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 key subjects and themes related to the work of IMO. Each CAB issue presents headlines from the previous month. For copyright reasons, the Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB) contains brief excerpts only. Links to the complete articles or abstracts on publishers' sites are included, although access may require payment or subscription.

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

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

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

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IMO NEWS & EVENTS

WHAT’S NEW

IMO’s gender programme: new logo to increase visibility for women in maritime

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has launched a new logo for its Women in Maritime programme, as part of its mission to support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Programme lead Helen Buni said: "The IMO Women in Maritime programme supports the participation of women in both shore-based and sea-going posts, under the slogan Training-Visibility-Recognition’, through a wide range of gender-specific activities. The new logo is just one visible part of the programme and will help women in maritime gain more visibility and exposure throughout the maritime sector and beyond."  

More…

Empowering Women in the Maritime Community

“Empowering Women in the Maritime Community” has been selected as the World Maritime Day theme for 2019. This video from the IMO Secretary-General, Kitack Lim, raises awareness of the importance of gender equality, in line with the SDGs, and highlights the important contribution of women all over the world to the maritime sector. 

Video…

IMO MEETINGS FOR 2019

Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC), 6th session 4-8 February 2019

Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR), 6th session 18-22 February 2019

LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS

Key fishing vessel safety treaty boosted with accession by Spain

Briefing: 03, February 7, 2019

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR), 6th session 18-22 February 2019  
(Opening Address)

Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC), 6th session 4-8 February 2019 
(Opening and Closing Address)

9th Edition of the e-Navigation Underway International Conference - “Paving the Way for a Digital Maritime World” Copenhagen, Denmark, 6 February 2019

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE  (Winter 2018)

IMO PUBLISHING  Just Published 2019  February 2019 Newsletter
## UNITED NATIONS


UN announces roadmap to Climate Summit in 2019, a 'critical year' for climate action. *UN News.* 14 February 2019. Available from: [https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/02/1032801](https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/02/1032801) 2019 is a critical year, the "last chance" for the international community to take effective action on climate change, General Assembly President Maria Espinosa said on Thursday, during a briefing to announce the UN's roadmap to the Climate Summit in September.


## CASUALTIES


General average 'likely' as another blaze breaks out on a containership. By Mike Wackett. *The Loadstar.* 4 February 2019. Available from: [https://theloadstar.co.uk/general-average-likely-as-another-blaze-breaks-out-on-a-containership/](https://theloadstar.co.uk/general-average-likely-as-another-blaze-breaks-out-on-a-containership/) Yet another container vessel has caught fire - the latest casualty is the 9,200 teu APL *Vancouver,* off the Vietnamese coast en route from China to Singapore.


Seafarers rescued after falling over board in lifeboat. By Dale Wainwright. TradeWinds. 7 February 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/1696180/seafarers-rescued-after-falling-over-board-in-lifeboat Two seafarers have been rescued by the US Coast Guard (USCG) after the lifeboat they were working on was accidently released into the sea.

More boxes lost from MSC Zoe than first thought. By Holly Birkett. TradeWinds. 7 February 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/liner/1696429/more-boxes-lost-from-msc-zoe-than-first-thought At least 345 containers were lost from a Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) boxship in January, much more than the initial estimate of 291.


Update 1 - Collision between Malaysia Government vessel and Greece-registered bulk carrier in Singapore Port Limits off Tuas. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). 10 February 2019. Available from: https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/7700ec6a-4559-4794-b8c0-fc05cb4d9861 In response to media queries on the collision between Greece-registered bulk carrier PIREAS and Malaysian Government vessel (Marine Department Malaysia) POLARIS in Singapore Territorial Waters off Tuas on 9 February 2019, MPA updated that: After refuelling at Singapore's eastern bunkering anchorage south of Bedok, PIREAS declared to MPA that its next port of call was to be Tanjung Pelepas.


**Carnival Sunshine comes to aid of cargo ship in distress.** Carnival Corporation & Plc.

**Dominica-flagged supply vessel capsizes, sinks near Pedra Branca.** Channel News Asia.

**Search ship retrieves voyage data recorder from sunken Stellar Daisy.** Yonhap News Agency (South Korea).
18 February 2019. Available from: [https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190218005000315?section=national/diplomacy](https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190218005000315?section=national/diplomacy) A deep-sea search ship has retrieved a voyage data recorder (VDR) and a bridge of the ill-fated South Korean bulk carrier Stellar Daisy that sank in the South Atlantic two years ago, Seoul's foreign ministry said Monday.

**Wreck of sunken VLOC Stellar Daisy located.** By Dale Wainwright. TradeWinds.


**Ships collide off German coast, multiple injuries reported.** Deutsche Welle (Germany).
19 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.dw.com/en/ships-collide-off-german-coast-multiple-injuries-reported/a-47581746](https://www.dw.com/en/ships-collide-off-german-coast-multiple-injuries-reported/a-47581746) At least 15 people were injured when a supply ship collided with a freight vessel near the German island of Rügen early Tuesday, officials said.


**Cargo discharge set to begin for fire-damaged Yantian Express.** Maritime Executive.

**Search finds remains of crew on Stellar Daisy.** By Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch.
21 February 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Bulk/article11205043.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Bulk/article11205043.ece) A search team has found traces of crew members on board Stellar Daisy, which sank in a 2017 accident where 22 crew members perished and two survived.

On 10 December 2017, the UK registered ro-ro passenger ferry Pride of Kent struck a jetty and then grounded while departing Calais, France. Report Annexes

Oil spill catastrophe. By Rickson Bau. SIBC (Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation). 25 February 2019. Available from: http://www.sibconline.com.sb/oil-spill-catastrophe/ Following more than twenty days since bauxite bulk carrier MV Solomon Trader ran aground in Rennell Island, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) confirms that oiling around the ship has now moved and begun to disperse across the surrounding sea and shoreline, contaminating the ecologically delicate area.


Maersk changes safety approach to prevent casualties. By Soren Pico. ShippingWatch. 25 February 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11213055.ece Maersk has made "considerable changes" to its handling of safety for its employees after a total of 34 employees have lost their lives in the past five years.


**ENVIRONMENT**

Study: Much of the surface ocean will shift in color by end of 21st century. By Jennifer Chu. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US). 4 February 2019. Available from: http://news.mit.edu/2019/study-ocean-color-change-phytoplankton-climate-0204 Climate change is causing significant changes to phytoplankton in the world's oceans, and a new MIT study finds that over the coming decades these changes will affect the ocean's color, intensifying its blue regions and its green ones.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO). 6 February 2019. Available from: public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/wmo-confirms-past-4-years-were-warmest-record In a clear sign of continuing long-term climate change associated with record atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 have been confirmed as the four warmest years on record.


**Climate Weekly: The kids are all right.** By Megan Darby. Climate Home News. 15 February 2019. Available from: https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/02/15/climate-weekly-kids-right/ In fact, thousands of kids going on "climate strike" on Friday have learned enough to know that, when it comes to climate change, the numbers don't add up to a safe future.
Antarctic ice shelves: Searching for clues on climate change. By Fabian Cambero. Reuters. 15 February 2019. Available from: http://news.trust.org/item/20190215172730-7ldw/ In a remote island outpost on the edge of the Antarctic, hundreds of miles from the southern tip of Chile, scientists at a research base are scouring the ice for clues about everything from climate change to cures for cancer.

High-level regional workshop boosts participation of Pacific Island countries in deep sea activities to advance the Blue Economy. International Seabed Authority. 16 February 2019. Available from: https://www.isa.org.jm/fr/node/18944 Governments officials and experts from Pacific Small Island Developing States convened at a regional workshop held in Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga this week, to strengthen national and regional capacities to access sustainably and benefit from seabed activities and therefore, from the Blue Economy.


GMA, MTCC- Africa collaborate to fight alarming shipping emissions. GhanaWeb. 20 February 2019. Available from: https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/GMA-MTCC-Africa-collaborate-to-fight-alarming-shipping-emissions-724913 In recent years, studies have shown that gas emitted from shipping related activities are on a steady increase globally and developing countries lack the capacity to develop energy efficient mechanisms to improve on gas emissions in the shipping industry.


ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION


What have we learned from 50 years of offshore oil disasters? By Michael LeVine. Ocean Conservancy. 5 February 2019. Available from: https://oceanconservancy.org/blog/2019/02/05/learned-50-years-offshore-oil-disasters/ Last week marked the 50th anniversary of the start of the Santa Barbara oil spill.


Plastic pollution: One town smothered by 17,000 tonnes of rubbish. By Yvette Tan. BBC News. 13 February 2019. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-46518747 Malaysia has become one of the world’s biggest plastic importers, taking in rubbish the rest of the world doesn’t want.


Years after oil spills, ship-owners yet to pay for scars they left on coastline. By Chittaranjan Tembhekar. Times of India. 27 February 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2NLeMJJE At Alibaug and nearby beaches such as Kihim, Kashid and Janjira, pebbles covered in a film of oil and sand mixed with oil granules are visible.
Australia lashes neglect over oil spill 'disaster' near Solomon Islands. By David Wroe.
Sydney Morning Herald (Australia). 27 February 2019. Available from:
Australia is helping to pressure a Hong Kong shipping company and several other firms to take responsibility for cleaning up a major oil spill close to a World Heritage-listed coral reef off the Solomon Islands.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Shipping focuses on seafarer's mental health. Manila Times. 6 February 2019. Available from:
https://www.manilatimes.net/shipping-focuses-on-seafarers-mental-health/507215/
The shipping industry is now looking at approaches to protect the mental health of seafarers and prevent them from falling into depression while spending days, if not weeks, in the sea.

According to an International Dry Bulk Terminals Group study, there is a disturbing industry uptick in crewmember deaths in confined spaces.

'Strong benefits' to human health championed as council backs crackdown on shipping fumes. By Alice Angeloni and Chloe Ranford. Stuff (New Zealand). 11 February 2019. Available from:
A district council has come out in support of an international treaty to reduce ship emissions, saying the tighter regulations will benefit both human health and the environment.

Yesterday I saw one of the most shocking images that anyone could ever see in shipping - one I hope never gets shared online - something that has been impossible to get out of my head since.

Fall from height and serious injuries to crewmembers on board Shanghai Spirit near Port Alma, Queensland on 29 January 2017. Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB). 21 February 2019. Available from:
During the afternoon of 29 January 2017, the deck crewmembers of Shanghai Spirit were conducting painting and routine touch-up work in the cargo holds. Final Report

The safety of marine pilots and dock workers is being put at risk by the failure of too many ships to comply with international standards, the British Ports Association has warned.

The New Zealand Transport Accident Investigation Commission has released its report on the 2017 accident in Port Chalmers, Dunedin, on board the cruise ship *Emerald Princess*, in which a nitrogen cylinder burst, causing one fatality.

**Europe puts pressure on IMO over scrubber rules.** By Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List.* 7 February 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126174/Europe-puts-pressure-on-IMO-over-scrubber-rules](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126174/Europe-puts-pressure-on-IMO-over-scrubber-rules) The European Union will push for global deliberations to be held on the rules regarding the discharge of waste water, taking into account environmental considerations and regional restrictions, in moves that will add another level of complexity to the ongoing debate around open loop scrubbers.

**BIMCO demands 4th IMO GHG Study based on realistic economic growth.** By Mette Kronholm Fraende. *BIMCO.* 13 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20190213-fourth-imo-ghg-study](https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20190213-fourth-imo-ghg-study) BIMCO argues that the Fourth IMO GHG Study should avoid scenarios 1 and 5 of the International Panel on Climate Change Shared Socio-economic Pathways, as these scenarios project considerably higher and unrealistic short-to mid-term economic growth (as much as two percentage points higher) than current economic trends and OECD projections.

**Bimco doubts IMO’s CO2 calculations.** By Simon Valeur. *ShippingWatch.* 14 February 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11191183.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11191183.ece) Bimco says that the IMO is using excessively high numbers when incorporating economic projections into its future scenarios for shipping's CO2 emissions.


**The Lloyd's List Podcast: The most influential person in shipping.** By Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List.* 15 February 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126273/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-The-most-influential-person-in-shipping](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126273/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-The-most-influential-person-in-shipping) @ "I believe that IMO member states have learned from past lessons and have been putting in a lot of effort to lessen any unnecessary burden to the industry, including consideration of practical challenges and ways to minimise their impact," says secretary-general Kitack Lim on this week's podcast.

PPR 6 preview: IBIA working for sensible 2020 solutions at IMO meeting. *International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA)*. 17 February 2019. Available from: [https://ibia.net/ppr-6-preview-ibia-working-for-sensible-2020-solutions-at-imo-meeting/](https://ibia.net/ppr-6-preview-ibia-working-for-sensible-2020-solutions-at-imo-meeting/) IBIA will be at the 6th session of the IMO’s Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 6), which will endeavour to complete work on remaining issues relating to consistent implementation of the 0.50% sulphur limit set to take effect from 1 January 2020, so that these can be sent to the 74th meeting of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 74) in mid-May for any final tweaks and approval.

**PPR 6: IMO member states must stay focussed on Arctic heavy fuel oil ban.** *Clean Arctic Alliance*. 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.hfotfreearctic.org/en/2019/02/18/ppr-6-imo-member-states-must-stay-focussed-on-arctic-heavy-fuel-oil-ban/](https://www.hfotfreearctic.org/en/2019/02/18/ppr-6-imo-member-states-must-stay-focussed-on-arctic-heavy-fuel-oil-ban/) As a meeting of the International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 6) opens today in London, the Clean Arctic Alliance called on Member States to remain focussed to the goal of developing a ban on the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil by shipping in the Arctic.

**Clock is ticking towards sulphur cap, IMO head warns.** By Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126307/Clock-is-ticking-towards--sulphur-cap--IMO-head-warns](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126307/Clock-is-ticking-towards--sulphur-cap--IMO-head-warns) The next 10 months will be crucial for the implementation of the 2020 sulphur cap, International Maritime Organization secretary-general Kitack Lim has warned.


Hong Kong to adopt a raft of IMO requirements. By Michael Grinter. *Hong Kong Maritime Hub.* 28 February 2019. Available from: [http://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/hong-kong-to-adopt-a-raft-of-imo-requirements/](http://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/hong-kong-to-adopt-a-raft-of-imo-requirements/) The Hong Kong Government has announced its intent to adopt a number of training and environmental measures introduced by the International Maritime Organisation including training requirements for crew on Hong Kong registered ships navigating polar waters.
**LAW & POLICY**


**Pacific Ocean Commissioner calls for Pacific people to be centre of negotiations on international treaty on the high seas.** Pacific Islands News Association (PINA). 30 January 2019. Available from: [http://www.pina.com.fj/?p=pacnews&m=read&o=19505053195c525fa2ect8da65599b](http://www.pina.com.fj/?p=pacnews&m=read&o=19505053195c525fa2ect8da65599b) Pacific officials preparing for a major international meeting to agree an international treaty on the high seas must remember that they negotiate on behalf of the people of the Blue Pacific who greatly depend upon the ocean and its resources, says Pacific Ocean Commissioner, Dame Meg Taylor.

**WTO chief is in denial over climate impact of trade.** By Perrine Fournier. Climate Home News. 30 January 2019. Available from: [https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/01/30/wto-chief-deny-climate-impact-trade/](https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/01/30/wto-chief-deny-climate-impact-trade/) When the head of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) says trade does not impact the environment, we should all be worried.


**Italian prosecutor says Sea Watch committed no offences when saving migrants - reports.** Malta Independent. 2 February 2019. Available from: [https://bit.ly/2TfQn4X](https://bit.ly/2TfQn4X) An Italian prosecutor has said that the migrant rescue ship Sea Watch 3 committed no offences when it saved 47 migrants, who were then delivered to Italy, international news agency AFP says.


**UK Government to support safe maritime trade and economic growth across Overseas Territories.** UK Government. 5 February 2019. Available from: [https://bit.ly/2H1nnHo](https://bit.ly/2H1nnHo) The UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) have today launched a five-day capacity building seminar to help UK Overseas Territories support safe maritime trade.
Oceana investigation keeps one of the world’s largest fish factory vessels on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing list. Oceana. 5 February 2019. Available from: https://usa.oceana.org/press-releases/oceana-investigation-keeps-one-worlds-largest-fish-factory-vessels-illegal-unreported Following an investigation by Oceana, the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization decided to keep the fish factory vessel Damanzaihao (now named Vladivostok 2000) on its list of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels, and issued warnings to China, Panama and Cook Islands for providing assistance to the vessel.

Oman to unveil vision for new Ocean Economy. By Conrad Prabhu. Oman Daily Observer. 6 February 2019. Available from: http://www.omanoobserver.om/oman-to-unveil-vision-for-new-ocean-economy/ Luminaries and thought-leaders from the worlds of science, technology, sustainability and the blue economy are among a distinguished roster of speakers due to offer their enlightened perspectives at the ‘Ocean Economy and Future Technology’ conference set to take place here next week.


Carbon offsets: Worth buying to fight climate change? By Emily Chung. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). 7 February 2019. Available from: https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/faq-carbon-offsets-1.5008339 If you’ve ever booked a flight with an airline like Air Canada or WestJet, you might have been offered a chance to pay money to "offset" the carbon emissions from your flight.

Ottawa announces 2019 measures to protect endangered North Atlantic right whales. CTV News (Canada). 7 February 2019. Available from: https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/ottawa-announces-2019-measures-to-protect-endangered-north-atlantic-right-whales-1.4287008 Ottawa has announced this year’s measures to help protect North Atlantic right whales, building upon rules in place in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 2018 -- when none of the endangered mammals were found dead in Canadian waters.


MV Marathassa’s owners acquitted of fouling English Bay in oil spill. By Oscar Beardmore-Gray. Globe and Mail (Canada). 7 February 2019. Available from: https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/british-columbia/article-mv-marathassas-owners-acquitted-of-fouling-english-bay-in-oil-spill/ The owner of the MV Marathassa, the bulk carrier that spilled 2,700 litres of fuel oil into English Bay nearly four years ago, was acquitted of all charges Thursday after a judge concluded the crew had followed all reasonable measures to contain the spill when the leak was discovered.

Trouble brewing off South Africa’s coast. By Chris Vlavianos. Greenpeace International. 8 February 2019. Available from: https://www.greenpeace.org/africa/en/issues/protecttheenvironment/6382/trouble-brewing-off-south-africas-coast/ In response to the announcement that French oil giant Total has just made a significant oil and gas discovery 175 km off the southern coast of South Africa, Greenpeace Africa’s Senior Climate and Energy Campaign Manager, Melita Steele, has said: “Greenpeace Africa strongly condemns Total’s reckless oil exploration off the coast of South Africa.
UK trawlers ignoring ban on discarding edible fish at sea. By Fiona Harvey. The Guardian. 8 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/feb/08/uk-ban-on-discarding-edible-fish-at-sea-thwarted-by-industry](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/feb/08/uk-ban-on-discarding-edible-fish-at-sea-thwarted-by-industry) Public backing for a ban on discarding edible fish at sea has been thwarted by the reluctance of the fishing industry and the government to put an end to the wasteful practice, the House of Lords has found.

Brexit: Seaborne Freight no-deal ferry contract scrapped. BBC News. 9 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47182361](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47182361) The government has axed its no-deal Brexit contract with a ferry company which had no ships, after the Irish company backing the deal pulled out.


Hapag-Lloyd and Cosco defend block exemption in comments to EU. By Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 11 February 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11182845.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11182845.ece) Will prices increase and customers get a better service if the container shipping sector's unique competitive rule is discontinued?


Norway court rules in Oslo’s favour in snow crab case with implication for oil. By Alister Doyle and Gwladys Fouche. Euronews. 14 February 2019. Available from: https://www.euronews.com/2019/02/14/norway-court-rules-in-oslos-favour-in-snow-crab-case-with-implication-for-oil Ships from European Union countries need permission from Oslo to catch snow crabs off Arctic islands north of Norway, the Norwegian Supreme Court said on Thursday, in a ruling that may make it harder for EU nations to explore for oil in the region.

Tank vessel operator convicted and sentenced for oil discharge offense, vessel captain indicted. US Department of Justice. 14 February 2019. Available from: https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/tank-vessel-operator-convicted-and-sentenced-oil-discharge-offense-vessel-captain-indicted Interorient Marine Services Limited, a vessel operating company, was convicted and sentenced yesterday in the Western District of Louisiana, for maintaining false and incomplete records relating to the discharge of oil from the tank vessel Ridgebury Alexandra Z, announced Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Bossert Clark of the Environment and Natural Resources Division and United States Attorney David C. Joseph for the Western District of Louisiana.

Brexit deadline looms for Asia-bound ships as slow boats to China set sail from the UK. By Finbarr Bermingham. South China Morning Post. 15 February 2019. Available from: https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/2186359/brexit-deadline-looms-asia-bound-ships-slow-boats-china-set Sail. Dozens of cargo ships will set sail on Friday from the UK on journeys that will see them enter Asian ports after the United Kingdom has left the European Union.

Why Kenya and Somalia are fighting over ocean boundary. By Eliud Kibii and Imende Benjamin. The Star (Kenya). 18 February 2019. Available from: https://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2019/02/18/why-kenya-and-somalia-are-fighting-over-ocean-boundary_c1895998 Somali Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khayre’s defiance not to postpone or stop the London meeting where contentious oil blocks were "auctioned" escalated diplomatic friction with Kenya.

Ridding the Arctic of the world’s dirtiest fuel. By Dave Walsh. The Ecologist. 19 February 2019. Available from: https://theecologist.org/2019/feb/19/ridding-arctic-worlds-dirtiest-fuel Shipping specialists from around the world are shuttering themselves in the International Maritime Organization’s central London headquarters this week to thrash out a number of issues surrounding the threat of pollution to the climate and oceans from the global shipping industry.

Technologies for removing CO2 from the atmosphere will need to be integrated into climate policy in 2019, say national science academies across the EU. European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC). 19 February 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2SKdZtd In a new statement, the European Academies’ Science Advisory Council (EASAC), which represents the national science academies of the EU Member States, Norway, and Switzerland, says its latest analysis reveals that technologies and techniques for removing CO2 from the atmosphere are becoming even more significant with the failure to reverse the growth in global emissions.

MARINA gears up for IMSAS 2021. Government of the Philippines. 20 February 2019. Available from: http://marina.gov.ph/2019/02/20/marina-gears-up-for-imsas-2021/ To gear up the country's overall performance as a Member State in the incoming International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) on 2021, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) hosts a training and workshop for the Philippine maritime administration on 18 to 22 February 2019.


Shipping organizations: Protecting Salish Sea is a shared responsibility. World Maritime News. 21 February 2019. Available from: https://worldmaritimene.ws/archive/271855/ Canada's Chamber of Shipping and the US-based Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) have urged governments of the two nations to respect the binational collaboration aimed at protecting the Salish Sea.


UK must end 'unlawful' administration of Chagos Archipelago 'as rapidly as possible,' top UN court rules. UN News. 25 February 2019. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/02/1033532 The Chagos Islands were retained by the United Kingdom during negotiations over independence for the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius, which came to fruition in 1968.


Switzerland puts geoengineering governance on UN environment agenda. By Sara Stefanini. *Climate Home News*. 26 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/02/26/switzerland-push-talk-geoengineering-goes-sci-fi-reality/](https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/02/26/switzerland-push-talk-geoengineering-goes-sci-fi-reality/). Switzerland wants the world to talk about if and how to use untested technology that tampers with nature to slow climate change – and will ask the UN’s environment arm to take the lead.

ICS voices its concerns on the new Canadian Legislation. *Safety4Sea*. 26 February 2019. Available from: [https://safety4sea.com/ics-voices-its-concerns-on-the-new-canadian-legislation/](https://safety4sea.com/ics-voices-its-concerns-on-the-new-canadian-legislation/). The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), that represents the world’s national shipowners’ associations and 80% of the world merchant fleet, addressed its concerns about the Canadian proposed legislation which it says will interfere with international maritime trade.


**MARINE TECHNOLOGY**


Startup wants to use robots as cleaners for ships. By Simon Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 11 February 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11183221.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11183221.ece) J. Lauritzen and Norden have already installed several of Cliin's new cleaning robots in order to save time and money on cleaning cargo holds.

Wilhelmsen and Hitachi High-Tech Analytical Science partnership delivers convenient IMO 2020 compliance, with quick and easy on-board fuel sulphur testing. *Wilhelmsen*. 11 February 2019. Available from: [https://bit.ly/2SCqWw](https://bit.ly/2SCqWw) With the International Maritime Organisation's 0.50% global sulphur cap on marine fuels set to come into force on 1 January 2020 and discussions on enforcement strategies and potential penalties for non-compliance gathering pace, the ability to perform lab-quality testing in seconds, will soon become an operational necessity for crews, and authorities, alike.


Fuel consumption and CO2 emissions reporting application released by Bureau Veritas. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 15 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/fuel-consumption-and-co2-emissions-reporting-application-released-by-bureau-veritas/](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/fuel-consumption-and-co2-emissions-reporting-application-released-by-bureau-veritas/) Bureau Veritas, a world leader in laboratory testing, inspection, and certification services, announces the release of ‘Phase 2’ of My Fuel Consumption (MFC), the online tool to facilitate compliance with fuel consumption regulations – both IMO’s data collection system (DCS) and the EU’s monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) requirements.


**MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**


IMO's standard training requirements may no longer be enough to satisfy owner's requirements for their crew to show competency in the latest technology.


The Pacific Community is conducting a 3-day training on Pacific Islands Domestic Ship Safety in Port Vila.


Improving the education, training and certification of seafarers has been considered particularly important with a view to attaining a high level of safety.


The nations that provide the world's seafarers cannot be relied on to do so forever, says Ian Beveridge.


Nautilus has welcomed a new seafarer training website which has been launched by the Maritime Educational Foundation.


Columbia Shipmanagement proudly announces the launch of its own eLearning Management System (LMS) in partnership with Adobe Systems.


The 2010 Manila Amendments introduced new capacities and certificates, such as those for Electro Technical Officers (ETOs), the latest training and certification requirements including security-related training, and new competences, such as in the use of Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS).

**MARITIME SAFETY**


INTERCARGO welcomes the latest amendment to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code (IMSBC 04-17) which entered into force on 1st January 2019 and includes important updates related to cargoes that may liquefy.


The risk of gas leaks on board tankers was thrown into the spotlight recently following a high-profile incident in California late last year.
EU Maritime Safety Agency awards managed connectivity services contract to SES. 

SAFETY4SEA Conference in Cyprus addresses industry’s sustainability challenges. 

MARITIME SECURITY

Cyber preparedness is needed to meet IMO safety requirements. By Ed Martin. 
Maritime Digitalisation & Communications. 28 January 2019. Available from: https://www.marinemec.com/news/view,cyber-preparedness-is-needed-to-meet-imo-safety-requirements_56595.htm  When most people in shipping hear about IMO requirements, they immediately think of the 2020 sulphur cap that has dominated headlines lately, but there is another deadline coming up that requires consideration too – the requirement for cyber security to be addressed in safety management systems by January 2021.

Huge cocaine shipment swapped with salt to catch traffickers. By Lorenzo Tondo. 
The Guardian. 31 January 2019. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jan/31/two-tonnes-of-cocaine-seized-at-italian-port Italian police have taken possession of more than two tonnes of cocaine in the largest drugs seizure in the country in 25 years, after a sting operation involving three other nations across two continents.

Sea Shepherd vessel attacked again in Gulf of California. Maritime Executive. 2 February 2019. Available from: https://maritime-executive.com/article/sea-shepherd-vessel-attacked-again-in-gulf-of-california  On January 31, Sea Shepherd Vessel HMAS Ballarat was attacked by over 50 assailants the organization says were posing as fishermen.


Eastern Pacific Shipping tanker seized at Cameroon refinery. By Vincent Wee. Lloyd's List. 3 February 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126120/Eastern-Pacific-Shipping-tanker-seized-at-Cameroon-refinery  Eastern Pacific Shipping has confirmed that its aframax tanker Barents Sea has been seized by local parties at the Sonara refinery in Cameroon and condemned what it called an "act of unprovoked aggression".


Key actions to protect submarine cables from criminal activity identified at UNODC global expert meeting. *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).* 7 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/February/key-actions-to-protect-submarine-cables-from-criminal-activity-identified-at-unodc-global-expert-meeting.html?ref=fs2](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/February/key-actions-to-protect-submarine-cables-from-criminal-activity-identified-at-unodc-global-expert-meeting.html?ref=fs2) While many believe that the majority of global telecommunications, including the internet, is transmitted through satellite, the reality is that over 95% of such communication occurs through fibre-optic cables.


Gov't forces strengthen maritime security in Davao. By Rhoda Grace Saron. *Philippine Information Agency (PIA).* 14 February 2019. Available from: [http://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1061820](http://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1061820) Law enforcement agencies and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), led by the Coast Guard District Southeastern Mindanao (CGDSEM), on Wednesday conducted an Inter-agency Maritime Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue Exercise to further strengthen security at this city's shorelines and ports.


IOM reports that 5,989 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 30 days of 2019, a slight decrease from the 6,550 arriving during the same period last year.


IOM reports that 6,413 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 34 days of 2019, a 17 percent decrease from the 7,499 arriving during the same period last year.


IOM reports that 6,932 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 38 days of 2019, a 12 per cent decrease from the 7,795 arriving during the same period last year.


IOM reports that 7,113 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 10 February, a significant decrease from the 8,234 arriving during the same period last year.


IOM reports that 7,510 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 44 days of 2019, almost a 9 per cent decline from the 8,234 arriving during the same period last year.


A group of 34 migrants have been brought ashore after the Border Force intercepted a boat in the Channel.


IOM reports that 8,058 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 58 days of 2019, a 10 per cent decrease from the 8,807 arriving during the same period last year.


Spain and Morocco have reached an agreement on an unprecedented strategy to contain irregular immigration.


IOM reports that 8,269 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through 20 February, a 15 per cent decrease from the 9,765 arriving during the same period last year.


IOM reports that 8,950 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through 24 February, a 10 per cent decrease from the 10,016 arriving during the same period last year.


**China Focus: BeiDou achieves real-time transmission of deep-sea data.** *Xinhuanet (China).* 1 February 2019. Available from: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/01/c_137792605.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/01/c_137792605.htm) China has achieved real-time transmission of deep-sea data at 6,000-meter depth through its self-developed BeiDou satellites for the first time, a move essential to more secure, independent and reliable deep-sea data transmission.


**Iranian ships with no problem to commute in int’l waters.** *Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran).* 12 February 2019. Available from: [http://www.irna.ir/en/News/83207070](http://www.irna.ir/en/News/83207070) Deputy Director of Marine Affairs of Ports and Maritime Organization of Iran said that although Iran is facing unfair sanctions and all-out economic war, Iranian ship in terms of insurance, classification and transportation in international waters have no problems.


**Spain and Gibraltar offer differing accounts of warship incident.** *By Guy Faulconbridge, Jose Elias Rodriguez, and Joan Faus.* *Reuters.* 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-spain-gibraltar-idUSKCN1Q70L6](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-spain-gibraltar-idUSKCN1Q70L6) Authorities in Madrid and Gibraltar gave differing versions on Monday of an incident in which a Spanish warship told commercial ships to leave anchorages near Gibraltar, the latest example of tension over the strategic port as Brexit approaches.

Fault-lines surface in Arctic as region turns into geopolitical hotspot.


**PORT STATE CONTROL**


**PORTS & HARBOURS**


Higher fuel prices in 2020 could shift 1.2m teu back to US West Coast ports. By Barry Parker. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 1 February 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2UrXHHf The expanded Panama Canal saw container trade switching from the US West Coast calls, with landbridge connections inland, to calls on the East Coast, however, higher fuel costs associated with the IMO's 2020 sulphur cap could drive up to 1.2m of trade back to West Coast ports.


Port agency steps up effort to curb ship pollution. By Samuel Baya. *Business Daily (Kenya)*. 5 February 2019. Available from: https://www.businesstodayafrica.com/corporate/shipping/Port-agency-steps-up-effort-to-curb-ship-pollution/4003122-4968352-orx3ykz/index.html More than 500 ships that docked at the Port of Mombasa last year were inspected in a drive to reduce sulphur emissions.

UK ports and Brexit - ready or not? By Felicity Landon. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 5 February 2019. Available from: http://www.seatrade-maritime.com/news/europe/uk-ports-and-brexit-ready-or-not.html According to a survey on preparedness for Brexit by Odgers Berndtson, only 16% of about 100 UK ports and harbour authorities have made any ‘significant or practical’ plans for Brexit, but 59% expect a negative or strongly negative impact.
Port Insight started on 20 November: the joint venture of the Port of Rotterdam Authority with TWTG, a progressive player in the development of I-iot solutions (industrial internet of things).

Calais bans 'disrespectful' Grayling over Brexit ports plan. *Lloyd's List.* 6 February 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/ll1126156/Calais-bans-disrespectful-Grayling-over-Brexit-ports-plan The head of the Port of Calais has said Britain's Transport Secretary Chris Grayling is no longer welcome because of UK plans to divert some sea traffic in the event of a no-deal Brexit.


Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Piraeus and the Ports of Venice and Chioggia to strengthen the cargo flows. *Piraeus Port Authority.* 11 February 2019. Available from: http://www.olp.gr/en/press-releases/item/4290 The CEO of the Port Authority of Piraeus, Captain Fu Chengqiu and the President of the North Adriatic Sea Port Authority, Pino Musolino, during a meeting held at the PPA headquarters, signed today a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at strengthening relations and cargo flows between the two ports.

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority expands noise reduction criteria to encourage quieter waters for endangered whales. *Port of Vancouver.* 11 February 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2TwNTya The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has expanded its industry-leading EcoAction* Program to encourage ships that call on the Port of Vancouver to quiet the waters for the endangered whale population along the southern coast of British Columbia.


Ukraine ports eye larger share of Asia cargo - media. *UNIAN News Agency (Ukraine).* 14 February 2019. Available from: https://economics.unian.info/10446000-ukraine-ports-eye-larger-share-of-asia-cargo-media.html Seaports in Ukraine are working to grab an even larger share of containerized cargo moving to the European Union from Asia by further developing domestic container terminals and increasing the quality of services provided to shippers.


The new authorised draught, effective 13 March 2019, for vessels transiting the neo-panamax locks will be 14.33 metres (47.0 feet) Tropical Fresh Water (TFW) down from 14.63 metres (48.0 feet) effective since 11 February.

'Smarter' ports can help cut emissions. *By James Baker.* *Lloyd's List.* 19 February 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/ll1126332/Smarter-ports-can-help-cut-emissions Port development has been identified as one of the key areas tied to the International Maritime Organization's greenhouse gas strategy, but more work needs to be done to bring together the various actors in the supply chain if the available improvements are to be realised.
Ports sector failing to take cyber security seriously. By James Baker. *Lloyd's List.* 20 February 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126353/Ports-sector-failing-to-take-cybersecurity-seriously  The ports sector and wider maritime industry are failing to take cyber security seriously enough and is unlikely to until a major incident occurs, experts have warned.


Drewry study concludes Port of Dover has the resilience to cope with moderate Brexit disruption. *Drewry Shipping Consultants.* 27 February 2019. Available from: https://www.drewry.co.uk/news/independent-study-concludes-port-of-dover-has-the-resilience-to-cope-with-moderate-brexit-disruption  The Port of Dover has the resilience to cope with moderate disruption arising from Brexit and there is latent short sea capacity to absorb significant overflow at the port in the event of capacity constraints, according to an independent study by global shipping consultancy Drewry.

REGULATIONS


Implications of IMO sulfur cap regulation. By Abdulwahab Al Sadoun. *Saudi Gazette.* 10 February 2019. Available from: http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/558834/BUSINESS/Implications-of-IMO-sulfur-cap-regulation  With no delays expected for the implementation of the new International Maritime Organization bunker fuel regulation, from Jan.1, 2020, shipowners will be required to meet the 0.5% global sulfur cap on fuel content, vs. the present limit of 3.5%.


GPCA: IMO 2020 to impact GCC chemical industry on two major fronts. *Manifold Times (Singapore).* 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/d/gpca-im2020-to-impact-gcc-chemical-industry-on-two-major-fronts](https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/d/gpca-im2020-to-impact-gcc-chemical-industry-on-two-major-fronts) With no delays expected for the implementation of the new International Maritime Organization (IMO) bunker fuel regulation, from Jan.1, 2020, shipowners will be required to meet the 0.5% global sulphur cap on fuel content, vs. the present limit of 3.5%.

Shipowners on collision course with EU on scrubber regulations. By Nikias Krigslund. ShippingWatch. 20 February 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/suppliers/article11203000.ece The debate surrounding open-loop scrubbers has set the EU member states on a collision course with several of the biggest shipping companies.


New scrubber regulations must be convincing. By Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd’s List. 25 February 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126283/New-scrubber-regulations-must-be.convincing The International Maritime Organization will go back to the drawing board on a regulation that is already adopted, that all member states have agreed to; the moment is both an opportunity and a risk for environmental regulation.

FONARS are ‘not a free pass’ to use non-compliant low sulphur fuel, warns ICS. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 26 February 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2H4pYzK The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has welcomed the decision in principle by the UN IMO that safety or operational concerns about the quality of low sulphur fuels may, in exceptional circumstances, be a valid reason for shipowners to be issued with a Fuel Oil Non Availability Report (FONAR) when the IMO global sulphur cap, requiring fuels to have a sulphur content of 0.5% or less, comes into full effect on 1 January 2020.

SALVAGE

The law of salvage: Case tackles unique area of maritime law. By Nathan Cecil, Adam Vrahnos, and Christopher Yong. Holding Redlich (Australia). 5 February 2019. Available from: https://www.holdingredlich.com/the-law-of-salvage There is a long established principle in maritime law whereby a person who helps recover another person's ship or cargo in peril at sea is entitled to be rewarded for their good deed.


SEAFARERS

Russian sailors released in Nigeria arrive home, says Foreign Ministry. TASS Russian News Agency. 30 January 2019. Available from: http://tass.com/society/1042546 Six Russian sailors, abducted by pirates near Benin's territorial waters in early January during an attack against the container ship The MSC Mandy, have arrived in Russia, the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

OP-ED: Concerns spread as suicide rate at sea increases. By Andrew Cowderoy. Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 30 January 2019. Available from: https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2019/01/30/op-ed-concerns-spread-as-suicide-rate-at-sea-increases/ The UK P&I Club reported that in the previous three years, they have identified an increase of suicide at sea from 4.4% in 2014 to 15.3% in 2017 - a rate that has almost tripled.

Relief for 5 Guyanese seamen.... By Azard Ali. Newsday (Trinidad and Tobago). 2 February 2019. Available from: https://newsday.co.tt/2019/02/02/relief-for-5-guyanese-seamen/ Six years of living on a Nigerian boat off Claxton Bay has ended for five Guyanese seamen.


Sailors stranded in Arabian Gulf face uncertain future. By Nick Webster. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 6 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.thenational.ae/uae/sailors-stranded-in-arabian-gulf-face-uncertain-future-1.822711](https://www.thenational.ae/uae/sailors-stranded-in-arabian-gulf-face-uncertain-future-1.822711) Rough seas and strong winds have delayed the rescue of sailors who are stranded 50 kilometres off the UAE coast and have been at sea for more than two years.


Employment of Indian seafarers grows by an unprecedented 35 percent this year. *Government of India*. 15 February 2019. Available from: [http://www.pib.nic.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1564700](http://www.pib.nic.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1564700) The shipping sector has witnessed an unprecedented growth of 35 per cent in the number of Indian seafarers employed on Indian or foreign flag vessels this year.


“Demand-led” - it was rather cruelly described to me by one of my cynical friends who works for a major ship manager.

Crew members compensated for reporting shipping company’s ocean dumping.

A federal judge in Portland has awarded nearly a quarter million dollars to a Czech seaman who reported a German shipping company for covering up illegal dumping of oily water.

Giving help after piracy trauma. By Kilian SC. Southern Cross (South Africa). 22 February 2019. Available from: https://www.scross.co.za/2019/02/giving-help-after-piracy-trauma/ The storming of a cargo ship in the middle of the Thames estuary off the coast of England by heavily armed commandos of the Special Boat Service just before Christmas was the kind of incident you might expect off the coast of Somalia or Nigeria.


Meet the world’s first black woman cruise ship captain. By Laura Begley Bloom. Forbes. 25 February 2019. Available from: https://www.forbes.com/sites/laurabegleybloom/2019/02/25/meet-the-worlds-first-black-woman-cruise-ship-captain Back in the not-so-good-old days of cruising, women were considered to be bad luck on ships, a distraction to the crew and an anger to the seas.

SEARCH & RESCUE


Haitian nationals rescued on Cay off Abaco. Government of the Bahamas. 2 February 2019. Available from: http://rbdf.gov.bs/haitian-nationals-rescued-on-cay-off-abaco/ A search is currently underway in a joint effort by local authorities after a total of 15 Haitian nationals were rescued and another 4 were found lifeless in waters near Man O War Cay at the entrance of Marsh Harbour, central Abaco earlier this morning.


**SHIP RECYCLING**


Maersk’s preferred Alang yard fails to get EU approval. By Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*. 31 January 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11162019.ecе Even though Maersk says it has resolved numerous issues at the much-maligned beaching sites in Alang, the company’s preferred partner is now getting the cold shoulder from the EU.

This is where Maersk’s partner in Alang needs to improve. By Niklas Krigslund. 
ShippingWatch. 5 February 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11169922.ece  Maersk’s preferred shipbreaking yard in Alang, India, needs to improve on several issues if it wants to be included on the European list of approved shipbreakers.

Turkey ratifies Hong Kong Convention for safe recycling of ships. IndustriALL Global Union. 4 February 2019. Available from: http://www.industriall-union.org/turkey-ratifies-hong-kong-convention-for-safe-recycling-of-ships  Turkey is one of the five major ship recycling countries in the world, including Bangladesh, China, India and Pakistan, that account for more than 90 per cent of all ship recycling by tonnage.


Revealed: How a UK company is using a Caribbean tax haven to cash in on scrapping toxic ships in one of the world’s poorest countries. By Margot Gibbs. The Independent. 20 February 2019. Available from: https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/ship-scrapping-skanreg-st-kitts-nevis-maritime-investigation-a8780796.html  A UK company that acts as a formal outpost for a tiny Caribbean tax haven is a facilitator for one of the world’s deadliest trades – the scrapping of toxic ships on the beaches of south Asia.

Chinese shipbreakers urged to fight illegal scrapping for survival. By Max Tingyao Lin. TradeWinds. 20 February 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/1707658/chinese-shipbreakers-urged-to-fight-illegal-scrapping-for-survival  China National Shiprecycling Association has urged its members to fight illegal scrapping with maritime authorities in the country as they shift their focus to domestic tonnage.

Demolition market “Confusing” says shipbroker. By Nikos Roussanoglou. Hellenic Shipping News. 21 February 2019. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/demolition-market-confusing-says-shipbroker/  Over the course of the past couple of years, things were pretty straightforward when it came to the demolition market.


Inspectors found 34 deficiencies at Maersk’s Alang partner. By Niklas Krigslund. 
ShippingWatch. 27 February 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11216865.ece  Inspectors from DNV GL found 34 cases of deficiencies last year, when it visited Maersk’s preferred shipbreaking yard in Alang together with the EU Commission, according to a report from the visit, which contains new photos from Indian coastal region.
SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR


SHIPPING

Classification in the digital age. By Aleks Karlsen. DNV GL. 29 January 2019. Available from: https://www.dnvgl.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/Classification-in-the-digital-age.html DNV GL’s Data Smart Classification, or “D-Class” development project aims to utilize and coordinate advanced technology to make DP system verification schedules much more flexible and efficient and, at the same time, less disruptive and burdensome for operators while ensuring the highest levels of equipment and system integrity and safety.


Brumadinho disaster will hurt Capesize demand. Drewry Shipping Consultants. 31 January 2019. Available from: https://www.drewry.co.uk/maritime-research-opinion-browser/brumadinho-disaster-will-hurt-capesize-demand The collapse of the upstream dam in Brumadinho will hurt Vale’s iron ore production from Minas Gerais in Brazil if the Brazilian government does not allow Vale to compensate the loss by increasing production at its other mines.


Maersk plans to launch its first CO2 neutral ship in 2030. By Søren Pico. ShippingWatch. 1 February 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11163711.ece Maersk Group is honing in on 2030 as the year in which the first environmental and CO2 neutral container ship will join its fleet, says John Kornørup Bang, Maersk’s Head of Sustainability Strategy & Chief Advisor for Climate Change.

Maritime forecast 2019/20: What shipping industry should expect - NIMASA.  
By Isichei Osamgbi.  
*Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA).*  
1 February 2019.  
As part of efforts to guide investors and encourage more participation in the maritime industry, the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) have set the tone with the unveiling of the 2019-2020 maritime forecast.

Maritime union says Brexit and shipping exodus is creating a 'perfect storm' for the industry.  
*Nautilus International.*  
1 February 2019.  
Maritime professionals' trade union, Nautilus International, has warned the decision by Maersk to take its remaining vessels off the UK Ship Register, exit the UK Tonnage Tax and end the training of UK Cadets, will have a serious impact on seafarer jobs and the stability of the UK industry.

Marine Fuel 0.5% futures trades suggest price surge for IMO-compliant fuels. By Liz Thang.  
*S&P Global Platts.*  
1 February 2019.  
The first trades in financial derivative contracts that settle against Platts Marine Fuel 0.5% assessments are offering early cues to a surge in global shipping fuel prices heading into 2020, market participants said Friday.

Maersk clarifies UK stance. By Sam Chambers.  
*Splash 247.com.*  
2 February 2019.  
Available from: [https://splash247.com/maersk-clarifies-uk-stance/](https://splash247.com/maersk-clarifies-uk-stance/)  
Maersk has clarified its position on UK cadets and its commitment to the UK's flag system.

Live Export: What the observers saw on board.  
*Maritime Executive.*  
2 February 2019.  
The exporter had left some beer, so on the first two nights of the voyage, the government-appointed observer had a beer and a chat with the crew members of the livestock carrier he would sail on for next few weeks.

Commission adopts a proposal to revise the EU system to monitor, report and verify CO2 emissions from ships.  
*European Commission.*  
4 February 2019.  
The European Commission today adopted a proposal to revise the EU system for monitoring, reporting and verification of CO2 emissions from maritime transport (Regulation (EU) 2015/757) in order to take appropriate account of the global data collection system for fuel oil consumption of ships established by the International Maritime Organisation.

Blockchain helps bunker sustainable biofuels in Rotterdam.  
*Biofuels International.*  
4 February 2019.  
Sustainable marine biofuel produced by Dutch company GoodFuels has been successfully delivered to a bulk carrier chartered by international mining company BHP.

BHP and NYK use GoodFuels biofuel to progress decarbonisation goals.  
*GoodFuels.*  
4 February 2019.  
The advanced biofuel, supplied by GoodFuels via logistics partner Varo Energy, is a ‘drop-in’ marine gasoil (MGO)-equivalent, and was blended with conventional fossil-based MGO in a mix of 30% biofuel to 70% conventional MGO.

Shipping Act revisions and new commissioners revitalise FMC. By Janet Porter.  
*Lloyd's List.*  
4 February 2019.  
With just two commissioners remaining and under considerable budgetary constraint, the Federal Maritime Commission appeared to be facing an uncertain future last year as shipping dropped down the political agenda in the chaos of the Trump administration.
Shipping companies are eying biofuel. By Katrine Grønvald Raun. ShippingWatch. 5 February 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/suppliers/article11159172.ece
Since Goodfuels signed up shipping company Norden as a biofuels customer, the pace has quickened for the company.


Top 10 shipowning nations: China sees biggest increase. Maritime Executive. 6 February 2019. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/top-10-shipowning-nations-china-sees-biggest-increase It's no surprise that Greece tops the world for shipowning, but China has seen the biggest increase in value out of the top 10, according to VesselsValue.

Inuit making recommendations on Arctic shipping routes. By Jackie McKay. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). 6 February 2019. Available from: https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/inuit-voice-arctic-shipping-corridors-1.5007328 For the first time, Inuit communities are making recommendations to the federal government about how they want ships to move through their waters, highlighting the importance of the ocean to their way of life.

How U.S. sanctions on Venezuela have left a dozen oil tankers idling with no place to go. By Pete Evans. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). 6 February 2019. Available from: https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/venezuela-oil-sanctions-1.4990879 The sanctions the U.S. slapped on Venezuelan oil last week are playing havoc with the tankers that ship crude around the world, and throwing energy prices off-kilter in the process.

EU defends publishing ship emissions data to drive CO2 emissions cuts. Transport & Environment. 7 February 2019. Available from: https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/eu-defends-publishing-ship-emissions-data-drive-co2-emissions-cuts Publishing data about the emissions of all ships calling at EU ports, as proposed by the European Commission, will incentivize shipping companies to cut their CO2 while also better informing regulations to reduce emissions, green NGO Transport & Environment (T&E) has said.


Carbon dioxide emission from ships to increase to about 205% by 2050 if no action is taken - GMA boss. By Miriam Osei-Agyemang. GhanaWeb. 7 February 2019. Available from: https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Carbon-dioxide-emission-from-ships-to-increase-to-about-205-by-2050-if-no-action-is-taken-GMA-boss-721569 It is estimated that ships energy consumption and carbon dioxide emission could be reduced by up to 75 percent by applying operational measures and implementing available technologies.
Woodmac estimates 10 pct of marine fuel to be scrubbed of sulphur in 2020.


Brexodus: Movement of UKSR people? By David Osler and Janet Porter. Lloyd's List. 7 February 2019.  Available from: https://www.lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126182/Brexodus-Movement-of-UKSR-people  Brexit could spark a spate of departures from the UK Ship Register, in a humiliating reverse for the government's stated intention to double the size of the UK flag, a number of big name owners have revealed to Lloyd's List.

Contamination fears fuel calls for greater bunker transparency ahead of 2020.

True motives of scrubber debate called into question. Ship & Bunker. 8 February 2019.  Available from: https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/987107-true-motives-of-scrubber-debate-called-into-question  Less than nine months ago, scrubber advocates were asking why uptake of the technology was so low when the economics were so compelling.

Turkish shipping industry blossomed over 16 years: Erdogan. By Sena Güler. Anadolu Agency (Turkey). 9 February 2019.  Available from: https://www.aa.com.tr/en/todays-headlines/turkish-shipping-industry-blossomed-over-16-years-erdogan/1387871  Turkey's shipping industry has blossomed over the last 16 years, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday.


Major ship engine manufacturer MAN Energy Solutions supports Maersk's ambitions to launch CO2 neutral ships by 2030.


Transitioning away from heavy fuel oil in Arctic shipping. By Bryan Comer. *International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT).* 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.theicct.org/publications/transitioning-away-heavy-fuel-oil-arctic-shipping](https://www.theicct.org/publications/transitioning-away-heavy-fuel-oil-arctic-shipping) As Arctic shipping increases, pressure is mounting to protect the environment from fuels that are harmful when burned and spilled, including heavy fuel oil (HFO).

Japan rejects ban on open-loop scrubbers. By Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List.* 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126297/Japan-rejects-ban-on-openloop-scrubbers](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126297/Japan-rejects-ban-on-openloop-scrubbers) Japan has thrown its weight behind open-loop scrubbers ahead of international negotiations as the technology faces increased scrutiny and mounting opposition from a number of jurisdictions around the world.

Cargill targets male-only panels. By Helen Kelly. *Lloyd's List.* 18 February 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126296/Cargill-targets-male-only-panels](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126296/Cargill-targets-male-only-panels) Cargill, the global grains and agricultural trader, has pledged to ban its executives from speaking at male-only panels.

BIMCO: Container shipping may face bankruptcies if it fails to recover extra fuel costs. *World Maritime News.* 19 February 2019. Available from: [https://worldmaritimenews.com/archives/271651/bimco-container-shipping-may-face-bankruptcies-if-it-fails-to-recover-extra-fuel-costs/](https://worldmaritimenews.com/archives/271651/bimco-container-shipping-may-face-bankruptcies-if-it-fails-to-recover-extra-fuel-costs/) As the starting line for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) sulphur cap approaches, the dominant theme of 2019 will be the sharing of the higher costs that are expected in various forms towards the end of the year, according to the association.
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Despite recent announcements by some ports to ban wash water discharge from open-loop scrubbers in their waters, about 8% of total bunkers consumed in 2020 will be scrubbed to meet compliance with the International Maritime Organization’s global sulfur limit rule for marine fuels, Robin Meech, MD at Marine and Energy Consulting Limited said.


Bomin has been hit with new claims from shipping companies accusing the German bunker supplier of delivering contaminated bunkers to their ships.


A study commissioned by Panama into the use of open-loop scrubbers raises “cause for concern” and questions whether ships equipped with the technology are truly equivalent to vessels burning low-sulphur fuel.


Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), an operator of global exchanges and clearing houses and provider of data and listings services, has launched new Marine Fuel 0.5% futures contracts prior to the upcoming implementation of the IMO 0.5% sulphur cap in 2020.


The consortium, supported by Maritime Knowledge Centre, would look into the feasibility of methanol as a sustainable alternative transport fuel in the maritime sector.


Maersk has increased its investment in scrubbers by more than USD 183 million.


The important place of the shipping industry and its participants in Greece’s overall economic picture as the country struggles to climb out of financial crisis was again evident when financial powerhouse PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) recently presented a study on mergers and acquisitions in Greece in 2018.


As a meeting of the IMO Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response closes today, the Clean Arctic Alliance welcome progress but calls on Arctic Nations Russia and Canada to step-up to their responsibilities and add their support for a ban on heavy fuel oil (HFO) from use by Arctic shipping, and for Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland and the United States, who already support the ban, to remain focused on ensuring it is adopted in 2021, and phased in by 2023.


Crude oil has always flowed backwards and forwards across the world’s oceans.

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Crude oil has always flowed backwards and forwards across the world’s oceans.
IMO agrees that we can control black carbon emissions from ships. But will we?
By Bryan Comer. *International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT).* 25 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.theicct.org/blog/staff/imo-agrees-we-can-control-black-carbon-emissions-ships-will-we](https://www.theicct.org/blog/staff/imo-agrees-we-can-control-black-carbon-emissions-ships-will-we) Amid new scientific evidence that most black carbon present in the Arctic is from burning fossil fuels, IMO agreed last week that there are up to 41 appropriate ways to reduce black carbon from ships at the sixth session of its Pollution Prevention and Response subcommittee.

How charterers subverted Marpol to bring us today’s scrubber chaos. By Steve Nolan.

NIMASA advocates greater role for African women in maritime. By Yusuf Babalola.
*Leadership (Nigeria).* 26 February 2019. Available from: [https://leadership.ng/2019/02/26/nimasa-advocates-greater-role-for-african-women-in-maritime/](https://leadership.ng/2019/02/26/nimasa-advocates-greater-role-for-african-women-in-maritime/) Director-general of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dakuku Peterside, has announced the agency's readiness to support initiatives aimed at getting more African women involved in the industry.


EU makes one concession too many on ships’ data. *Transport & Environment.* 26 February 2019. Available from: [https://www.transportenvironment.org/news/eu-makes-one-concession-too-many-on-ships-data](https://www.transportenvironment.org/news/eu-makes-one-concession-too-many-on-ships-data) The European Commission has published proposals to revise its reporting rules on ships’ emissions data which are aimed at enabling those who charter ships to pick the cleanest and most efficient vessels.


Liner majors deploy ultra-large ships on Asia-Mediterranean. By Simon Valeur.
Industry leaders warn on no-deal Brexit as clock ticks down. By David Osler.  *Lloyd’s List.*
27 February 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126421/Industry-leaders-warn-on-nodeal-Brexit-as-clock-ticks-down](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1126421/Industry-leaders-warn-on-nodeal-Brexit-as-clock-ticks-down) Industry figures have spoken out against the rising risk of a no-deal Brexit, as the March 29 date for Britain leaving the European Union looms ever closer with no finalised agreement on the terms of the UK’s withdrawal.


**RESEARCH**

Ocean colour signature of climate change. By S. Dutkiewicz, A. E. Hickman et al.  *Nature Communications.* (2019). Available from: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-08457-x](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-08457-x) Monitoring changes in marine phytoplankton is important as they form the foundation of the marine food web and are crucial in the carbon cycle.


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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.