INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)
“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”

CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN

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

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IMO NEWS & EVENTS

About World Maritime Day 2018

In 2018, IMO will celebrate 70 years since the Convention establishing the Organization was adopted. The World Maritime Day theme for the year is "IMO 70: Our Heritage – Better Shipping for a Better Future".

This provides the opportunity to take stock and look back, but also to look forward, addressing current and future challenges for maritime transport to maintain a continued and strengthened contribution towards sustainable growth for all. Full Story

#IMO70 World Maritime Day 2018 logos.

What's New during 2018

Programme of Meetings 2018

January 22-26, 2018 - Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction 5th session (SDC 5)

IMO PRESS BRIEFINGS

Seafarer shore leave gets extra protection from 1 January 2018 Briefing: 01, January 1, 2018

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

January 22-26, 2018 - Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC 5) (Opening Address)

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE

IMO PUBLISHING 2018 Publications Catalogue
UN readying training guidelines to help cabin crews identify, report human trafficking.

The United Nations is taking the global combat against human trafficking into the skies as the Organization's human rights office and its Montreal-based civil aviation agency begin putting the final touches on training guidelines that could help airline cabin crew spot possible victims.

OECD-UN forum on strengthening collection and use of migration data kicks off in Paris.

International organizations, policy experts, statisticians and civil society came together on Monday at a United Nations-supported forum in Paris to answer the global call for more accurate and timely information on migration flows and examine how improved data collection can feed into better policymaking.


Hailing the partnership between Africa and the United Nations as "solid, and grounded on sound principles of human rights and good governance," Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres told leaders gathered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for the African Union Summit, that with Africa in the lead, "we can and will do more" to bolster successful cooperation throughout the continent.
CASUALTIES


Rescue crews wrestle to tame China oil tanker fire; body of mariner found. *Reuters*. 8 January 2018. Available from: [https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-shipping-accident-oil/rescue-crews-wrestle-to-tame-china-oil-tanker-fire-body-of-mariner-found-idUSKBN1EX00J](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-shipping-accident-oil/rescue-crews-wrestle-to-tame-china-oil-tanker-fire-body-of-mariner-found-idUSKBN1EX00J) Rescue crews wrestled to bring a blaze on an Iranian oil tanker off China's east coast under control on Monday as fire raged for a second day following a collision with a grain ship, while the body of one of the 32 missing crew members was found on aboard.


Majority of Auxiliary Engine Damage occurs due to human error warns The Swedish Club. Swedish Club. 8 January 2018. Available from: https://www.swedishclub.com/main.php?mcid=1&mid=111&pid=50&newsid=2083 A key finding is that 55% of casualties occur within only 10% of the time between overhaul (TBO), corresponding to the first 1,000 hours or so of operation after overhaul. Auxiliary Engine Damage.

More than 80 rescued, dozens missing in Mediterranean boat wreck. The Local (Italy). 8 January 2018. Available from: https://www.thelocal.it/20180108/mediterranean-migrant-boat-rescue An inflatable boat loaded with men, women and children left Garabulli, 50 kilometres east of Tripoli, on Friday night, but after eight or nine hours it began to deflate and take on water.

Iran rejects speculation on missing tanker crew. Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran). 10 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82791505 Iran said on Wednesday it will not speculate on fate of the missing crew who are still not accounted for after an Iranian oil tanker collided with a cargo vessel near China shores Saturday night.

No negligence from China to douse fire of Iran tanker: Diplomat. Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran). 10 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82791395 Iran’s consul general in Shanghai rejected the claims that China has neglected to help tame the fire caused after the Iranian tanker collided with a Chinese freighter in East China coast.


Explosion on Iranian oil tanker forces rescue team to retreat. By Josephine Mason and Yuna Park. Reuters. 10 January 2018. Available from: https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-china-shipping-accident-oil/explosion-on-iranian-oil-tanker-forces-rescue-team-to-retreat-idUKKBN1EZ03L Rescue crews were forced to retreat from a stricken Iranian oil tanker in the East China Sea on Wednesday following an explosion on the ship as a fire raged for a fourth day after a dramatic collision.

China says no major oil spill after Iran tanker collision, South Korea says the fire could burn for a month. Straits Times. 10 January 2018. Available from: http://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/iranian-oil-tanker-in-east-china-sea-could-burn-for-a-month-skorean-official Chinese authorities battling to prevent an environmental disaster after a collision between an Iranian tanker and a cargo ship said no major oil spill has been detected, but 31 sailors remained missing.

Tehran to invite six countries to help tame fire of Iranian tanker. Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran). 11 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82792483 Iran is to invite six world countries to join the rescue operations underway in East China coast to extinguish the fire of the Iranian tanker and find the missing crew, an official announced here on Thursday.

Iran oil official in Shanghai to pursue fate of missing sailors. Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran). 11 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82792581 Managing director of National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC) is currently in China’s Shanghai Port to examine the situation of the missing Iranian seamen who have been trapped in a blazing tanker in the East China coast since January 6.


International Tanker Owner's Pollution Federation (Itof) managing director Dr Karen Purnell has calmed fears of long standing environmental damage resulting from the Sanchi cargo spill.


Marine insurer Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty (AGCS) has revealed figures showing how East and South-east Asia has become the worst accident blackspot- something illustrated by the Sanchi tanker fire.


Deputy Iranian envoy to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) called for international cooperation to contain the fire on the Iranian oil tanker in the East China coast.


The stricken NITC suezmax Sanchi 'keeps exploding', according to Chinese state news agency Xinhua on Friday.


In a world where the incidence of major maritime oil spills has diminished during the past decade into insignificance, the 'Sanchi' collision that occurred at 8 pm local time on Saturday 6 January and about 160 n. miles east of Shanghai, provides a huge wake-up call to shipowners and their insurers.


The Grandi Navi Veloci ferry Fantastic from Morocco drifted into the Viking Star cruise ship which was docked at Terminal B at around 2pm local time.


Hopes of finding any surviving seafarers in the tanker Sanchi have ended as the vessel has finally sunk, after burning at sea for a week.


Officials play down fears of environmental disaster after vessel carrying 136,000 tonnes of crude oil goes down off China.


Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, issued a message on Sunday, expressing deep sorrow for the tragic and heartbreaking loss of crew members on an Iranian oil tanker.


Black smoke was billowing from the East China Sea site where a burning Iranian oil tanker sank, Japanese authorities said Monday, as worries grow about damage to the marine ecosystem from the worst oil ship disaster in decades.


An Iranian oil tanker burst into flames from end to end and sank on Sunday (Jan 14), eight days after it caught fire following a collision with a cargo ship off China, state media said.


Fire onboard oil vessel off Gujarat coast, no oil spill reported. *The Hindu (India)*. 18 January 2018. Available from: http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/fire-onboard-oil-vessel-off-gujarat-coast-no-oil-spill-reported/article10039031.ece. No oil spill has been reported from the diesel-laden merchant navy tanker that caught fire yesterday off the Gujarat coast, an official said today.

One crew member dies in Kandla oil tanker blaze. *Times of India*. 19 January 2018. Available from: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/rajkot/one-crew-member-dies-in-kandla-oil-tanker-blaze/articleshow/62561448.cms. One crew member of *MT Genessa*, the oil tanker on which a huge fire broke out on Wednesday, died while another is said to be critical even as firefighting operations continued for the second day.


Panama says sunken Iranian tanker had papers in order. By Elida Moreno. *Reuters*. 19 January 2018. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-shipping-accident-panama/panama-says-sunken-iranian-tanker-had-papers-in-order-idUSKB1F82FJ. The Iranian tanker that sank after a collision in the East China Sea, causing the worst oil ship disaster in years, had its paperwork in order, according an initial review by maritime authorities in Panama, whose flag it was sailing under.


**Iran, Hong Kong, China, Panama agree to jointly probe tanker collision.** *MEHR News Agency (Iran).* 25 January 2018. Available from: [https://en.mehrnews.com/news/131609/Iran-Hong-Kong-China-Panama-agree-to-jointly-probe-tanker](https://en.mehrnews.com/news/131609/Iran-Hong-Kong-China-Panama-agree-to-jointly-probe-tanker) The maritime authorities of China, Panama, Iran and Hong Kong on Thursday signed an agreement to jointly investigate a collision in the East China Sea that caused the worst oil ship disaster in decades, according to China's Ministry of Transport, reported Reuters.


**Crystal crew interrogation to kick off on Friday.** *MEHR News Agency (Iran).* 25 January 2018. Available from: [https://en.mehrnews.com/news/131606/Crystal-crew-interrogation-to-kick-off-on-Friday](https://en.mehrnews.com/news/131606/Crystal-crew-interrogation-to-kick-off-on-Friday) An Iranian maritime official says that parallel with decoding of the black boxes of the *Sanchi* and the *Chrystal*, which started on Wednesday, the crew of the *Crystal* will also get interrogated since Friday.

**Focus on data recorders in Sanchi collision probe.** By Wei Zhe Tan. *Lloyd's List.* 25 January 2018. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120985](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120985) The so-called black boxes, or voyage data recorders, of the sunken tanker *Sanchi* and the *CF Crystal*, the dry bulk carrier with which it collided, have been opened as maritime authorities seek to discover the cause of the incident.

**Maritime accidents still alarming.** *Vietnam News.* 30 January 2018. Available from: [http://vietnamnews.vn/society/422090/maritime-accidents-still-alarming.html#HLXhAzHM8EkTe5sD.97](http://vietnamnews.vn/society/422090/maritime-accidents-still-alarming.html#HLXhAzHM8EkTe5sD.97) The year 2017 led to an increasing number of maritime mishaps involving fishing and cargo ships in the seas around Viet Nam, highlighting the perils seafarers face.


*Sanchi*: Get ready for the backlash. By David Osler. *Lloyd's List*. 30 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1121048 In a world that operated on an ethical framework more rightly ordered than our own, coverage of the *Sanchi* sinking would be paying much more attention than it has done to the 32 seafarers who lost their lives in the most horrendous circumstances imaginable.

**ENVIRONMENT**

2017 was 3rd warmest year on record for U.S. *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. 8 January 2018. Available from: http://www.noaa.gov/news/2017-was-3rd-warmest-year-on-record-for-us 2017 will be remembered as a year of extremes for the U.S. as floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, drought, fires and freezes claimed hundreds of lives and visited economic hardship upon the nation.


The Arabian Gulf is more than just a water body, it is a living system that we need to preserve. By Razan Al Mubarak. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 10 January 2018. Available from: https://www.thenational.ae/opinion/comment/the-arabian-gulf-is-more-than-just-a-water-body-it-is-a-living-system-that-we-need-to-preserve-1.694381 For the people of Abu Dhabi, the Arabian Gulf is much more than a body of water. It stirs memories of hardship and hope, when fishing and pearl diving were the main source of income and daily meals.


See how we’re working to protect oceans and seas around the world. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). 18 January 2018. Available from: https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/video/see-how-were-working-protect-oceans-and-seas-around-world. UN Environment’s Regional Seas Programme is working around the world to protect oceans and coastlines - and the communities that depend on them.


ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION


Sanchi oil spill contamination could take three months to reach mainland. UK National Oceanography Centre (NOC). 12 January 2018. Available from: http://noc.ac.uk/news/sanchi-oil-spill-contamination-could-take-three-months-reach-mainland. Water contaminated by the oil currently leaking into the ocean from the Sanchi tanker collision is likely to take at least three months to reach land, and if it does the Korean coast is the most likely location.


**Sunken Sanchi could be leaking fuel oil. By Cichen Shen.** Lloyd's List. 17 January 2018. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120876/Sunken-Sanchi-could-be-leaking-fuel-oil](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120876/Sunken-Sanchi-could-be-leaking-fuel-oil). There are fears that bunkers are leaking from the sunken tanker *Sanchi’s* fuel tanks after dark patches were seen on the water, coupled with a strong odour of oil.


**Sunken tanker Sanchi: Four oil slicks seen, says China.** BBC News. 18 January 2018. Available from: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-china-42728251](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-china-42728251). China’s Ministry of Transport had on Wednesday announced that a salvage team had located the vessel at a depth of 115m (377ft) and it was preparing to send underwater robots to explore the area.
Last Sunday's sinking of an Iranian oil tanker 180 miles off the coast of Shanghai certainly looks like an environmental disaster.

Madlene Wangrau discusses the issue of biofouling and how shipowners and crew can benefit by reducing its risk. Legal Update

The worst tanker oil spill in decades is unfolding across hundreds of miles of the East China Sea after an Iranian oil tanker carrying more than 100,000 tonnes of toxic oil collided with a freighter and exploded, killing all 32 crew onboard. Graphics

Big problems tend to start small, and true to this maxim, one the biggest problems in global shipping starts quite small indeed, with some remarkably weak forces at the atomic level.

The shoreline along Aqah in Fujairah was tainted with black oil Saturday forcing swimmers and divers out of the water for a second day this weekend.

Swimming in waters frequented by bull sharks is not usually part of the job description for a nanotechnologist.

HEALTH & SAFETY

The cruise ship that earned the "poop cruise" moniker in 2013 has failed her sanitation inspection for the first time ever.

Recommendations to reduce risks related to gas release hazards were issued to the offshore oil and gas industry today. Gas Release Hazards Identified by BSEE

A Royal Caribbean Cruises ship that departed from Baltimore on a nine-night trip earlier this year has had 46 reported cases of gastrointestinal illness on board, according to company spokesman Owen Torres.

Consumers in Japan, China and South Korea should be wary of buying seafood until governments in the region have monitored and released details about the toxic impact of the Sanchi oil spill, scientists have warned.

**IMO**

IMO 2020, a shipping regulation that may reshape global coal trade. By Alex Younevitch. *S&P Global Platts*. 10 January 2018. Available from: [http://blogs.platts.com/2018/01/10/imo2020-shipping-regulation-coal-trade/](http://blogs.platts.com/2018/01/10/imo2020-shipping-regulation-coal-trade/). It is not uncommon for people in various commodity sectors to believe that their markets exist in some kind of a happy bubble, where only the obvious supply and demand forces or targeted regulations can make or ruin their day.


**LAW & POLICY**


Saving the Arctic. By David L. Phillips. *Huffington Post*. 3 January 2018. Available from: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/saving-the-arctic_us_5a4d623ee4b0df0dea8b06f46 With Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Greenland (under the Danish monarchy), Canada, Russia and the United States racing to capitalize, the Arctic can either be a zone of cooperation or a flash-point for competition and confrontation.


Palau registry says UN-blacklisted ship was under 'previous flag'. By Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List*. 4 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydsslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120707/Palau-registry-says-UN-blacklisted-ship-was-under-previous-flag Palau International Ship Registry says reports that Billions 18 was flying its flag when the tanker vessel was blacklisted by the UN for trading with North Korea are "totally untrue".


Detained Panama ship released. *The Hindu (India)*. 9 January 2018. Available from: http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Kochi/detained-panama-ship-released/article22400066.ece The foreign cargo ship reported to be involved in a collision with a fishing vessel off Kochi in June last and detained at the Kochi port was released on Monday by the Mercantile Marine Department (MMD).

Belize bans offshore oil drilling to protect reef. By Donal Scully. Splash 24/7. 10 January 2018. Available from: http://splash247.com/belize-bans-offshore-oil-drilling-protect-reef/. Just days after the US declared its intent to unshackle energy producers by opening up huge offshore swathes for oil drilling, the small Central American nation of Belize did the opposite - imposing a total moratorium on such drilling in its waters.


Florida Removed from U.S. Offshore Drilling Plan. Maritime Executive. 10 January 2018. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/trump-administration-excludes-florida-from-offshore-drilling. Just days after the Trump administration announced a plan to open up to 90 percent of America's offshore waters to oil exploration, the Interior Department announced that it will withdraw areas off the coast of Florida from consideration.

Leaking Sanchi is test of China's gamble on oil spill compensation. By Jim Mulrenan. TradeWinds. 11 January 2018. Available from: http://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/1408720/leaking-sanchi-is-test-of-chinas-gamble-on-oil-spill-compensation. China has been playing a high-stakes gamble on tanker pollution with dramatic images of the blazing suezmax Sanchi suggesting it may well have just lost this wager.


Environmental group praises Canada's new Arctic shipping rules. By Levon Sevunts. Radio Canada International (RCI). 12 January 2018. Available from: http://www.rcinet.ca/en/2018/01/12/arctic-shipping-regulations-oceans-north-canada/ Ocean conservancy advocates are welcoming the new safety and pollution prevention regulations for ships plying Canada's Arctic waters unveiled by the federal government earlier this week but are also urging Ottawa to expand its regulations to include the eventual phase-out of heavy fuel oil and address underwater noise pollution.


Sustainability efforts in PH maritime industry. Manila Times. 13 January 2018. Available from: http://www.manilatimes.net/sustainability-efforts-ph-maritime-industry/373988/ Sustainability in the Philippine maritime industry can be achieved if appropriate, synergized and productive steps are taken to promote the implementation of beneficial programs.


Lack of uniform international legal framework will hinder the adoption of green technology. By Conte Cicala. Clyde & Co LLP. 15 January 2018. Available from: https://www.clydeco.com/firm/news/view/lack-of-uniform-international-legal-framework-will-hinder-the-adoption-of-green-technology Over two thirds (68%) of global marine industry executives believe that a lack of uniform international environmental regulations will impede the adoption of green technologies in shipping, according to a new report from global law firm Clyde & Co and the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST), which surveyed 220 marine industry executives from across the world. Technology in shipping: The impact of technological change on the shipping industry

Transport Canada issues another fine for non-respect of the speed restriction in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Government of Canada. 15 January 2018. Available from: https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2018/01/transport_canadaissuesanotherfinefornon-respectofthespeedrestric.html. A penalty of $6,000 has been issued to the vessel Mississauga Express for alleged non-compliance while a temporary mandatory speed restriction was in effect.

Unmanned Ships: Complexity in Jurisdictions. By Allan McDougall, Chief Learning Officer, IAMSP and Executive VP, Knowledge Advancement Solutions. Maritime Executive. 15 January 2018. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/unmanned-ships-complexity-in-jurisdictions. In this fifth segment dealing with autonomous shipping, we step back from the fully autonomous ship (i.e. one directed solely by electronics and with no human inputs) to those that are directed remotely.

Heavy Fuel Oil & EU Vote on Ocean Governance. Hellenic Shipping News. 16 January 2018. Available from: http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/heavy-fuel-oil-eu-vote-on-ocean-governance/. Commenting ahead of Tuesday’s European Parliament plenary vote on international ocean governance, relating to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, Dr Sian Prior, lead advisor to the Clean Arctic Alliance, said...

Promoting the Canadian Arctic remains a challenge. By Alex Binkley. Fairplay. 16 January 2018. Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/commerce/article/4296111/promoting-the-canadian-arctic-remains-a-challenge. While the number of ice-free days during the summer may be increasing, the Northwest Passage (NWP) remains mainly an attractive destination rather than a reliable commercial shipping route, according to Tom Paterson, senior vice-president of Arctic shipping and projects for the Montréal-based shipping line Fednav.

Seychelles to co-host major conference on resilient ocean economies. Seychelles Nation. 16 January 2018. Available from: http://www.nation.sc/article.html?id=257312. Sustainable Oceans/Blue economies provide an integrated approach to address those issues, incorporating sustainable wealth creation in the area of fisheries, tourism, energy, transport, trade and marine biotechnology as well as jobs, food security and the protection of the ocean environment.


High level meeting & joint exercises between Indian and Japan Coast Guards. Government of India. 16 January 2018. Available from: http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=175657. A High Level Meeting between Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Japan Coast Guard (JCG) was held at Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi on January 15, 2018 under the provisions of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed between the two agencies in 2006.


Gard evolves from insuring sailing ships to autonomous ships. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 18 January 2018. Available from: http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/gard-evolves-from-insuring-sailing-ships-to-autonomous-ships/. Gard's creation in 1907 was a rejection of 'new' technology as the association was formed by shipowners who rejected steam ships and wanted a Club dedicated only to sailing ships.


Most vessels obeyed emergency Gulf speed limit to protect endangered whales. *National Post (Canada)*. 19 January 2018. Available from: http://nationalpost.com/pmn/news-pmn/canada-news-pmn/most-vessels-obeyed-emergency-gulf-speed-limit-to-protect-endangered-whales. Almost 90 per cent of the ships that passed through the Gulf of St. Lawrence over the last five months complied with an emergency speed limit to help protect the whales that plied those same waterways - and the department will reimpose the limit immediately if the whales return this year.


Breaching global sulfur regulations could cost insurance. By Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 25 January 2018. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article10242014.ece. It is time to take action and take a stance, global insurance broker Marsh tells shipowners, which must comply with the global sulfur regulations in 2020, where vessels may not sail on fuel with sulfur content exceeding 0.5 percent.


Marine professionals call for jailed *Costa Concordia* master’s case to be reviewed. By Michael Grey. *Lloyd's List*. 25 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120956. A group of marine professionals have signed an open letter to the Italian maritime and judicial authorities seeking a pardon for Francesco Schettino, the former master of the *Costa Concordia*, the cruiseship that capsized after grounding in the Mediterranean, leading to the loss of 32 lives.


China faces a challenge proving polar strategy is viable and safe. By Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 26 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1121025/China-faces-a-challenge-proving-polar-strategy-is-viable-and-safe. China’s Arctic ambitions are nothing new - it has been jostling for position alongside Russia, the US, Canada and a host of national vested interests for years through a combination of direct and indirect investment.


Eye on China, India and ASEAN shake hands on maritime cooperation. By Shubhajit Roy. *Indian Express (India)*. 26 January 2018. Available from: http://indianexpress.com/article/india/eye-on-china-india-and-asean-shake-hands-on-maritime-cooperation-narendra-modi-delhi-declaration-5039675/. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the 10 visiting leaders from the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have agreed to set up a mechanism on maritime cooperation to counter the common "traditional" and "non-traditional" challenges they face.

**Protecting the blue.** *Nature Climate Change*. 29 January 2018. Available from: [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-018-0080-6](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-015-0080-6). Oceans and coasts hold a certain attraction for people, with populations clustered on coasts.


These are China’s top 10 keywords for the Arctic. By Atle Staalesen. *Independent Barents Observer (Norway)*. 30 January 2018. Available from: [https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/arctic/2018/01/these-are-chinas-top-keywords-arctic](https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/arctic/2018/01/these-are-chinas-top-keywords-arctic). The country’s new Arctic policy document mentions the word «research» 41 times, «cooperation» 46 times and «climate» 26 times. Meanwhile, «oil» is mentioned only six times. Russia is referred to twice, while «military» is not mentioned at all.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY


BIMCO launches new innovative contract editing solution: SmartCon. By Casper Broustbo. *BIMCO*. 18 January 2018. Available from: [https://www.bimco.org/news/bimco/20180118_smartcon](https://www.bimco.org/news/bimco/20180118_smartcon). "SmartCon is a brand-new approach to contract editing, we believe that it will significantly ease the work life of our current users and will attract new users to BIMCO's contract universe" says Grant Hunter, Head of Contracts and Clauses at BIMCO.


**Scrubbers are not the perfect solution - for the Arctic or anywhere.** By Sian Prior. *Ship & Bunker.* 26 January 2018. Available from: [https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/646262](https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/646262) With 2020 cap on the sulphur content of marine fuel oil looming on the horizon, the global shipping industry is starting to show signs of action and in many cases anxiety.


**China plans first lab on ocean oil spill cleaning: media.** *Reuters.* 29 January 2018. Available from: [https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-environment-spill/china-plans-first-lab-on-ocean-oil-spill-cleaning-media-idUSKBN1FI18F](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-environment-spill/china-plans-first-lab-on-ocean-oil-spill-cleaning-media-idUSKBN1FI18F) China's Ministry of Transport is planning to establish a laboratory specializing in treating oil spills at sea, the first of its kind in the country, local media Science and Technology Daily reported on Sunday.


9 Experts Discuss the Skills Seafarers Need in the Future. By Lili Nguyen. Knect365 Maritime. 5 January 2018. Available from: https://knect365.com/maritime/article/c17e1ac8-6e3a-4e33-855c-5adbb3bad9aa/9-experts-discuss-the-skills-seafarers-need-in-the-future. As the shipping industry is transforming digitally, the pressure for operators to adapt is increasing.

Chemical Cargoes and Hazardous Freight Lead to Specialist e-learning for Container Shipping Line. Handy Shipping Guide. 15 January 2018. Available from: http://www.handyshippingguide.com/shipping-news/chemical-cargoes-and-hazardous-freight-lead-to-specialist-elearning-for-container-shipping-line-8735. When, as is the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), you are running a fleet of 460 container ships taking freight to over 300 ports worldwide, one has to ensure that staff in all your offices are on the ball when it comes to processing the documents and competently handling the 2.75 million TEU of cargo in your care.


Careers at Sea sponsors National Careers Week. By Holly Birkett. UK Chamber of Shipping. 23 January 2018. Available from: https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/careers-sea-sponsors-national-careers-week/. The Merchant Navy Training Board's (MNTB) Careers at Sea campaign is, for the first time, sponsoring an entire day during National Careers Week (5th-10th March) and is calling on UK shipping companies to help spread the word.

CMU students receive scholarships from China. Jamaica Observer. 29 January 2018. Available from: http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/CMU_students_receive_scholarships_from_China?profile=1228. Five students enrolled at the Caribbean Maritime University (CMU) were, on Friday, presented with scholarships valued at over $1 million, from the People's Republic of China.
MARITIME SAFETY

Serious' design issues leave seafarers fearful of using lifesaving equipment. By Dag Pike.
Fairplay. 4 January 2018. Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/safety-regulation/article/4295866/%E2%80%98serious%E2%80%99-design-issues-leave-seafarers-fearful-of-using-lifesaving-equipment In the most comprehensive report of its kind, British seafarers have criticised design aspects of the lifesaving appliances (LSA) on board their ships, with freefall lifeboats coming under heaviest fire.

Greener fuels open up safety challenges for crew. By Tanya Blake. Fairplay. 4 January 2018. Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/safety-regulation/article/4294971/greener-fuels-open-up-safety-challenges-for-crew As shipping steps up to become greener and do its part in cutting global emissions, the sector is preparing for impending environmental regulations.


TT Talk - Enclosed Spaces on ships – identify, test & monitor. TT Club. 16 January 2018. Available from: https://www.ttclub.com/loss-prevention/tt-talk/article/tt-talk-enclosed-spaces-on-ships-identify-test-monitor-142011/ No one involved in working on board an oil, gas or chemical tanker at sea or in port would remotely consider entering a tank on board without all the appropriate precautions being taken before and during entry, often also associated with a "Gas-Free Certificate" and a "Permit to Work" (or Enter).

VIKING life-saving equipment is 'Polar Code Ready'. By VIKING. Hellenic Shipping News. 26 January 2018. Available from: http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/viking-life-saving-equipment-is-polar-code-ready/ It's been a full year since the IMO launched the Polar Code to enhance the protection of seafarers and the environment in Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Sanchi oil tanker disaster: how spills and accidents can make ships safer. By Jin Wang. The Conversation. 29 January 2018. Available from: https://theconversation.com/sanchi-oil-tanker-disaster-how-spills-and-accidents-can-make-ships-safer-90207 The Sanchi tanker was carrying 136,000 tonnes of oil from Iran to South Korea when it collided with the Hong Kong-flagged cargo ship CF Crystal, 160 nautical miles off the coast of Shanghai, China.

Royal Australian Navy seizes illegal drugs worth more than $400 million in Middle East.
By Andrew Greene.  ABC (Australia). 30 December 2017.  Available from: http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-12-30/australian-navy-ship-seizes-$415m-middle-east-drug-haul/9294758 An Australian warship operating in the Middle East has seized drugs believed to be worth more than $400 million after intercepting and boarding three ships in the Arabian sea.


Updated: Over 4,000 tonnes of gasoil misappropriated in Shell fuel theft. By Simin Ngai. Fairplay. 10 January 2018.  Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/commerce/article/4296011/updated-over-4000-tonnes-of-gasoil-misappropriated-in-shell-fuel-theft Nearly 4,400 tonnes of gasoil, valued at about SGD2.4 million (USD1.8 million), was misappropriated at Shell's largest refinery, court documents showed as eleven suspects were charged in a Singapore court on Tuesday (9 January).


Shipping companies strengthen the fight against cyber criminals. Danish Shipping. 12 January 2018.  Available from: https://www.danishshipping.dk/en/press/news/shipping-companies-strengthen-the-fight-against-cyber-criminals/ During the last year, the majority of shipping companies has been exposed to cyber attacks and has intensified the fight against cyber crime.

SE Asian Ports Lead the World for Armed Robbery. Maritime Executive. 11 January 2018.  Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/se-asian-ports-lead-the-world-for-armed-robbery The anchorages at Chittagong, Manila and Pulau Bintan led the world last year for armed robberies, according to the ICC IMB's 2017 annual piracy report. Each of these port regions reported nine incidents last year, much more than other hot spots on the list like Lagos and Cartagena.


Japan Coast Guard Expands Presence to Meet New Threats. Maritime Executive. 16 January 2018.  Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/japan-coast-guard-expands-presence-to-meet-new-threats In response to recent incursions, the Japan Coast Guard is preparing for more interaction with Chinese forces off the Senkaku Islands, a disputed chain near Taiwan.
Why regional efforts are key to Africa's maritime security. By Lisa Otto. *The Conversation.* 16 January 2018. Available from: [https://theconversation.com/why-regional-efforts-are-key-to-africas-maritime-security-89813](https://theconversation.com/why-regional-efforts-are-key-to-africas-maritime-security-89813) Maritime security has become a priority for most of Africa's regional communities since the early 2000s when kidnappings were on the rise and later in that decade when Somali piracy became a major threat to international trade.


Satellites paint a detailed picture of maritime activity. *European Space Agency (ESA).* 18 January 2018. Available from: [http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Telecommunications_Integrated_Applications/Satellites_paint_a_detailed_picture_of_maritime_activity](http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Telecommunications_Integrated_Applications/Satellites_paint_a_detailed_picture_of_maritime_activity) ESA has helped coastal authorities to track up to 70% more ships and pick up nearly three times more ship positions via satellite than was possible before.


MIGRANTS


Up to 100 Migrant Lives Feared Lost off Libya. International Organization for Migration (IOM). 10 January 2018. Available from: https://www.iom.int/news/100-migrant-lives-feared-lost-libya. The Libyan Coast Guard reported Wednesday that up to 100 migrants remain missing in the third deadly shipwreck on the Mediterranean Sea since Saturday.

Tragic start to New Year for migrants as hundreds feared dead in Mediterranean. UN News Centre. 10 January 2018. Available from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=58400. A little more than a week into the New Year, close to 200 migrants or refugees have reportedly died or gone missing in the Mediterranean Sea - with up to 100 unaccounted for since Saturday, the United Nations migration agency said Wednesday.


Overcrowded boat capsizes off Yemen coast, 30 drowned; UN agencies condemn smugglers. UN News Centre. 26 January 2018. Available from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=58485. At least 30 refugees and migrants drowned when their boat capsized off the coast of Aden, Yemen, the United Nations reported on Friday, saying the overcrowded vessel was believed to have been operated by unscrupulous smugglers who were trying to extort money from the passengers.
NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Ultra large container vessels: No room for error in restricted waterways. By Tanya Blake. Fairplay. 1 January 2018. Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/safety-regulation/article/4294856/ultra-large-container-vessels-no-room-for-error-in-restricted-waterways. In the early hours of 22 August 2016, ultra-large container vessel (ULCV) Vasco de Gama approached Port of Southampton - the 339 m long, 17,859 teu vessel was the largest UK-flagged ULCV at the time and had two of the port's specialist container ship pilots on board.


Shipping lanes in Indian Ocean should remain secure: India. Economic Times (India). 2 January 2018. Available from: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/shipping-lanes-in-indian-ocean-should-remain-secure-india/articleshow/62340518.cms India said today that it would be in China's interest that the shipping lanes in the Indian Ocean remain secure and asserted that the Indian Navy was keeping an eye on its key maritime areas.


Shipping Industry Missing Important ECDIS Upgrade. By Oliver Schwarz, Business Development Director, ChartWorld International. Maritime Executive. 9 January 2018. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/shipping-industry-missing-important-ecdis-upgrade We've all done it - hit the "not now" or "remind me later" button - because there is perhaps nothing as widely disliked, ignored, or dismissed as software updates.


Ship carrying LNG from UK turns to Mediterranean - tracking data. By Scott DiSavino. Reuters. 10 January 2018. Available from: https://uk.reuters.com/article/usa-russia-yamal-lng/ship-carrying-lng-from-uk-turns-to-mediterranean-tracking-data-idUKL1N1P50PR A vessel that picked up liquefied natural gas from the United Kingdom that was headed to the United States has turned toward the Mediterranean, according to Thomson Reuters shipping data on Wednesday.

Crossing the Northwest Passage is no certainty. By Alex Binkley. Fairplay. 16 January 2018. Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/commerce/article/4296106/crossing-the-northwest-passage-is-no-certainty The uneventful transits of the massive cruise ship Crystal Serenity through the Northwest Passage in 2016 and 2017 have fuelled interest among international shipping lines in dispatching their freighters through the Canadian Arctic.

Regional route sharing made possible in the Baltic. 

Safety 4 Sea. 22 January 2018. Available from: https://www.safety4sea.com/regional-route-sharing-made-possible-in-the-baltic/. The ENSI system has been developed in Finland and allows ships in the Baltic Sea to share their electronic route plan and the mandatory reports needed for the voyage with any VTS or SRS system using it.

UKHO features on BBC One’s ‘Antiques Road Trip’. 


Thome overcomes ECDIS challenges. 


Six vessels escorted by icebreakers in eastern part of Gulf of Finland during 24 hours on Jan 22-23. 


U.S., Russia propose voluntary Bering Strait shipping routes. 

By Walter Ham. US Department of Defense. 25 January 2018. Available from: https://www.defense.gov/News/Article/Article/1423960/. In response to increased Arctic shipping traffic, the United States and Russian Federation have proposed a system of two-way routes for vessels to follow in the Bering Strait and Bering Sea.

China calls for international cooperation on developing Arctic shipping routes. 


New wave of mini satellites could boost climate research. 


The complexities of Arctic maritime traffic. 


Mapping our oceans: how the Earth’s satellites power shipping. 

**PIRACY**

**Ending Piracy in Nigerian Waters. By Eromosele Abiodun.** *This Day (Nigeria).* 5 January 2018.  
Eromosele Abiodun writes that the report by the International Maritime Bureau on rising cases of piracy in Nigeria focused on government agencies responsible for tackling the menace.

**Maritime piracy and armed robbery reaches 22-year low, says IMB report.** *International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).* 10 January 2018.  
A total of 180 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships were reported to the International Chamber of Commerce's (ICC) International Maritime Bureau (IMB) in 2017, according to the latest IMB report.

**17 Countries Participate in Piracy Meeting in Singapore.** *Maritime Executive.* 17 January 2018.  
The first capacity building activity in 2018 by the Information Sharing Centre (ISC) of ReCAAP, the first regional government-to-government agreement to promote and enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, kicked off on January 17 with 19 senior officers from 17 countries arriving in Singapore to take stock of the current situation and discuss the roadmap ahead.

The first batch of 41 Somali pirates was deported on Friday from among the 117 caught in Indian waters in 2011 and freed recently.

A cement carrier was attacked Sunday by pirates in the Gulf of Aden but has been reported as safe in the high-risk area off Somalia.

**Guards repel pirate attack on cement carrier.** *Maritime Executive.* 23 January 2018.  
Available from: [https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/guards-repel-pirate-attack-on-cement-carrier#gs.4srY8rs](https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/guards-repel-pirate-attack-on-cement-carrier#gs.4srY8rs)  
On Sunday, embarked maritime security contractors aboard a bulker repelled a pirate attack in the high-risk area off Somalia.

**Venezuelan pirates rule the most lawless market on Earth. By Jonathan Franklin.** *Bloomberg.* 30 January 2018.  
Venezuela and the island of Trinidad are separated by only 10 miles of water and bound together by the most lawless market on Earth today.

**PORT STATE CONTROL**

**Foreign flagged ships under detention in the UK during December 2017.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency.* 8 January 2018.  
The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that ten foreign flagged ships were under detention in UK ports during December 2017 after failing Port State Control (PSC) inspection.

**Risk profiling is becoming more important to port state control inspections, says PaSea.** *Hellenic Shipping News.* 9 January 2018.  
Port State Control inspections are increasingly focusing on the risk profile of the ship under inspection with inspectors singling out the performance of the ship manager and the flag state recognised organisation (RO) as major factors to concentrate on.


Panama: the environmental legacy of the world’s key canal. By Patrick Kingsland. Ship-Technology.Com. 10 January 2018. Available from: https://www.ship-technology.com/features/panama-environmental-legacy-worlds-key-canal/ As part of its Environmental Recognition Program, the Panama Canal recently unveiled a new carbon calculator to centralise emissions data and incentivise the industry to reduce its carbon footprint.


Port will tap tech, data to optimise ops. By Jacqueline Woo. Straits Times. 15 January 2018. Available from: http://www.straitstimes.com/business/economy/port-will-tap-tech-data-to-optimise-ops The future Tuas mega port will be an “efficient and intelligent” port that harnesses emerging technologies and data analytics to optimise operations, said the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA).

The FAL convention – Electronic port call reporting takes off. By Malcolm Latarche. ShipInsight. 15 January 2018. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/the-fal-convention/ Through history ships or their agents have needed to complete various formalities and pay dues before the ship was allowed to discharge or load cargo and later to sail on to its destination.


Suez Canal rolls out rebates for crude tankers from US Gulf, Caribbean and Latin America to Asia. By Marcus Hand. Seatrade Maritime News. 19 January 2018. Available from: http://www.seatrade-maritime.com/news/middle-east-africa/suez-canal-rolls-out-rebates-for-crude-tankers-from-us-gulf-caribbean-and-latin-americato-asia.html. The rebates that are valid for all of 2018 and vary between 45% up to 75% and are designed to encourage more crude tankers to transit the Suez Canal according to a circular from SCA.


Bangladesh embarks on port revolution. By Linton Nightingale. Lloyd’s List. 23 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120955/Bangladesh-embarks-on-port-revolution. Bangladesh faces numerous challenges if it is to achieve its goal of becoming a fully developed nation by 2041, one of the key components of which is to modernise its container ports.


**REGULATIONS**


In the past few years, the industry has been alight with the talk of liquefied natural gas (LNG) becoming the new super fuel, the silver bullet to reducing the environmental impact of the international shipping industry, and potential all-round saviour come the arrival of the global sulphur cap in 2020.


Alternative Marine Technologies' Robert Kunkel and Chris Mandalakis weigh in on emissions control and compliance.


Denmark sees major developments in digitalisation and automation, as key areas for Blue Denmark and future market competitiveness.


New regulations putting in place lower caps on sulphur emissions (SOx) will bring challenges to the marine industry.


In late September 2016 when Finland's signature triggered the coming into force of the 2004 Ballast Water Management Convention, it was anticipated that from September 2017 ships would need to be fitted with treatment systems as the next issue date of their International Oil Pollution Prevention certificate.


Implementation of IMO 2020 Rule will require marine vessels to consume marine fuels with a maximum sulfur content of 0.5 weight percent in areas outside of Emission Control Areas (ECA's), unless onboard stack gas scrubbers have been installed.


Captain Benjamin Hawkins, chief of the Office of Design and Engineering Standards, participated in the panel session "Autonomous Vessel Operations and Potential Implications for Safety" during the 97th Annual Transportation Safety Board meeting in Washington and talked about the regulatory perspective regarding autonomous vessels.


The upcoming IMO 2020 0.50% global sulfur cap is without question the single most significant regulatory milestone on the industry's horizon.


The IMarEST, through its Emissions from Shipping SIG, has put together an information paper that provides an overview of the upcoming change in the fuel oil sulphur limit to 0.50% m/m and addresses some commonly asked questions.
SALVAGE


SEAFARERS


Durban: Unpaid crew supported. Apostleship of the Sea (AoS). 22 January 2018. Available from: http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/durban-unpaid-crew-supported. A group of seafarers were left in limbo in the port of Durban, South Africa, after their ship was detained following the non-payment of wages.


Campaign targets unscrupulous Indian crewing agencies. By Sam Chambers. Splash 24/7. 25 January 2018. Available from: http://splash247.com/campaign-targets-unscrupulous-indian-crewing-agencies/. The International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN) is launching a new campaign to discourage Indian seafarers from signing up with crewing agencies which have not registered with the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS).

**Seafarers abandoned in UAE call for help on social media. By Tanya Blake.** *Fairplay.* 26 January 2018. Available from: https://fairplay.ihs.com/safety-regulation/article/4296826/seafarers-abandoned-in-uae-call-for-help-on-social-media Seven Indian seafarers have reached out for help via social media, claiming they have been abandoned by Alco Shipping Service on tanker *Dharma*, on the UAE coast in Ajman anchorage, Dubai, for the past 22 months.


**Abandoned seafarers in UAE "a scourge that has to stop".** *MediTelegraph (Italy).* 28 January 2018. Available from: http://www.themeditelegraph.com/en/shipping/shipowners/2018/01/28/abandoned-seafarers-uae-scourge-that-has-stop-JnEnWgxtUXfh5TRNnITqVN/index.htm The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) has called the plight of abandoned seafarers in the UAE "a scourge that has to stop" after 11 Indian and Myanmar crew members were finally repatriated home after 17 months.

**SEARCH & RESCUE**


**Moment 70 people are dramatically rescued after passenger ferry crashes near tourist island in Atlantic Ocean.** By Gerard Couzens. *Daily Mail.* 6 January 2018. Available from: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5241997/Passengers-rescued-ferry-crashes-tourist-island.html Seventy people have been rescued after a passenger ferry ran aground on rocks in the Azores.

**China expands search to find crew of burning Iranian tanker.** *Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran).* 9 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82790351 The *Sanchi*, a tanker under the flag of Panama, was carrying 136,000 tons of Iranian condensate to South Korea when it collided with a Chinese freighter in the East China Sea on Saturday morning and burst into flames; the tanker is still on fire.

**Iran's Army team to join search for burning tanker's sailors.** *Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran).* 12 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82793186 A military rescue team comprising 12 experts dispatched by Iran's Army will contribute to the rescue operation to search for the Iranian sailors who may have been trapped in the tanker collided in the eastern China waters.

**Joint committee formed to rescue Iran tanker's crew.** *Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran).* 12 January 2018. Available from: http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82793270 An Iranian-Japanese-Chinese committee has been set up to explore the various dimensions of the Iranian tanker on fire in East China waters, as well as to ease the operation to rescue its crew.

11 Persons Rescued From Sunken Vessel, 2 Still Missing. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). 13 January 2018. Available from: https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/cff46f4b-1a23-4d07-9293-b5b82b9057d8 At about 1550 hours on 12 January 2018, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) was informed by three passing merchant vessels that they had rescued 11 persons from a vessel that had sunk in the South China Sea (Latitude 02°03.8N and Longitude 104°39.02E), within the Singapore Maritime Search and Rescue Region.


Search operation underway for Russian fishing boat missing in Sea of Japan. Sputnik International (Russia). 25 January 2018. Available from: https://sputniknews.com/russia/201801251061057353-russian-boat-missing-japan/ According to the latest information, the Russian fishing vessel Vostok, that went missing in the northern Sea of Japan, has not been found yet, Russian Emergencies Minister Vladimir Puchkov said.


SHIP RECYCLING


The conundrum of the enforcement of the Hong Kong. By Dr Kanu Priya Jain, Coordinator for Responsible Ship Recycling, GMS. Splash 24/7. 12 January 2018. Available from: http://splash247.com/conundrum-enforcement-hong-kong-convention/ More than eight years after the IMO's Hong Kong international convention for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships (HKC) was adopted, currently, the biggest question being asked in the corridors of the ship recycling industry is "when will the HKC come into force".

GMS responds to Norges bank exclusions. Maritime Executive. 20 January 2018. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/gms-responds-to-norges-bank-exclusions#gs.eClib5o Last week, Norway's sovereign wealth fund, the largest in the world at a valuation of $1 trillion, announced its decision to exclude four shipping firms from its portfolio over their shipbreaking practices.


**SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR**


Shipbuilding In 2017: Any signs of improvement? *Clarksons Shipping Intelligence Network.* 19 January 2018. Available from: [https://sin.clarksons.net/features/details/50121](https://sin.clarksons.net/features/details/50121). Despite an uptick in ordering, 2017 was another difficult year for the shipbuilding industry, with contracting remaining well below trend and most shipyards continuing to feel the pressure.


Will 2018 be the year that LNG as a marine fuel comes of age? By Marcus Hand. Seatrade Maritime News. 3 January 2018. Available from: http://www.seatrade-maritime.com/news/europe/will-2018-be-the-year-that-lng-as-a-marine-fuel-comes-of-age.html. The current excitement being seen around LNG as a marine fuel is not the first time it’s been heralded as the fuel of the future, but that this time it really appears to be gaining traction.

Hyundai Merchant CEO: This is how we double the fleet in 2022. By Louise Vogdrup-Schmidt. ShippingWatch. 3 January 2018. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article10167324.ece. There will be plenty of challenges to address for Maersk Line’s South Korean partner HMM this year and over the coming years.

Global shipping fleet to grow 4.1% every year until 2021. By Wei Zhe Tan. Lloyd’s List. 3 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120687/Global-shipping-fleet-to-grow-41-every-year-until-2021. The global shipping fleet is expected to rise by an average of 4.1% per annum over the next five years to 1.65bn dwt by the end of 2021, according to a report.


Hong Kong to host shipping 'Davos'. By Julian Bray. TradeWinds. 4 January 2018. Available from: http://www.tradewindsnews.com/finance/1406640/hong-kong-to-host-shipping-davos Hong Kong has won the right to host the first annual summit of the new Global Maritime Forum, which will take place over two days in early October.


Shifting Times for Shipping and Insurance. By Thya Kathiravel, Deputy Global Director (Underwriting), North P&I Club. Maritime Executive. 7 January 2018. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/blog/shifting-times-for-shipping-and-insurance During the course of 2017 a number of the long-standing economic challenges facing the global shipping market abated to a certain extent, at least for some sectors.


The Nautical Institute's 2017 Year in Retrospect. By Captain David Snider, President, Nautical Institute. Maritime Executive. 8 January 2018. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/the-nautical-institute-s-2017-year-in-retrospect When writing an end of year retrospective, one is usually prone to look for industry deviations from past norms as either highlights or lowlights of the preceding 12 months


Who are the main shipping organisations and what do they do? By Malcolm Latarche. ShipInsight. 9 January 2018. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/main-shipping-organisations/ ShipInsight frequently mentions international shipping bodies and the following is a brief introduction to the major shipping organisations and their roles beginning with the leading regulatory body.

LNG to drive Arctic shipping development. By Vitaly Chernov. *Port News*. 10 January 2018. Available from: [http://www.en.portnews.ru/comments/2446/](http://www.en.portnews.ru/comments/2446/) Liquefied natural gas is becoming the key driver for the development of the Arctic and Arctic shipping, both in Russia and in the USA.

World fleet and flags under the spotlight. By Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 12 January 2018. Available from: [https://shipinsight.com/world-fleet-flags-spotlight/](https://shipinsight.com/world-fleet-flags-spotlight/) Any breakdown of the world fleet into ship type, ownership or any other parameter can only ever be a snapshot because it changes constantly as ships are scrapped, newbuildings delivered and vessels change hands all the time.


New ECSA chairman on speed limit for ships: "It would work wonders". By Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch.* 18 January 2018. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article10214953.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article10214953.ece). The new chairman of the European Community Shipowners’ Association, Panos Laskaridis, says that a speed limit for ships could be one of several solutions for reducing shipping’s greenhouse gas emissions in the short term. NGO is pleased with the statement.


China's maritime economy expands by 7.5% in recent five years. *Government of China.* 22 January 2018. Available from: http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2018/01/22/content_281476022217720.htm. The gross production value of China's maritime industry grew by 7.5 percent annually on average in the past five years, accounting for nearly 10 percent of the country's GDP, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) announced on Jan 21.


Chinese shipping needs more talent, says Shanghai Shipping Exchange. By Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List.* 22 January 2018. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1120929. China is in dire need of more talented professionals who can help the country's maritime industry move to the next level, according to Shanghai Shipping Exchange president Zhang Ye.


Professor questions several aspects of Maersk and IBM's blockchain project. By Søren Pico. ShippingWatch. 24 January 2018. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article10238318.ece. It is far from certain that Maersk and IBM will win the race to produce the future data platform for shipping despite massive attention and interest in the two parties’ collaboration, says Shipping Professor Roar Os Ådland when ShippingWatch meets him.


Denmark to name sulfur cheaters. By Louise Vogdrup-Schmidt and Katrine Grønvald Raun. ShippingWatch. 26 January 2018. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article10247044.ece. If a carrier violates sulfur requirements in Danish waters, it will no longer be possible to save face and reputation.

ECSA chairman encourages EU countries to protect shipping. By Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch. 26 January 2018. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article10247011.ece. The new chairman for the European Community Shipowner’s Association (ECSA), Panos Lakaridis, warns that current, tough competition from Asia will intensify in coming years.


Is a ballast water treatment system necessary? By Malcolm Latarche. ShipInsight. 30 January 2018. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/ballast-water-treatment-system-necessary/. To understand why a system may be unnecessary it is first important to understand why ships carry ballast.

**RESEARCH**

**Vessel noise cuts down communication space for vocalizing fish and marine mammals.**

**High Sensitivity of Arctic Liquid Clouds to Long-Range Anthropogenic Aerosol Transport.**


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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.