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.

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IMO moves ahead with oceans and climate change agenda

*Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), 71st session 3-7 July 2017*

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations agency charged with regulating international shipping, has progressed its environmental agenda at the recent meeting of its Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), 71st session (3-7 July). The Committee clarified the ballast water management schedule, progressed GHG and air pollution issues, adopted new NOx emission control areas, designated a further Particularly Sensitive Sea Area and agreed to work on implementation of the 0.50% global sulphur limit.

This work is helping IMO to fulfil its mandate to protect oceans and human health and to mitigate climate change, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 14 (oceans) and SDG 13 (climate change).

**Ballast Water Management Convention clarity**

The MEPC agreed a practical and pragmatic implementation schedule for ships to comply with the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention, which aims to stem the transfer of potentially invasive species in ships’ ballast water. [Full Story: Briefing 17 - 11/07/2017](#)

**IMO MEETINGS FOR 2017**

- **Council** (24/07/2017 – 28/07/2017)
- **Technical Cooperation Committee (TCC)** (17/07/2017 – 19/07/2017)

**IMO NEWS MAGAZINE** (Summer 2017)

**IMO PUBLISHING** Just Published: 2017 July 2017 Newsletter

**RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM**

Technical Cooperation Committee, 67th session, 17-19 July (Opening and Closing address)

- **2017 IAMU Student Forum at IMO**
  11 July 2017

- Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), 71st session, 3-7 July (Opening and Closing address)
UNITED NATIONS NEWS


CASUALTIES


Collision in the Dover Strait. UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency [Online]. 1 July 2017. Available from: http://hmcoastguard.blogspot.co.uk/2017/07/collision-in-dover-strait.html The UK Coastguard was contacted at just after 2:00 this morning to report that a bulk carrier and an oil tanker had been in collision in the Dover Strait.


7 dead or missing after Vietnamese ship sinks in tropical storm. VnExpress (Vietnam) [Online]. 17 July 2017. Available from: http://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/7-dead-or-missing-after-vietnamese-ship-sinks-in-tropical-storm-3614520.html At least one man has died and six more are missing from a cargo ship that went down off Vietnam’s central coast on Monday in the middle of a tropical storm.

More than 30 missing after Cameroon military boat sinks. By Josiane Kouagheu. Reuters [Online]. 17 July 2017. Available from: http://af.reuters.com/article/africaTech/idAFKBN1A200O-OZATP More than 30 people are missing after a boat belonging to an elite Cameroonian military unit sank off the coast on Sunday, the president's office said.


FM requests Brazil for additional search for missing crew of cargo ship [Stellar Daisy]. Yonhap News Agency (South Korea) [Online]. 19 July 2017. Available from: http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/07/19/0200000000AEN20170719010800320.html The country's top diplomat on Wednesday asked her Brazilian counterpart to carry out an additional search operation for crew members who are missing from an ill-fated South Korean cargo ship, the foreign ministry said.


Crew members of cargo ship ITT Panther, which sank off Andaman Coast, rescued. By Sanjib Kumar Roy. New Indian Express [Online]. 20 July 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/7jYPzJ As the day was dawning on Thursday, ITT Panther, a cargo ship, sent its last communication. It was a distress call to the Coast Guards.


Captain of capsized fishing boat jumps from safety back into water to rescue crewman.


ENVIRONMENT


Two whales suffered blunt trauma, another killed by fishing gear: vet. Chilliwack Times (Canada) [Online]. 5 July 2017. Available from: http://www.chilliwacktimes.com/national/432650463.html Injuries suffered by at least two of six North Atlantic right whales found floating lifeless in the Gulf of St. Lawrence appear to be consistent with ship strikes, marine mammal experts say.

Right whale freed from fishing gear in Gulf of St. Lawrence north of P.E.I.

Shipping can't follow Trump's lead and slow-steam on climate change.

Ocean vital signs are stable, but bill of health isn't clean. National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) [Online]. 5 July 2017. Available from: https://www.nceas.ucsb.edu/news/ocean-vital-signs-are-stable-no-clean-bill-health. A study by a team of researchers from NCEAS and Conservation International synthesized five years' worth of vital signs on a host of indicators — ranging from water quality to food provision to tourism potential — and found that while overall ocean health appears to be stable, the oceans around many of the 220 countries analyzed are changing, and in many cases not for the better.


One step closer to a climate agreement for shipping. Danish Maritime Authority [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from: https://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/One-step-closer-to-a-climate-agreement-for-shipping.aspx. After two weeks' intensive debate in the IMO, steps have been taken towards specific measures to reduce shipping's greenhouse gas emissions.

Evidence from latest right whale necropsy points to collision with ship.
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) [Online]. 13 July 2017. Available from: http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ montreal/right-whale-necropsy-magdalen-islands-1.4204503. Preliminary results from necropsies performed on two North Atlantic right whales on the Magdalen Islands this week suggest one of them was involved in a collision with a ship.


New marine science review shows significant increase in understanding of ocean function and anthropogenic impacts. High Seas Alliance [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from: http://highseasalliance.org/content/press-release-new-marine-science-review-shows-significant-increase-understanding-ocean As States meet at the United Nations for the final round of negotiations towards a possible high seas treaty, a new scientific review of recent ocean research shows more clearly than ever the importance of ocean services, its critical role to humankind and the rate and scale of the changes occurring due to climate change and other human impacts. Function of the High Seas and Anthropogenic Impacts Science Update

The time to act is now. By Sikeli Qounadovu. Fiji Times [Online]. 18 July 2017. Available from: http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=409025 The global community now looks forward to the 23rd Conference of the Parties or COP23 which will be held in Bonn, Germany, later this year.


**ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**

Maersk Oil has released 42 tons of non-approved chemicals in the ocean. *By Maz Plechinger. ShippingWatch* [Online]. 30 June 2017. Available from: [http://shippingwatch.com/secure/Offshore/article9691714.ece](http://shippingwatch.com/secure/Offshore/article9691714.ece) Danish media DR reports that Maersk Oil has potentially polluted the North Sea more than the company originally told authorities.


Maersk report on 42 tons of illegal pollution discharge is inadequate. ShippingWatch [Online]. 6 July 2017. Available from: http://shippingwatch.com/secure/Offshore/article9705360.ece The Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA) has received a report from Maersk Oil concerning illegal discharge of chemicals in connection with oil and gas production in the North Sea.


Daily emissions of cruise ships same as one million cars. By Sam Morgan. EurActiv [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from: https://www.euractiv.com/section/air-pollution/news/daily-emissions-of-cruise-ships-same-as-one-million-cars/ Cruise ships can emit as much particulate matter as a million cars every day and the air quality on deck can be as bad as the world's most polluted cities, according to a new investigation.

Panama Canal Reaffirms Commitment to Sustainable Shipping at IMO’s 71st Marine Environment Protection Committee Meeting. Panama Canal Authority [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from: http://www.acp.gob.pa/eng/pr/press-releases/2017/07/10/pr630.html Members of the Panama delegation spoke with industry specialists at the MEPC 71 about the shipping industry's impact on the environment and participated in two working group meetings, including one on the reduction of GHG emissions from ships, and another on further technical and operational measures for enhancing the energy efficiency of international shipping.

CLIA hits back at cruise emissions stats. Travel Weekly [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from: http://www.travelweekly.com.au/article/clia-hits-back-at-cruise-emissions-stats/ Following a recent UK investigation that showed cruise lines can emit more pollution that major world cities, the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has shared its own take on the issue.

European shipowners welcome the progress made at the IMO environmental meeting.  
ECSA representing the European shipowners believe that important progress was made last week at the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) meeting.

Small traces of hydrocarbons were found in the water surrounding the grounded bulk carrier Los Llanitos in Punta Graham, Mexico's environmental protection agency (PROFEPA) said.

Even if the entire world fleet switched to zero emissions propulsion technology, the impact on global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions would be "modest" at best, consultant and veteran industry expert Rudy Kassinger has told Ship & Bunker.

WA oil and gas giant Woodside is urging the Pilbara’s heavy industry ports to adopt stricter environmental standards to encourage the use of clean marine fuels.

Few people say "no" to the White House, but when Terry Garcia received a phone call from the Obama administration in May, 2010, the request was not one that filled him with great joy.

LSU has received one of the competitive federal grants funded from penalties paid by parties responsible for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

A mariner who has spent years travelling "hundreds of thousands of nautical miles" to measure the impact of plastic waste in the ocean has estimated that a "raft" of plastic debris spanning more than 965,000 square miles (2.5m sq km) is concentrated in a region of the South Pacific.

A plea alleging rising air pollution by diesel-run ships in the Indian territorial waters yesterday prompted the National Green Tribunal to seek replies from the Centre and others.

While sinners face the wrath of God for sinning, the 11 in the maritime industry are monitored and policed by a world maritime community, spearheaded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
Oil refineries unprepared to provide low-sulphur fuels by 2020. By Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd's List [Online]. 18 July 2017. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL109151/Oil-refineries-unprepared-to-provide-lowsulphur-fuels-by-2020 Only 15% of the world's fuel oil refineries have a strategy in place to meet the global 2020 0.5% sulphur cap, according to a recent survey of refineries by technology-focused consulting company KBC.


HEALTH AND SAFETY

Air on board cruise ships 'is twice as bad as at Piccadilly Circus'. By Will Coldwell. *The Guardian* [Online]. 3 July 2017. Available from: [https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2017/jul/03/air-on-board-cruise-ships-is-twice-as-bad-as-at-piccadilly-circus](https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2017/jul/03/air-on-board-cruise-ships-is-twice-as-bad-as-at-piccadilly-circus) Passengers on cruise ships could be exposing themselves to dangerous levels of pollution, according to an investigation by Channel 4's Dispatches team that found some public areas on the ships' decks were more polluted than the world's worst-affected cities.


Fujairah Port Medical Centre collaborates with Tristar and Fujairah Port to provide free medical screening for almost 500 seafarers. *UAE News 247* [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from: [http://www.goo.gl/22BVE2](http://www.goo.gl/22BVE2) Continuing support to International Seafarers Day 2017, Fujairah Port Medical Centre in collaboration with Tristar and Fujairah Port offered two days of free medical screening to almost 500 seafarers, who were stationed at the port on July 9 and 10.

Breathalysers to be distributed to seafarers: 270 inspections at sea between May and mid-July. By Sarah Carabott. *Times of Malta* [Online]. 24 July 2017. Available from: [https://www.timesofmalta.com/mobile/articles/view/20170724/local/breathalysers-to-be-distributed-to-seafarers.654043](https://www.timesofmalta.com/mobile/articles/view/20170724/local/breathalysers-to-be-distributed-to-seafarers.654043) Disposable breathalysers will now be distributed to seafarers in a bid to reduce excessive drinking while at sea, where the alcohol limit is similar to that on the road.


IMO


NGOs to IMO: Settle on a climate target. By Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch* [Online]. 7 July 2017. Available from: [http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9708386.ece](http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9708386.ece) An ambitious climate strategy that stresses the need for targets for the reduction of greenhouse gases is at the top of the agenda at several of the NGOs participating in the ongoing meeting of the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) in London.


ICS Pleased With IMO Progress On Environmental Issues. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) [Online]. 12 July 2017. Available from: http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/view-article/2017/07/12/ics-pleased-with-imo-progress-on-environmental-issues Commenting on the outcome of last week's meeting of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) – which represents the world’s national shippers’ associations – says it is pleased with the progress made by IMO Member States on a number of critical environmental regulatory issues that will have a profound impact on the future structure of the global shipping industry.


Carriers are optimistic after new climate plan from the IMO. By Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from: http://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article9716595.ece Danish Shipping and the International Chamber of Shipping are optimistic after last week's meeting in the IMO where countries agreed on the framework for a climate strategy for shipping.

UN maritime agency praises Iran activities. Tehran Times (Iran) [Online]. 13 July 2017. Available from: http://www.tehrantimes.com/news/415044/UN-maritime-agency-praises-Iran-activities The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has appreciated Iran's efforts and its participation in the international body's activities, ILNA reported on Wednesday.


Desmi on ballast water delay: "Bad for the environment and for IMO". By Katrine Grønvald Raun. ShippingWatch [Online]. 17 July 2017. Available from: http://shippingwatch.com/secure/suppliers/article9728399.ece It is bad news for the environment as well as the IMO that the member states decided to push back the implementation of the ballast water rules, equipment supplier Desmi Ocean Guard tells ShippingWatch.


**LAW AND POLICY**


Prime Minister Signs Maritime Boundaries Agreement. By Cathy Lashley.  
Prime Minister Freundel Stuart and his St. Lucian counterpart, Prime Minister Allen Chastenet, today signed a treaty establishing a maritime boundary agreement between the two countries.

Admiralty Law Crucial To Maritime Sector Growth – Dakuku.  
*News Diary Online (Nigeria)* [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from:  
The Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dakuku Peterside has said that there can be no maritime sector without admiralty law and that every aspect of shipping is governed by one law or the other.

Cheeki Rafiki: company boss convicted of failing to ensure yacht's safety.  
By Steven Morris.  
[http://www.goo.gl/y4QLT8](http://www.goo.gl/y4QLT8) A yacht company director has been found guilty of failing to ensure the safety of the Cheeki Rafiki, a boat that was lost in poor weather in the mid-Atlantic with four sailors on board.

Somali Attorney General asks *MSC Alice* Vessel to Compensate for the Loss, amid Internet Blackout in Somalia for the Third week.  
*Horn Observer (Somalia)* [Online]. 12 July 2017. Available from:  
[http://www.goo.gl/euMBUW](http://www.goo.gl/euMBUW) The government of Somalia has asked the ship that was accused of cutting the Fibre optic cable from Mogadishu to compensate for the loss, amid the country faces more than two weeks of internet disruption, that costs millions of dollars.

Ten years of oil exploration: Has Ghana any oil spill contingency plan in place?  
By Mawutodzi Kodzo Abissath.  
[http://www.goo.gl/38v2hd](http://www.goo.gl/38v2hd) Gradually but steadily, Ghana is elbowing its way into a comity of nations where she could be described as an oil producing country.

Maritime treaty success for Barbados, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines.  
*Commonwealth Secretariat* [Online]. 14 July 2017. Available from:  

Indonesian government inaugurates name of N Natuna Sea.  
*Antara News (Indonesia)* [Online]. 14 July 2017. Available from:  

Asserting sovereignty, Indonesia renames part of South China Sea.  
By Tom Allard and Bernadette Christina Munthe.  
*Reuters* [Online]. 14 July 2017. Available from:  
[http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-politics-map-idUSKBN19Z0YQ](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-politics-map-idUSKBN19Z0YQ) Indonesia renamed the northern reaches of its exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea as the North Natuna Sea on Friday, the latest act of resistance by Southeast Asian nations to China's territorial ambitions in the maritime region.


**MARINE TECHNOLOGY**


**MARITIME SAFETY**


Five Common Causes of Crane Failure. By Chris Dyson, Senior Partner and Marine Engineer, Brookes Bell. *Maritime Executive* [Online]. 9 July 2017. Available from: http://maritime-executive.com/blog/five-common-causes-of-crane-failure Although each ship's crane failure is unique, there are often similarities between them, right across the global shipping industry, such that many of the incidents could have been avoided.


New German requirement drives charter rates up and safety standards down.  
In April, the German maritime authority, BG Verkehr, made a decision that has greatly restricted the employment of many experienced masters of foreign crew transfer vessels on German windfarms.

When the *Crystal Serenity*, a 1,000-passenger luxury liner, sails in August on a month long Arctic cruise through the Northwest Passage, it will have a far more utilitarian escort: a British supply ship.

Climate change is sending more hungry right whales on to the Gulf of St. Lawrence to feed and that is resulting in more deaths from collisions with ships and tangles with fishing gear, officials say.

Maritime safety company Propel suggests that human failure is still top of the agenda when it comes to improving safety.

As recent incidents have demonstrated, the risks from a containership fire increase as the number of containers onboard rises.

**MARITIME SECURITY**

As Maersk gets back to work, international shipping bodies urge cyber caution.  
As the Maersk Group gets back to more normal working procedures in the wake of Tuesday’s giant cyber attack, a host of the world’s top shipping bodies have warned that the industry must be more on its guard as further sophisticated attacks are expected to proliferate.


The U.S. and Philippine navies completed a coordinated patrol in the Sulu Sea at the invitation of the Government of the Philippines, July 1.
Blockchain would have prevented Maersk cyber attack. By Martyn Wingrove.  


Maersk brings major IT systems back online after cyber attack. By Jacob Gronholt-Pedersen and Jonathan Saul. *Reuters* [Online]. 3 July 2017. Available from: [http://uk.mobile.reuters.com/article/technologyNews/idUSKBN19O0X8](http://uk.mobile.reuters.com/article/technologyNews/idUSKBN19O0X8) Danish shipping giant A.P. Moller-Maersk (MAERSKb.CO) said it had restored its major applications, as it brings its IT systems back online after being hit by a major cyber attack last week.


Maritime security: Collaborations with security agencies the way to go - Dr Dakuku Peterside - Army is ready, says 81 DIV GOC.
The Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) Dr. Dakuku Peterside has stressed the strategic importance of security agencies to the achievement of safe and secure shipping and a viable and vibrant maritime sector for the country’s benefits.


Ship’s satellite communication system hacked with ease. By Sam Chambers. Splash 24/7 [Online]. 19 July 2017. Available from: http://splash247.com/ships-satellite-communication-system-hacked-ease/ The vulnerability of shipboard systems has been laid bare for all to see on social media.


Japan to host first meeting of world maritime security leaders: Abe. Japan Times [Online]. 18 July 2017. Available from: http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/07/18/national/politics-diplomacy/japan-host-first-meeting-world-maritime-security-leaders-abe/ Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Monday that the country will host, in September, a meeting among heads and other senior officials of maritime security organizations from around the world.

'If it can happen to Maersk, it can happen to anyone': FMC warns on cyber attacks. Splash 24/7 [Online]. 20 July 2017. Available from: http://splash247.com/can-happen-maersk-can-happen-anyone-federal-maritime-commissioner-warns-cyber-attacks/ William Doyle, a Federal Maritime Commissioner based in Washington DC, has warned shipping lines to be on alert for cyber attacks, saying that if Maersk can be hit, anyone can.
The recent establishment of an inter-ministerial anti-smuggling task force – one that comprises the National Police chief, the Armed Forces commander-in-chief, the attorney general, the finance and trade ministers and the heads of the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) and the financial intelligence unit, as well as the presidential chief of staff — is simply official admission that smuggling remains a major and complex problem in the world's largest archipelagic country.

Determined to fully combat the menace of sea pirates on Nigerian waters, the Federal Government has approved a new maritime security architectural framework aimed at streamlining working relationships among its agencies and the military.

A US Senate panel has asked the Pentagon to increase maritime security in Bangladesh, a move seen as a counter move to Chinese influence in the region.


British Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel have trained alongside naval forces from several partner nations during deployment on-board a French warship.

We would like to provide you with an update regarding cyber security, to which we have received a number of queries over the last weeks.

India and Japan hope to put in place a maritime security pact when PM Shinzo Abe visits mid-September for the annual summit amid China's growing aggression in East and South China Seas besides Indian Ocean Region - a common concern for both New Delhi and Tokyo.

Control Risks has recorded a 15% decrease in global maritime security incidents in the first half of the year, compared with the same period in 2016. *Maritime Risk 2017 Half Year*
**MARITIME TRAINING**

**Peterside:** Maritime University will start academic activities in October. By Bisi Olaniyi, Port Harcourt, and Oluwakemi Dauda. *The Nation (Nigeria)* [Online]. 30 June 2017. Available from: [http://thenationonlineng.net/peterside-maritime-university-will-start-academic-activities-october/](http://thenationonlineng.net/peterside-maritime-university-will-start-academic-activities-october/) Academic activities will take off at the Maritime University, Okerenkoko, in Delta State, in October, the Director-General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) Dakuku Peterside, has assured.


**Polar training: MI develops ice navigation course for ships operating in polar regions.** By Leslie Earle. *Memorial University* (Canada) [Online]. 14 July 2017. Available from: [https://gazette.mun.ca/teaching-and-learning/polar-training/](https://gazette.mun.ca/teaching-and-learning/polar-training/) Navigating the icy waters of our polar regions is a challenge that is becoming more frequent as vessels make their way through areas such as the Northwest Passage.


**Value for money assessment of the support for maritime training review.**

**Port St Johns thrilled by SAMSA driven maritime youth development programme.**


Port St Johns, a small coastal town along the Indian Ocean in the Eastern Cape, almost midway between the port cities of Durban and East London, is beyond itself with excitement over a series of programmes intended to equip local youth with maritime related skills and possible creation of badly needed jobs.

**MIGRANTS**


The European Union executive on Thursday threw its weight behind a plea by Italy for fellow EU states to allow rescue boats carrying African migrants across the Mediterranean to dock in their ports to alleviate growing pressure on Rome.


The Ministers of Interior of France, Germany and Italy and the European Commissioner for Migration and Home Affairs met in Paris on 2 July 2017 to discuss the challenges posed by the increasing migratory flow on the Central Mediterranean route.


A study of mixed refugee and migrant flows by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, has found that around half of those travelling to Libya do so believing they can find jobs there, but end up fleeing onwards to Europe to escape life-threatening insecurity, instability, difficult economic conditions plus widespread exploitation and abuse.


In the course of last weekend, 12,600 migrants and refugees arrived on its shores, and an estimated 2,030 have lost their lives in the Mediterranean since the beginning of the year.


Ahead of this week’s informal meeting of EU Justice and Home Affairs ministers, the UN Migration Agency (IOM) urges European Union (EU) Member States to reinvigorate cooperation in the shared interest of saving more lives in the Mediterranean, and to help Member States on the EU's southern border to receive, assist and accommodate people rescued at sea.


The UN Migration Agency (IOM) reports that 101,210 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 3 July, with almost 85 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain.
Italy’s bluff to close its ports to migrant boats heightens tensions in the Mediterranean. 
By Simon McMahon, Research Fellow, Coventry University.  The Conversation [Online].  

Available from:  http://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/news/austria-backs-down-on-italy-border-troop-threat/  🏥  Austria sought to dampen a row with neighbour Italy yesterday (5 July) after it prompted outrage from Rome by threatening to send troops to the border to stop migrants entering.

Mediterranean rescue: Here is EU’s code of conduct for NGOs. By Marco Zatterin.  
La Stampa (Italy) [Online]. 7 July 2017.  Available from:  http://www.goo.gl/UhCqK1  In an informal meeting with European ministers Thursday morning, Italy presented a new code of conduct to regulate NGOs rescue of migrants in the Mediterranean Sea.

EU countries decline to help Italy with Mediterranean refugee crisis. By Barbara Wesel. 

The deadly Spanish route attracting migrants to Europe. By Guy Hedgecoe.  BBC News [Online]. 6 July 2017.  Available from:  http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-40504374  🏥  It is believed to be the worst tragedy in the Western Mediterranean this year - 49 sub-Saharan Africans attempting to reach Spain are missing after the boat they were travelling in capsized.


Migrants once again drawn to deadly Spanish route to Europe.  EurActiv [Online].  
10 July 2017.  Available from:  http://www.goo.gl/Wpcp1T  🏥  The number of migrants arriving on Spain’s southern coast has more than doubled in 2017 compared to last year, as they avoid passing through conflict-wracked Libya on their way to Europe.

War and violence drive 80% of people fleeing to Europe by sea, not economics. 


**Arrival of migrants in June: Numbers rising in Italy and Spain.** *Frontex European Border and Coast Guard Agency* [Online]. 13 July 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/5bByAZ In June, there were more than 30 700 detections of illegal border crossings on the four main migratory routes into the EU.


**Italy feels the heat as EU shuts doors to migrants.** By Angela Giuffrida. *The Guardian* [Online]. 23 July 2017. Available from: [https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/22/italy-feels-heat-europe-slams-door-on-migrants](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/22/italy-feels-heat-europe-slams-door-on-migrants) On a hot afternoon in the northern Italian border town of Ventimiglia, a group of well-dressed French tourists is making its way towards air-conditioned buses that will take them back to their homes along the Côte d'Azur.


NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATIONS


PIRACY


Maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea: ECSA position


Seychelles delivers a successful 20th Plenary of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia. Government of Seychelles [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from: http://www.mfa.gov.sc/static.php?content_id=36&news_id=1455 The Seychelles delegation has returned to Seychelles following the successful 20th Plenary of the Contact Group on Piracy Off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS), which was co-hosted by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), and held at the InterContinental Hotel, Balaclava, Mauritius, from 5th to 7th July 2017.


Piracy watchdog urges rerouting ships in Sulu-Celebes Sea as sailors killed. By Sameer C. Mohindru. S&P Global Platts [Online]. 19 July 2017. Available from: https://www.platts.com/latest-news/shipping/singapore/piracy-watchdog-urges-rerouting-ships-in-sulu-26775264 With the Philippine-based terrorist group, the Abu Sayyaf, executing three Vietnamese sailors this month, a regional watchdog on piracy has urged the shipping industry to exercise extreme caution and even re-route their vessels to avoid the dangerous areas.


PORT STATE CONTROL

ClassNK releases Annual Report on Port State Control. ClassNK [Online]. 6 July 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/ysDgnG The report aims to assist ship operators and management companies in maintaining compliant operations by providing information about ships detained by PSC as well as deficiencies that were found on board from many port states in 2016. ClassNK Port State Control Annual Report June 2017


PORTS AND HARBOURS

E.U. Study Proposes Harmonized Port Environmental Fees. *Maritime Executive* [Online]. 29 June 2017. Available from: [http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/eu-study-proposes-harmonized-port-environmental-fees](http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/eu-study-proposes-harmonized-port-environmental-fees) With the exception of Sweden, which started rewarding green vessels in 1991, port environmental charging has only been implemented regularly in Europe since 2011, and there has been little standardization between ports.


Estonian Presidency of the European Union - FEPORT priorities on Digitalisation.


FEPORT supports the approach of the Estonian presidency and believes that the below mentioned four priorities constitute a consistent strategy for Europe.


Abu Dhabi Ports has officially inaugurated the new Delma Port, which will better serve the community as an upgraded multipurpose port capable of handling cargo, passenger ferries and fishing vessels.


The Dar es Salaam Maritime Gateway Project (DSMGP) is a new project financed by the World Bank through an International Development Association Scale-up Facility credit.


Two industrial unions in the Nigerian maritime industry are set to cripple activities at the nation’s seaports Tuesday over a proposed amendment to the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) Act.


Chinese and French companies are bidding to help Gambia build up its Atlantic port Banjul to be what industry sources say could be a rival to neighboring Senegal’s Dakar.


Member countries have agreed on the outline of an IMO plan to cut Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) from global shipping, but the devil will be in the details, such as who will pay for greener technology.


Maersk Group's port division APM Terminals will have to work a little while longer on a major project in Costa Rica.


An agreement was signed yesterday between global trade enabler DP World and Indonesian government and port officials to advise on the development of the Kuala Tanjung greenfield port and logistics zone and Belawan port in North Sumatra.


As signatories to the Paris Climate Agreement, the Netherlands and 194 other countries around the world have agreed to jointly fight climate change.
Port of Rotterdam wants more state support. By Katrine Grønvald Raun. ShippingWatch [Online]. 21 July 2017. Available from: http://shippingwatch.com/secure/Ports/article9736387.ece The Dutch state should show more support for the Port of Rotterdam, says the port in relation to its half-year interim report, which shows growth in freight volumes for the major European port.


Yangtze River Delta ports improve global standing. By Wang Ying. China Daily.Com [Online]. 21 July 2017. Available from: http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2017-07/21/content_30202254.htm Ports along the Yangtze River Delta region have managed to elevate their position on the global stage in the past 20 years because of a concerted effort by the authorities to coordinate their development, according to Xu Guoyi, an official from the Shanghai regional ports management committee.


RECYCLING OF SHIPS

The EU needs to tackle the issue of ship-breaking and pave the way for Europe’s recycling industry. European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) [Online]. 30 June 2017. Available from: http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.news.43816 A financial instrument is needed to ensure compliance with the EU Ship Recycling Regulation While the EU's 2013 Ship Recycling Regulation (SRR) effectively bans “beaching” (ship-breaking on beaches) and lays down rules and standards for safe and sustainable recycling of European ships.

DOE Open to Ship Recycling. Financial Tribune (Iran) [Online]. 2 July 2017. Available from: https://financialtribune.com/articles/environment/67407/doe-open-to-ship-recycling The Department of Environment is opposed to the highly-polluting practice of shipbreaking, but might allow the establishment of a recycling center if certain conditions are met, according to a senior DOE official.

Legal status of ship recycling. Lexology [Online]. 5 July 2017. Available from: http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=d1f47ad6-b6e8-47ed-aa3c-e8feefdb85dd When a ship has reached the end of its life, its owner is faced with the decision of how to dispose of it in a manner that is both commercially viable and environmentally sustainable.
The dismantling and recycling of the *Costa Concordia* has been completed in Genoa.

Leading classification society ClassNK (Chairman and President: Koichi Fujiwara) has issued a Statement of Compliance (SoC) to a ship recycling facility in Izmir, Turkey, ISIKSAN SHIP RECYCLING and TRADING Co. Ltd. (Company Manager: Ömer DOGAN), verifying that the facilities are in line with the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 (HKC).


**REGULATIONS**

While a switch to low sulfur fuel is the most likely choice for compliance with the 0.50 percent global sulfur cap on bunkers coming into force in 2020, Hapag-Lloyd AG believes the decision could still be influenced by several issues currently under discussion at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and European Union (EU) levels, Wolfram Guntermann, Director of Environmental Fleet Management has told Ship & Bunker.

In view of the International Maritime Organisation’s (IMO) Marine Environment Protection Committee upcoming meeting (MEPC 71 during 3-7 July 2017), INTERCARGO re-iterates its welcoming the entry into force of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention in September.

Proposal seeks to meet the needs of shipowners and regulators that have been at loggerheads over mandating ballast water treatment equipment.

Shipowners complaining of excessive incoming environmental regulation are expected to be able to catch their breath next week, as the International Maritime Organization makes a decision on whether to extend the entry into force date of the Ballast Water Management Convention.
US Coast Guard Maritime Commons [Online]. 5 July 2017. Available from:  
Non-recreational vessels, U.S. and foreign, that are equipped with ballast tanks are required to comply with the U.S. ballast water regulations provided in Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 151 Subparts C & D when operating in the waters of the United States, except as expressly provided in 33 CFR 151.2015 & 151.2020.

Shipping companies working with class to prepare for EU MRV. By Bob Jaques.  
Seatrade Maritime News [Online]. 7 July 2017. Available from:  
With the entry into force of the EU MRV (Monitoring, Reporting and Verification) regulation on CO2 emissions looming, shipowners are busy preparing monitoring plans for pre-approval by class societies or other emissions verification bodies.

Shipowners get two-year reprieve for ballast water convention. By Lee Hong Liang.  
Seatrade Maritime News [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from:  
Shipowners have gotten a two-year reprieve on the retrofitting of ballast water treatment systems as the IMO has decided to delay the implementation of the convention until 2019.

Ballast water: a reprieve is just a reprieve. By Helen Kelly.  
Lloyd’s List [Online]. 7 July 2017. Available from:  
https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL109016/Ballast-water-a-reprieve-is-just-a-reprieve  
A two-year reprieve has been granted for compliance with the Ballast Water Management Convention, giving some vessels until 2024 to fully comply.

ICS and Liberia welcome amendments to ballast water convention. By Lee Hong Liang.  
The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the Liberia Maritime Administration have welcomed the IMO's decision to delay the implementation of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

http://www.safety4sea.com/uk-issues-ship-to-ship-transfers-implementation-review/  
The UK Department for Transport issued a post-implementation review of the ship-to-ship transfer regulations, informing that the targets and intended effects of the regulations have been achieved.

Liberia Hails BWMC Amendments As Good For Shipping And Environment.  
By A Wilson.  
Liberian Registry [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from:  
The Liberian Maritime Administration has welcomed an agreement reached by the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) on an implementation schedule for the Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC) which broadly incorporates the terms of an amendment initially proposed by Liberia.

Has ballast water been kicked into the long grass? By Richard Clayton.  
Lloyd’s List [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from:  
http://www.goo.gl/SKCw3n  
After all the huffing and puffing over the unloved ballast water management convention, the International Maritime Organization did the decent thing last week and incorporated language that defers the implementation schedule for existing ships for two years.


Friday Focus: Compliance Doubts Around SOLAS VGM. *Port Technology International* [Online]. 21 July 2017. Available from: [https://www.porttechnology.org/news/the_truth_about_sol...](https://www.porttechnology.org/news/the_truth_about_sol...(opens in new tab)) Simon Everett, Managing Director at Strainstall, a leading provider of container weighing systems, has told Port Technology that national bodies across the world are still "getting to grips" with the directive that protects the safety of ships and workers both on board and ashore when handling cargo.

IMO buckles before shipping lobby over BWM Convention. By Michael Grinter. *Hong Kong Maritime Hub* [Online]. 24 July 2017. Available from: http://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/imo-buckles-shipping-lobby-bwm-convention/ News that the implementation schedule for the fitting of ballast water systems has been deferred for two years induced a collective sigh of relief among shipowners around the world last week.

States Under-Equipped to Enforce SOLAS VGM. *Port Technology International* [Online]. 24 July 2017. Available from: https://www.porttechnology.org/news/governments_under_equipped_to_enforce_solas_vgm TT Club, a provider of insurance and related risk management services, has revealed that government authorities across the world may be under-equipped to enforce Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Verified Gross Mass (VGM) rules and protect the safety of ships and workers both on board and ashore when handling cargo.


**SALVAGE**

*MV Theresa Arctic* salvaged. *Kenya Ports Authority* [Online]. 13 July 2017. Available from: https://www.kpa.co.ke/Pages/MV-Theresa-Arctic-salvaged-.aspx The MV Theresa Arctic vessel which grounded off the Kilifi Port entrance channel two weeks ago was finally salvaged on Wednesday.

SEAFARERS


Hope for Tanzania's 50,000 seafarers as Parliament ratifies international laws. The Citizen (Tanzania) [Online]. 28 June 2017. Available from: http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/news/2017/06/28/hope-for-tanzania-s-50-000-seafarers-as-parliament-ratifies/ Tanzania has joined 91 other countries across the world to ratify international laws on the work of seafarers, sending a ray of hope to over 50,000 Tanzanians who work in various ships in and outside the country.


Relief for two stranded Indian sailors. By Sajila Saseendran. Gulf News [Online]. 4 July 2017. Available from: http://gulfnews.com/news/uae/society/relief-for-two-stranded-indian-sailors-1.2053341 Two Indian sailors stranded in UAE waters have been assured financial support by their state governments, the Indian Consulate in Dubai has confirmed.


Seminar and Workshop in Shanghai on Seafarers’ Welfare. *International Seafarers’ Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)* [Online]. 14 July 2017. Available from: http://seafarerswelfare.org/news-and-media/latest-news/seminar-and-workshop-in-shanghai-on-seafarers-welfare It was a full house at the first 'Maritime Silk Road Ports & Seafarers Seminar' held in Shanghai on 7th July - organised by the ISWAN International Port Welfare Partnership (IPWP) programme, the event was attended by over 100 representatives from the Shanghai regional maritime sector.

More must be done to provide connectivity for our Seafarers. *Mission to Seafarers* [Online]. 18 July 2017. Available from: https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/more-must-be-done-to-provide-connectivity-for-our-seafarers Seafarers can be on vessels for months at a time, while at home the world keeps turning without them.


Government has no plans to help seafarers phone home. *Nautilus International* [Online]. 19 July 2017. Available from: https://nautilusint.org/en/what-we-say/nautilus-news/government-has-no-plans-to-help-seafarers-phone-home/ No plans are being put in place to help British seafarers call home when they do not have access to a UK mobile service, the shipping minister has stated.
Horrors of Crewing a Flag of Convenience Merchant Vessel Revealed in UK Port Seizures. *Handy Shipping Guide* [Online]. 22 July 2017. Available from: http://handyshippingguide.com/shipping-news/horrors-of-crewing-a-flag-of-convenience-merchant-vessel-revealed-in-uk-port-seizures- 8233 Following our recent piece on the *MV Seccadi*, a freighter registered under a flag of convenience and held by the British authorities after non-payment of crew wages and the discovery of disgusting conditions on board, comes more information regarding this and two other ships similarly flagged as Panamanian and also crewed by personnel abandoned by the vessels owners and operators.

**MV Liberty Prudencia crew finally repatriated.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)* [Online]. 22 July 2017. Available from: https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/mv-liberty-prudencia-crew-finally-repatriated-home/ Human Rights at Sea is delighted to be able to pass on the confirmed news that all 16 of the former crew of the *MV Liberty Prudencia* are being repatriated home tomorrow (Sunday 23 July 2017) to their families, and that their wages have been finally paid after the charity and other organisations, including the ITF, the Indian Consulate and ship managers were first alerted to their plight in February of this year.


**IMarEST’s Guild of Benevolence helps stranded Seccadi crew, now returned home.** *Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)* [Online]. 24 July 2017. Available from: https://www.imarest.org/policy-news/institute-news/item/3500-imarest-s-guild-of-benevolence-helps-stranded-seccadi-crew-now-returned-home The IMarEST’s Guild of Benevolence made funds available to support the crew of both this vessel and *MV Toba*, also under detention.

**Advisory for seafarers.** *Consulate General of India, Dubai* [Online]. 25 July 2017. Available from: http://www.cgidubai.org/advisory-for-seafarers/ A number of cases of Indian seafarers in distress on ships have been brought to the attention of Consulate General of India, Dubai in the past few months.


SEARCH AND RESCUE


Somali sailors rescued through combined effort. Combined Maritime Forces [Online]. 27 June 2017. Available from: https://combinedmaritimeforces.com/2017/06/27/somali-sailors-rescued-through-combined-effort/ A routine patrol for a warship turned into a lifeline for Somali sailors stranded in a skiff that had been floating for seven days.

Dover and Ramsgate lifeboats launched after major collision in English Channel. By Paul Dunt. Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) [Online]. 1 July 2017. Available from: https://rnli.org/news-and-media/2017/july/01/dover-and-ramsgate-lifeboats-launched-after-a-major-collision-in-the-english-channel The UK Coastguard called for the immediate launch of the Dover and Ramsgate RNLI all-weather lifeboats just after 2.15am on Saturday 1 July following reports that a bulk carrier and crude oil tanker, with a total of 49 people on board the two vessels, had collided and were at a complete stop.


Singapore invests in new satellite technology to enhance search and rescue capabilities. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) [Online]. 24 July 2017. Available from: http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/5286f3cb-4011-4f17-b8fa-10a96977ce54 The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) and Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) have invested in a new Medium-altitude Earth Orbit Search and Rescue (MEOSAR) ground system to enhance search and rescue capabilities in Singapore's maritime and aeronautical Search and Rescue Regions (SRRs).


**SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIR**


Engineering, production and life-cycle management for the complete construction of large-length FIBRE-based SHIPS. *European Commission* [Online]. May 2017. Available from: [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210787_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210787_en.html). The main objective of the FIBRESHIP project is to create a new EU-market to build complete large-length ships in FRP (Fibre-Reinforced Polymers) enabling its massive application.
SHIPPING

Stakeholders Suggest Ways to Explore Opportunities in Maritime Industry.
By Peter Uzoho. *This Day (Nigeria)* [Online]. 30 June 2017. Available from: http://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2017/06/30/stakeholders-suggest-ways-to-explore-opportunities-in-maritime-industry/ Maritime industry players have said that good management models, strategies, and policies are needed to tap from the huge opportunities in the industry, which they said could serve as alternative source of revenue to Nigeria and Africa.

Shipping's environmental commitments head for crunch point.


Striving to ensure quality maritime services. *Ceylon Today (Sri Lanka)* [Online]. 4 July 2017. Available from: http://www.ceylontoday.lk/print20170401CT20170630.php?id=24698 While noting Sri Lanka is well on its way towards becoming a main trans-shipment centre in the region, Minister of Ports and Shipping Mahinda Samarasinghe said the country is also striving to provide ancillary maritime services for the global shipping community at a competitive price and are constantly looking to upgrade the quality and range of those services.


"World's Largest" OOCL Hong Kong sails for Suez, 6 July 2017. Shipping TV [Online]. 6 July 2017. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z6PDV-y5og&feature=youtu.be After all the excitement of her first and second arrivals at the Port of Felixstowe, OOCL Hong Kong slips away with just a handful of onlookers, as she heads towards the Suez Canal and the Far East.


Tankers: The Implications of the Qatari Crisis to the market and Ships’ Bunkering. Hellenic Shipping News [Online]. 8 July 2017. Available from: http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/tankers-the-implications-of-the-qatari-crisis-to-the-market-and-ships-bunkering/ In its latest weekly report, shipbroker Intermodal noted that “a war of words blasted last month as the UAE, S. Arabia, Egypt and Bahrain revealed that they are experiencing severe diplomatic issues with the state of Qatar over assertions that it is sponsoring terrorism.

BOURBON joins Automated Ships Ltd and KONGSBERG to deliver ground-breaking autonomous offshore support vessel prototype. BOURBON [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from: http://www.bourbonoffshore.com/en/bourbon-joins-automated-ships-ltd-and-kongsberg-deliver-groundbreaking-autonomous-offshore-support Leading marine Offshore services company, BOURBON has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Automated Ships Ltd to support the building of the world’s first autonomous, fully-automated and cost-efficient prototype vessel for offshore operations, in collaboration with the project’s primary technology partner, KONGSBERG.

Verifavia Shipping Exceeds 1,000 Ships under EU MRV Assessment. Verifavia Shipping [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from: http://www.goo.gl/QnSD3n Verifavia, the world’s leading emissions verification company for the transport sector (aviation and shipping), today announced that the company now has over 1,000 ships and Monitoring Plans (MPs) under assessment for compliance with the European Union’s Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (EU MRV) regulation.


Myanmar aims to become Asian maritime hub. By Khine Kyaw. The Nation (Thailand) [Online]. 10 July 2017. Available from: http://www.nationmultimedia.com/news/business/30320301 As Asean countries prioritise on improving connectivity within and beyond the region, Myanmar has planned to take advantage of its strategic location between the two most populated nations - China and India - to become a hub of maritime trade in Asia, transport authorities say.

Delay of ballast water convention has contrasting effect. Yonhap News Agency (South Korea) [Online]. 12 July 2017. Available from: http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/07/12/0503000000AEN20170712001900320.html South Korea's shippers and shipbuilders reacted differently Wednesday to a decision by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to delay the implementation of a ballast water convention.

What will be the biggest challenge with respect to EU MRV implementation for the key stakeholders and owners in the long run? Green4Sea [Online]. 11 July 2017. Available from: http://www.green4sea.com/green-watch-01/ In the long run, when market-based emission control measures are in place, shipping companies will prefer to select a fuel consumption monitoring method that minimises their reported fuel consumption emissions.


Shipping's Half Year Report – Any Better This Year? *Clarksons Research* [Online]. 14 July 2017. Available from: [https://clarksonsresearch.wordpress.com/2017/07/14/shippings-half-year-report-any-better-this-year/](https://clarksonsresearch.wordpress.com/2017/07/14/shippings-half-year-report-any-better-this-year/) In last year's half year shipping report, we reported on an industry that "must do better".


More bigger ships set to put more pressure on Asia-Mediterranean container trade. By Mike Wackett. *The Loadstar* [Online]. 17 July 2017. Available from: [https://theloadstar.co.uk/bigger-ships-set-put-pressure-asia-mediterranean-container-trade/](https://theloadstar.co.uk/bigger-ships-set-put-pressure-asia-mediterranean-container-trade/) Ultra-large container vessels (ULCVs) being phased onto the Asia-Mediterranean container trade are likely to put freight rates under renewed pressure in the final three months of the year, according to Drewry.


Drewry: World Container Index down by 6.3%. *Safety 4 Sea* [Online]. 24 July 2017. Available from: [https://www.safety4sea.com/drewry-world-container-index-down-by-6-3/](https://www.safety4sea.com/drewry-world-container-index-down-by-6-3/) The World Container Index assessed by Drewry consultancy, a composite of container freight rates on 8 major routes to/from the US, Europe and Asia, is down by 6.3% to $1421.4/40ft container, according to 20 July 2017 update.


How five digital experts at top logistics providers are preparing for the future.
I've been writing about freight digitisation for years and for much of that time, as debate raged about whether the freight industry was actually embracing digitization or if it was all just hype.

**RESEARCH**

Drivers and implications of change in global ocean health over the past five years.
By B. S. Halpern, M. Frazier et al. Plos ONE. [Online]. (2017). Available from: https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0178267 Growing international and national focus on quantitatively measuring and improving ocean health has increased the need for comprehensive, scientific, and repeated indicators to track progress towards achieving policy and societal goals.

Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made. By R. Geyer, J. R. Jambeck et al. Science Advances. [Online]. (2017). Available from: http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/3/7/e1700782.full As of 2015, approximately 6300 Mt of plastic waste had been generated, around 9% of which had been recycled, 12% was incinerated, and 79% was accumulated in landfills or the natural environment.


How to govern geoengineering? By J. Pasztor, C. Scharf et al. Science. [Online]. (2017). Available from: http://science.sciencemag.org/content/357/6348/231 The Paris Agreement aims to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5°C to 2°C above preindustrial temperature, but achieving this goal requires much higher levels of mitigation than currently planned.

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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.