-fund-idUKKBN18K1RX](https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-emirates-shipping-fund-idUKKBN18K1RX) Dubai is looking into creating a $1 billion (£772 million) investment fund focused on shipping to develop the Gulf city’s maritime sector and ride out a global industry downturn, three finance sources familiar with the plans say.


RESEARCH


Exceptional and rapid accumulation of anthropogenic debris on one of the world’s most remote and pristine islands. By J. L. Lavers, A. L. Bond. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. [Online]. Available from: http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2017/05/09/1619818114.abstract In just over half a century plastic products have revolutionized human society and have infiltrated terrestrial and marine environments in every corner of the globe.


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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.