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

Be bold for change – how to empower women in the maritime community

Remove structural barriers, build good networks and support quality education to ensure no woman, no girl is left behind in the maritime sector – where women remain significantly under-represented. These were some of the themes reiterated by maritime leaders speaking on the first day of the third World Maritime University (WMU) International Women’s Conference, Empowering Women in the Maritime Community, Malmö, Sweden (4-5 April), reflecting this year’s World Maritime Day theme.

Opening the conference, WMU President Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry called on the whole maritime sector to “be bold for change” in order to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 5 on gender equality. “We need to ensure a quality education is made available to everyone, including and empowering women and girls. No one should be left behind,” she said.

“To make progress we need bold and innovative initiatives to ensure we progress gender diversity,” said Helen Buni, focal point for IMO’s Women in Maritime Programme, which supports women to access maritime training and other opportunities, including through gender-specific fellowships for high-level technical training. Through this programme, IMO has facilitated the establishment of seven women in maritime associations across the globe to provide networking, mentorship and other opportunities.

Heike Deggim, Director of IMO’s Maritime Safety Division said while there had been some progress in female representation at IMO meetings amongst national delegations, the maritime industry needed more women, particularly in leadership roles. “There are infinite possibilities for a more fair and equitable workplace that takes advantage of the strengths that both genders bring to management and leadership,” Ms Deggim said. “IMO recognizes that the shipping industry must reach out to every sector of the community if it is to attract the very best people to pursue a maritime career. Employing and empowering more women will go a long way to solving the challenges faced by the maritime industry, especially the predicted shortage of skilled seafarers, in particular officers.”

In a video message to the conference, IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim said, “The maritime world needs all hands on deck, both male and female, to continue to carry the world’s goods in a clean safe and efficient manner.”

IMO MEETINGS FOR 2018

Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW), 6th session
29 April – 6 May 2019

Facilitation Committee (FAL), 43rd session 8-12 April 2019
LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS

IMO maritime data solution available after launch in Antigua and Barbuda
Briefing: 07, April 11, 2019

Electronic information exchange mandatory for ports from 8 April 2019
Briefing: 06, April 8, 2019

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW), 6th session
29 April – 3 May 2019 (Opening Remarks)

Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF), China, 25-27 April 2019

Special event on women, ports and facilitation, 10 April 2019

Facilitation Committee (FAL), 43rd session 8-12 April 2019 (Opening and Closing Remarks)

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE   (Winter 2018)

IMO PUBLISHING       Just Published 2019       March 2019 Newsletter
UNITED NATIONS

UN highlights profound implication of population trends on sustainable development.  
The United Nations is highlighting the important role that population trends play in promoting sustainable development, during the annual Commission on Population and Development, which began at UN Headquarters in New York on Monday.

Lack of basic water facilities risks millions of lives globally: UN health agency.  
In the first assessment of its kind, the WASH (Water sanitation hygiene) in Health Care Facilities report, from the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Children's Fund UNICEF, also finds that one in five health care facilities has no toilet or latrine – a problem that affects at least 1.5 billion people, and likely reflects a lack of facilities in the wider community.

Women outliving men 'everywhere', new UN health agency statistics report shows.  
Average life-expectancy globally has increased by five-and-a-half years since the turn of the century, and women outlive men "everywhere", the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday.

'Health is a right, not a privilege' says WHO chief on World Health Day.  
Speaking at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, during an event to launch the Day, the WHO chief said that all people deserve access to health services, "when and where they need them, without financial hardship."

UN General Assembly to commemorate the ILO Centenary.  
A special session will mark the ILO's 100 years, followed by a series of high-level discussions on the future of work.

'The clock is ticking' on meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, says UN deputy chief.  
Under the theme, "Partnerships Driving Inclusive Implementation of the SDGs", the Forum will capture key policy messages to inform the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) in in September.

'A global measles crisis' is well underway, UN agency chiefs warn.  
Noting a 300 per cent surge in the number of measles cases during the first three months of this year, compared to the same period last year, two UN agency heads declared on Monday that we now stand "in the middle of a global measles crisis".

'Do everything in your power to tackle climate change' UN chief urges on Mother Earth Day.  
Billed officially as an Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature, the UN General Assembly session involved Member States and top officials discussing the need to take urgent action against the pace of global warming, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement, to keep carbon dioxide emissions to well-below two degrees Celsius.

'The green economy is the future,' UN chief says in Beijing, urging climate solutions that strengthen economies, protect the environment.  
Winning the race against climate change to keep our planet livable and on a healthy trajectory requires action rooted in sustainable solutions aligned with the Paris Agreement and the UN-driven 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, Secretary-General António Guterres said on Saturday.
A world first: Women at the helm of every UN Regional Commission. UN News. 27 April 2019. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/04/1037171 Although United Nations Regional Commissions have been in existence for more than 70 years, for the first time ever, each one is currently headed by a woman designated by Secretary-General António Guterres.

**CASUALTIES**

Rennell oil spill an inevitable outcome of broken system, says academic. Radio New Zealand. 1 April 2019. Available from: https://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/386042/rennell-oil-spill-an-inevitable-outcome-of-broken-system-says-academic An Australian academic and environmental management expert says the oil spill in Rennell was not just an accident but an inevitable outcome of a broken system.


Two dead after fire on cargoship. By Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/1746745/two-dead-after-fire-on-cargoship Chinese authorities have said two seafarers were killed in a cargoship fire in Zhejiang Province.


Hitchin couple's praise for crew after cruise ship’s Norway engine failure. By Dan Mountney. The Comet (UK). 11 April 2019. Available from: https://www.thecomet.net/motoring/hitchin-couple-recall-time-on-norway-cruise-1-5989595 A Hitchin couple who were on board the stranded Viking Sky cruise ship off the coast of Norway last month have spoken about the episode.

Seafarer killed in knife fight off India. By Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 11 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/legal/1753444/seafarer-killed-in-knife-fight-off-india The body of Yemeni national Abdul Hakim Mohsin, 54, was placed into the vessel’s deep freeze following the incident, the Times of India reported.


ENVIRONMENT


30×30: groundbreaking scientific study maps out how to protect a third of the world’s oceans by 2030. *Greenpeace International*. 3 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.greenpeace.org/international/press-release/21652/](https://www.greenpeace.org/international/press-release/21652/). As governments meet at the UN to negotiate towards an historic Global Ocean Treaty, a groundbreaking study by leading marine biologists has mapped out how to protect over a third of the world's oceans by 2030, a target that scientists say is crucial in order to safeguard wildlife and to help mitigate the impacts of climate change.

[30×30: A Blueprint for Ocean Protection](https://30x30.org/)  Executive Summary  Interactive Map


Scientists believe ship strikes killed 3 shales found in bay area this month. NBC News (US). 19 April 2019. Available from: https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Scientists-Believe-Ship-Strikes-Killed-3-Whales-Found-in-Bay-Area-This-Month-508834871.html Two gray whales found dead in the last two weeks in San Francisco Bay died after being hit by ships, scientists with The Marina Mammal Center confirmed Friday.


International climate leader Christiana Figueres, recognized as the architect of the Paris Climate Agreement, delivers the 2019 Peter M. Wege Lecture on Sustainability, addressing efforts to stem the increase in global temperature.


ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION


Marine plastic pollution costs $13b damage yearly. By Sulaimon Salau. Guardian (Nigeria). 3 April 2019. Available from: https://guardian.ng/business-services/marine-plastic-pollution-costs-13b-damage-yearly/ As the global shipping industry continues to tackle the menace of plastics waste on waters, facts have emerged that about $13 billion are lost to damage caused to the marine ecosystem by plastic pollution.

**Maritime Knowledge Centre (MKC)**

**Do chemicals that disperse oil spills make the problem worse? Probably not, new study finds.**


**Ocean uproar: saving marine life from a barrage of noise.**

*By Nicola Jones.*  *Nature.* 10 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01098-6](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01098-6) Ship engines, underwater blasts, sonar and oil drilling are filling the seas with sound.

**Sea sick: Plastic garbage in the North Atlantic Ocean skyrocketing.**


**Black carbon and maritime shipping: The long road to regulating a short-lived climate pollutant.**


**Firm fined $3.3M for worst California oil spill in 25 years.**


**Grounded barge leaks oil on Kodiak Island.**

*Maritime Executive.* 28 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/grounded-barge-leaks-oil-on-kodiak-island](https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/grounded-barge-leaks-oil-on-kodiak-island) A long-derelict barge near the U.S. Coast Guard base on Kodiak Island may be leaking petroleum, and the USCG has contracted with Global Diving and Salvage to conduct an assessment and abatement process.

**HEALTH & SAFETY**

**Ebola not an international ‘health emergency’ but risks spreading across DR Congo border, warns UN health agency.**


**Statement on the meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee for Ebola virus disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 12th April 2019.**


**Maritime Fatigue: Just another band aid?**


IMO


IMO 2020 is nothing new. By Lars Jensen. Splash 247.com. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://splash247.com/imo-2020-is-nothing-new/ At the annual Transpacific Maritime conference in Long Beach, the impending implementation of the low sulphur fuel regulations loomed large over many of the discussions.

IMO 2020 - differing perspectives across shipping sectors. By Barry Parker. Seatrade Maritime News. 3 April 2019. Available from: www.seatrade-maritime.com/news/americas/imo-2020-differing-perspectives-across-shipping-sectors.html IMO 2020 continues to dominate discussions in shipping the annual Capital Link conference in New York this week was no exception providing a variety of perspectives from across different sectors of shipping even if there an acknowledgement that "nobody knows" precisely what will happen.

IMO 2020 is about human health, not just the environment. By Richard Clayton. Lloyd's List. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/L1126915/IMO-2020-is-about-human-health-not-just-the-environment The CMA Shipping 2019 conference has been reminded that the discussion about cutting sulphur in fuels has to be more than the cost to shipowners of compliance.

Heated debate on environmental regulation. By Marcus Hand. Seatrade Maritime News. 10 April 2019. Available from: http://www.seatrade-maritime.com/news/asia/heated-debate-on-environmental-regulation.html The parliamentary debate at Sea Asia roused the passions of speakers who really got into the playing the part of a political debate with the motion of - “This house believes that too much is expected of the shipping industry on environmental matters”.

Is IMO the place to mandate greenhouse gas targets? By Craig Jallal. Tanker Shipping & Trade. 10 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tankershipping.com/news/view,is-imo-the-place-to-mandate-greenhouse-gas-targets_57468.htm MEPC 74 meets in May to discuss IMO’s measures to meet its greenhouse gas targets, but is this focus on emissions obscuring the organisation’s competing priorities?


EU commissioner Bulc reported to agree on need for global regulation of shipping. By David Glass. *Seatrade Maritime News.* 18 April 2019. Available from: [https://bit.ly/2VFQyhT](https://bit.ly/2VFQyhT) Though no official announcements have been made about the meetings in Brussels and Piraeus it is understood Bulc agrees there is a need for global solutions and not regional ones when it comes to serious shipping issues.


**LAW & POLICY**


Teenage African migrants accused of hijacking tanker after sea rescue. By Chris Scicluna. *Reuters.* 30 March 2019. Available from: [https://mobile.reuters.com/article/amp/af/idUSKCN1RB0A3](https://mobile.reuters.com/article/amp/af/idUSKCN1RB0A3) Three teenage migrants were charged in a Maltese court on Saturday with hijacking a small commercial tanker that had rescued them and others off the coast of Libya.

Italy’s belt road embrace. By Andre Wheeler. *Splash 247.com.* 1 April 2019. Available from: [https://splash247.com/italys-belt-road-embrace/](https://splash247.com/italys-belt-road-embrace/) With Italy becoming the first G7 country to enter an MOU with China and its Belt Road Initiative (BRI), there are claims that the sky is about to fall in.


**Full Report** 📖 **Executive Summary** 📖
Refreshed Singapore Maritime R&D Roadmap and Digitalisation to chart next phase of growth. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). 10 April 2019. Available from: https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/b838f4a7-987f-4af2-860f-30a3aa857f87 Over the next three years, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) will focus on digitalisation to help companies innovate and improve productivity.

Nordic Region pushes for global agreement on plastics. Nordic Co-Operation. 10 April 2019. Available from: https://www.norden.org/en/nyhed/nordic-region-pushes-global-agreement-plastics In a joint declaration, the Nordic countries are pushing for a new global agreement on the reduction and prevention of plastic waste and microplastics discharged into the sea. Nordic ministerial declaration on the call for a global agreement to combat marine plastic litter and microplastics


Miami Federal Judge Threatens To Stop Carnival Ships From Docking In US. CBS Miami. 11 April 2019. Available from: https://miami.cbslocal.com/2019/04/11/miami-federal-judge-threatens-to-stop-carnival-ships-from-docking-in-us/ As punishment for a possible probation violation, a federal judge in Miami has threatened to temporarily block Carnival Corp. from docking its ships at ports in the U.S.


New project to boost capacity development, improve ocean governance. Seychelles Nation. 13 April 2019. Available from: http://www.nation.sc/article_html?id=263089 A new project designed to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems within the Western Indian Ocean will soon get underway.
**Seychelles president issues underwater plea to protect oceans.** *The Guardian.* 14 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/apr/14/seychelles-president-danny-faure-underwater-plea-protect-oceans](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/apr/14/seychelles-president-danny-faure-underwater-plea-protect-oceans) The president of the Seychelles has made a plea for stronger protection of the "beating blue heart of our planet", in a speech delivered from deep below the ocean's surface.


**Venezuela 'false berthings' off Trinidad further obscure oil exports.** By Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List.* 15 April 2019. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1127080/Venezuela-false-berthings-off-Trinidad-further-obscure-oil-exports](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1127080/Venezuela-false-berthings-off-Trinidad-further-obscure-oil-exports) Venezuela’s national oil company is using co-loads and "false berthings" into nearby Trinidad and Tobago to disguise cargo origins as P&I clubs warn the hardening rhetoric from the hawks in Washington could sweep non-US owners and shippers into the sanctions net.


Italian shipping company to pay $4 million for concealment of pollution from vessel. 


‘Global deal for nature’ fleshed out with specific conservation goals. By Jeff Tollefson. *Nature.* 19 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01253-z](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01253-z) To maintain a liveable planet, governments need to protect 30% of Earth’s land and sea and sustainably manage another 20%, say researchers.

As environmental standards for shipping evolve, the Hong Kong government’s role should also. By Christine Loh. *South China Morning Post.* 21 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/3006861/environmental-standards-shipping-evolve-hong-kong](https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/3006861/environmental-standards-shipping-evolve-hong-kong) For Hong Kong’s shipping industry to keep pace with evolving international emissions standards will require more coordination, both among its bureaus and with the mainland.

Greek ship management company, corporate vessel owner, and Chief Engineer indicted for falsification of pollution records, obstruction of justice, and witness tampering. 

Trump's decision to nix Iranian oil waivers weighs heavily on tankers. By Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.* 23 April 2019. Available from: [https://splash247.com/trumps-decision-to-nix-iranian-oil-waivers-weighs-heavily-on-tankers/](https://splash247.com/trumps-decision-to-nix-iranian-oil-waivers-weighs-heavily-on-tankers/) The Trump administration yesterday announced that it will not renew exemptions granted last year to buyers of Iranian oil, including China, India, Japan, South Korea and Turkey, to strengthen its economic sanctions against Iran, in a move that could have severe repercussions for the tanker industry.


Punishing the polluters: why large fines are an important step towards cleaner corporations. By Ole Pedersen. The Conversation. 25 April 2019. Available from: https://theconversation.com/punishing-the-polluters-why-large-fines-are-an-important-step-towards-cleaner-corporations-115727 Polluting the environment is a crime which can have countless victims - of numerous species and future generations.


MARINE TECHNOLOGY


Revolutionary propeller technology developed to reduce underwater radiated noise. Hellenic Shipping News. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/revolutionary-propeller-technology-developed-to-reduce-underwater-radiated-noise/ A revolutionary new technology capable of substantially reducing the underwater radiated noise (URN) generated by ships' propeller cavitation has been developed by Strathclyde University and Oscar Propulsion, a UK-based innovation and technology transfer company.

Nautilus secures $11M in funding, led by M12, to build artificial intelligence for ocean shipping. Nautilus Labs. 4 April 2019. Available from: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56f59a6659827e9edf9866bd/t/5ca63b92971a1831b0c499b6/1554398098662/PressRelease_Nautilus+SeriesA_19.04.04.pdf Nautilus, the company building artificial intelligence for the maritime shipping industry, today announces $11M in Series A funding led by M12, Microsoft's venture fund, along with Root Ventures. Existing and new investors including Quiet Capital, Trail Mix, and Amplifier Lab participated in the round, which brings Nautilus' total funding raised to $14.5M.

LR reveals world's biggest autonomous ship project. By Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 10 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/liner/1751875/lr-reveals-worlds-biggest-autonomous-ship-project UK classification society Lloyd's Register (LR) has teamed up with two Asian partners to develop what it claims will be a "world-first" autonomous navigation systems for ships.

SS$650,000 Seed Funding for Start-Ups to Develop Innovative Solutions for Key Maritime Challenges. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). 12 April 2019. Available from: https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/d4c77cca-9ab6-4a42-805f-4c8eb6d3a80f. The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and NUS Enterprise, the entrepreneurial arm of the National University of Singapore (NUS), today announced that 13 out of the 17 technology start-ups from the Smart Port Challenge (SPC) 2018 will each receive SS$50,000 in seed funding from MPA.

Sulphur-sniffing drone to patrol Danish waters. Danish Maritime Authority. 12 April 2019. Available from: https://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/_Sulphur_sniffing_drone_to_patrol_Danish_waters-.aspx. In the coming months, a large drone will check emissions from ships in Danish waters to make sure they comply with the sulphur limit.


**MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**


Sea time training: MAN trains 24,000 cadets in 16 yrs. By Godfrey Bivbere. Vanguard (Nigeria). 3 April 2019. Available from: https://www.vanguardngr.com/2019/04/sea-time-training-man-trains-24000-cadets-in-16-yrs/. Over 24,000 cadets who have graduated from the Maritime Academy of Nigeria, MAN, Oron in Akwa Ibom state in the last 16 years have been without the opportunity of completing their sea time training that would have qualified them as seafarers.
Maritime University appeals to IMO for training vessel. By Kodjo Adams and Emmanuel Tood. Ghana News Agency, 4 April 2019. Available from: http://www.ghananewsagency.org/social/maritime-university-appeals-to-imo-for-training-vessel-147931 The Management of the Regional Maritime University (RMU) has appealed to the International Maritime Organization to assist the University to acquire a training vessel and a full-mission bridge simulator to expose the students to hands-on practical.


$8.88 million funding to train and upskill seafarers under specialised courses. Government of Singapore. 10 April 2019. Available from: https://www.gov.sg/resources/sgpcc/media_releases/mpa/press_release/P-20190410-2 The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), together with Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) and partner companies, has pledged a total $8.88 million to extend funding for the Certificate of Competency (CoC) Class 5 (Special Limit) programmes until 2021.


MARITIME SAFETY


CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN | Vol. XXXI | No. 4 | April 2019


Tougher action urged on misdeclaration of cargoes. By Vincent Wee. Lloyd’s List. 15 April 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1127075/Tougher-action-urged-on-misdeclaration-of-cargoes. From the P&I Clubs’ perspective, the majority of casualties have a human error and/or human influence element to them, and the latter case is true especially when it comes to container fires among dangerous goods cargo.


MARITIME SECURITY


Two HK shipping lines hacked within five minutes of ‘casual’ online browsing. By Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://splash247.com/two-hk-shipping-lines-hacked-within-five-minutes-of-casual-online-browsing. Shipping’s poor cyber defences have been displayed once again with news two Hong Kong shipping lines had their passwords hacked easily.


How shipping is so vulnerable to hackers. *Splash 247.com.* 9 April 2019. Available from: [https://splash247.com/how-hacking-is-so-vulnerable-to-hackers](https://splash247.com/how-hacking-is-so-vulnerable-to-hackers) A week ago Splash reported how consultant Captain Ozgur Dogan Gunes had been able to hack into two Hong Kong shipping lines’ IT systems with just five minutes of casual online browsing.


Root of maritime crime 'must be addressed,' says Saudi Border Guards chief.  
*Arab News (Saudi Arabia).* 25 April 2019. Available from: [http://www.arabnews.com/node/1487631/saudi-arabia](http://www.arabnews.com/node/1487631/saudi-arabia) The head of the Saudi Border Guards has warned that maritime security in the Red Sea and elsewhere can only be achieved if the root of piracy and maritime crime are addressed.


**MIGRANTS**


Stranded migrant boat appeals to Europe for port after eight days at sea. By Angelo Amante. *Reuters.* 11 April 2019. Available from: [https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-europe-migrants-malta/stranded-migrant-boat-appeals-to-europe-for-port-after-eight-days-at-sea-idUKKCN1RN1HV](https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-europe-migrants-malta/stranded-migrant-boat-appeals-to-europe-for-port-after-eight-days-at-sea-idUKKCN1RN1HV) A charity ship with scores of African migrants on board appealed to European states for a safe port on Thursday after being stranded for eight days between Malta and Italy, saying the health of the rescued people was worsening.

Spain reluctantly allows *Open Arms* to leave port with aid supplies for migrants. *The Local (Spain).* 17 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.thelocal.es/20190417/spain-allows-open-arms-to-leave-port-with-aid-supplies-for-migrants](https://www.thelocal.es/20190417/spain-allows-open-arms-to-leave-port-with-aid-supplies-for-migrants) Rescue charity ship *Open Arms* received the green light to set sail from the port of Barcelona on Wednesday but will not be allowed to return to the central Mediterranean to save migrants.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS


Anxious Russian ministry says billions are needed for Arctic buildup. By Charles Digges. Bellona Foundation. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://bellona.org/news/arctic/2019-04-anxious-russian-ministry-says-billions-are-needed-for-arctic-buildup Russia's Ministry of Natural Resources has calculated that the Arctic needs some $160 billion of new investment to realize a presidential demand to ratchet up shipping traffic through the Northern Sea Route, a new report shows.


First Joint e-Navigation Workshop between MPA and IALA. Government of Singapore. 8 April 2019. Available from: https://www.gov.sg/resources/sgpc/media_releases/mpa/press_release/P-20190408-1 The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) is co-organising a workshop with the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) to support the operationalisation of e-navigation solutions, the first since Singapore’s election to the IALA Council in 2018.


"Magic Pipe" MARPOL violations can be spotted from space. Maritime Executive. 8 April 2019. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/magic-pipe-marpol-violations-can-be-spotted-from-space Environmental monitoring organization SkyTruth watches for illegal activity using satellite data, and over the past several years, they've made it clear that “magic pipe” bilge water disposal can no longer be hidden at sea.

How to keep satcoms cyber secure. By Ed Martin. Maritime Digitalisation & Communications. 11 April 2019. Available from: https://www.marinemec.com/news/view/how-to-keep-satcoms-cyber-secure_57488.htm Digitalisation of the maritime sector is continuing apace, and everyone from deck crew to the board of directors feels the benefits of increased connectivity in areas ranging from equipment maintenance, fuel consumption, navigation, crew welfare and more, with the subsequent positive effects these have on a company’s costs.


Four technologies that will transform maritime satcoms. By Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Digitalisation & Communications.* 16 April 2019. Available from: https://www.marinemec.com/news/view,four-technologies-that-will-transform-maritime-satcoms_57528.htm Rapid advances in maritime technologies in recent decades have changed the face of maritime communications and will continue to transform shipowner and shipmanager operations and the lives of seafarers in the near term.


Suspicion of illegal ship-to-ship transfers of goods by YU SON, North Korean-flagged tanker, and a small vessel of unknown nationality (March 20, 2019). *Government of Japan.* 25 April 2019. Available from: https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/nsp/page4e_001009.html In the morning of March 20, 2019, a JS ‘Oyodo’ (Escort Division15: Ominato) of Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force found that YU SON (IMO number:8691702), North Korean-flagged tanker, was lying alongside a vessel of unknown nationality on which ?????* is indicated on the high seas (around 400km southern offshore of Shanghai) in the East China Sea.

Study stresses major concerns on ECDIS safety. Safety4Sea. 27 April 2019. Available from: https://safety4sea.com/study-stresses-major-concerns-on-ecdis-safety/ A year-long research project carried out by the UK and Danish marine investigation authorities has highlighted major concerns over the design and operation of ECDIS and significant shortfalls in the way in which seafarers are training to use the systems.

PIRACY


Maersk Alabama hijacking: Ten years later, could it happen again? gCaptain. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://gcaptain.com/maersk-alabama-hijacking-anniversary/ Next Tuesday, April 9, marks the 10th anniversary of the hijacking of the U.S.-flagged freighter Maersk Alabama.

Pirates kidnap four boxship crewmembers in Gulf of Guinea. Maritime Executive. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/pirates-kidnap-four-boxship-crewmembers-in-gulf-of-guinea Four crewmembers from the container feeder Contship Oak have been kidnapped off the coast of Cameroon, vessel operator Contship has confirmed.


**PORT STATE CONTROL**


**PORTS & HARBOURS**


Port entry conditions imposed by US coastguards will not affect Seychelles, says SPA chairman. *Seychelles Nation.* 4 April 2019. Available from: [http://www.nation.sc/article.html?id=262957](http://www.nation.sc/article.html?id=262957) Following an article which has been circulating on social media platforms which states that the United States Coast Guard (USCG) is to impose conditions of entry on vessels arriving in US waters from the Republic of Seychelles, the Seychelles Ports Authority yesterday clarified the situation.


Overlapping port limit claims suspended by Singapore and Malaysia. Channel News Asia. 8 April 2019. Available from: https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/overlapping-port-limit-claims-suspended-by-singapore-and-11421458 Singapore and Malaysia have both suspended their overlapping port limit claims, as part of measures to ease tensions between the two neighbours in a maritime dispute.


Brexit fog worse than no-deal risk - Belgian port chief. By Clare Roth. Reuters. 9 April 2019. Available from: https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-britain-eu-zeebrugge/brexit-fog-worse-than-no-deal-risk-belgian-port-chief-idUKKCN1RL1WB Uncertainty over Britain's departure from the European Union is worse than the prospect of a "no deal" Brexit just days away, according to the head of the port of Zeebrugge.

Rotterdam is concerned about reports of bunker problems. By Tomas Kristiansen and Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch. 10 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Ports/article11311878.ece The Port of Rotterdam is considering mass flow meters as one of several measures to combat bunker problems, says a spokesperson from the port after several shipping companies told ShippingWatch that they are experiencing problems with undersupply.

ISSA calls on IMO member states to act over unfair Port Access practices. International Shipsuppliers & Services Association (ISSA). 11 April 2019. Available from: http://shipsupply.org/2019/news/issa-calls-on-imo-member-states-to-act-over-unfair-port-access-practices The International Shipsuppliers & Services Association (ISSA) has taken the issue of unfair port access practices levied against its members to the international stage by delivering a verbal intervention on the issue at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

Dublin Port sets new container charges to make space for Brexit. By Simon Carswell. Irish Times. 11 April 2019. Available from: https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/dublin-port-sets-new-container-charges-to-make-space-for-brexit-1.3856123 Dublin Port is halving the time it will allow shipping containers to be held for free and doubling charges for subsequent storage in order to increase space for Brexit.

New license to combat bunker problems in Rotterdam. By Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch.* 15 April 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11322201.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11322201.ece) The Dutch shipowners have for years been working to introduce a new licensing scheme in order to resolve the bunker problems in Rotterdam.


Greece's Piraeus port takes measures to tackle environmental issues. *Hellenic Shipping News.* 23 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/greeces-piraeus-port-takes-measures-to-tackle-environmental-issues](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/greeces-piraeus-port-takes-measures-to-tackle-environmental-issues) Greece’s major port of Piraeus is taking measures to address the sources of pollution from ships and industrial activities in the area, the Piraeus Port Authority S.A. (PPA) has said.


Funding to increase and diversify port-based services across the UK. *Seafarers UK.* 23 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.seafarers.uk/news/funding-to-increase-and-diversify-port-based-services-across-the-uk](https://www.seafarers.uk/news/funding-to-increase-and-diversify-port-based-services-across-the-uk) Seafarers UK has awarded a £110,000 grant to Mission to Seafarers to increase and diversify port-based services for seafarers across the UK.


Bunker supplier temporarily banned from world's biggest port. By Christian Carlsen. *ShippingWatch.* 29 April 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11345272.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11345272.ece) Port authorities have temporarily banned a bunker supplier from operating in the world's biggest bunker port following inspection.
REGULATIONS

Oil traders wait to assess impact of IMO regulations. By John Kemp. Reuters. 27 March 2019. Available from: https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-shipping-imkemp/column-oil-traders-wait-to-assess-impact-of-imo-regulations-idUKKCN1R81OS If oil traders and consumers are worried about the impact of new maritime fuel regulations from the start of next year, they have not yet started to mark up prices for low-sulphur middle distillate fuels.

Sulfur regulations may trigger new crashes and acquisitions in the container industry. By Christian Carlsen. ShippingWatch. 1 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11291335.ece The coming 2020 requirements may break container carriers and trigger a new wave of acquisitions or mergers, according to maritime and supply chain consultancy firm Drewry.

"Sulfur regulations seem like a fine business for cheaters". By Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 1 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Bulk/article11291040.ece If fines for violating sulfur regulations are not raised, and control on the docks and at sea is not strengthened, then "it looks like it could be good business to cheat," says Ultrabulk CEO Per Lange nine months before the new environmental policies take effect.

IMO 2020: Nigeria and impending freight hikes. By Enyeribe Anyanwu. Ships & Ports. 2 April 2019. Available from: http://shipsandports.com.ng/imo-2020-nigeria-impending-freight-hikes/ January 1, 2020 will mark the full implementation of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) 2020 regulations reducing sulfur oxide emission from 3.5 percent m/m to 0.5 percent m/m.

ClassNK provides support with the 2020 sulphur cap. ClassNK. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://www.classnk.or.jp/hp/en/hp_news.aspx?id=3744&type=press_release&layout=1 Leading classification society ClassNK has developed “Guidance for onboard use of Compliant Fuel Oil with SOx regulation from 2020 and an implementation plan sample for switching to compliant fuel oil in order to support the industry in complying with the sulphur cap which will be enforced starting on 1 January 2020, requiring sulphur emission amounts to remain under 0.50%.

US Admiral: No delay to IMO2020. Ship & Bunker. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://shipandbunker.com/news/am/691045-us-admiral-no-delay-to-imo2020 There will be no delay from the US over implementing the 0.5% sulfur cap on bunker fuel which comes into force in under a year's time, a US admiral has said.

HSBC: IMO 2020 will be less disruptive than expected. By Holly Birkett. TradeWinds. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/finance/1746807/hhsbc-imo-2020-will-be-less-disruptive-than-expected According to new analysis by HSBC.


Sulphur 2020 - countdown to the switchover. By Tim Wilson. Lloyd's Register. 4 April 2019. Available from: https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/sulphur-2020/. Sulphur 2020 (MARPOL Annex VI Reg. 14.1.3) is still dominating headlines and as we draw closer to the 1 January 2020 deadline it's clear that this is a big challenge for numerous players within the industry, from supplier to the end-user.

The final countdown...the 2020 sulphur cap. By Sammy Christopher Smallbone. Gard. 4 April 2019. Available from: www.gard.no/web/updates/content/27391956/the-final-countdown-the-2020-sulphur-cap. The global sulphur cap, a MARPOL Annex VI requirement, enters into force on 1 January 2020, less than nine months away.


Paolo d’Amico acknowledges green gamble as IMO 2020 roulette wheel spins. By Adam Corbett. TradeWinds. 8 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/1748403/paolo-damico-acknowledges-green-gamble-as-imo-2020-roulette-wheel-spins. It was refreshing to hear Intertanko chairman Paolo d’Amico grudgingly admit at the Connecticut Maritime Association’s conference last week that his association had actually lobbied hard for a 0.5% global sulphur cap a decade ago.

Sulphur 2020: The potential impact on fuel pumps after 0.50% sulphur limit is introduced. By Muhammad Usman. The Motorship. 9 April 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2GOH7vv. The implementation of MARPOL Annex VI Reg.14.1.3 0.50% sulphur limit for fuel oil, used onboard ships operating outside emission control areas, shall enter into force 1 January 2020 and presents one of the most significant challenges we’ve seen in the shipping industry for many years.

Shell Marine launches shell Alexia 40 lubricant ahead of IMO 2020 regulation changes. Shell. 9 April 2019. Available from: https://go.shell.com/2WdgZRI. In support of customer preparedness for IMO 2020, Shell Marine is introducing Shell Alexia 40 – a new two-stroke engine cylinder oil specifically for use with engines running on 0.5% sulphur content Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil.


ExxonMobil Interview: Shipowners say they don’t need 0.50%s for IMO2020, they need the right 0.50%s. *Ship & Bunker.* 15 April 2019. Available from: [https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/291083-exxonmobil-interview-shipowners-say-they-dont-need-050s-for-imo2020-they-need-the-right-050s](https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/291083-exxonmobil-interview-shipowners-say-they-dont-need-050s-for-imo2020-they-need-the-right-050s) With a wide range of fuels expected on the market to meet the demands of next year’s 0.50% sulfur cap, ExxonMobil says its decision to focus on quality assurance as part of a wider, holistic IMO 2020 offering for its customers is already starting to pay dividends.

The sulphur compliance conundrum. By Terry Hutson. *IOL - Independent Online (South Africa).* 22 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.iol.co.za/mercury/news/the-sulphur-compliance-conundrum-21483329](https://www.iol.co.za/mercury/news/the-sulphur-compliance-conundrum-21483329) If one is to believe the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the air around our coastlines after January 2020 - now less than eight months away - will become much cleaner and more fresh.


SALVAGE

Smit Salvage lifts the lid on dangers of Maersk Honam salvage. By Adam Corbett.  

Authorities draw up plans to refloat sorry Solomon Trader. By Adam Corbett.  

Pollution abatement concludes for the wreck of the Grande America. Maritime Executive.  

SEAFARERS

Seafarers International Research Centre, Cardiff University Annual Report 2018.  

Ship abandoned in port of Antwerp, captain missing, crew left with rotten food.  

29 March 2019. Available from: https://www.voanews.com/a/tanker-captain-feared-death-in-migrant-hijacking/4854785.html  African migrants who hijacked an oil tanker after it rescued them in the Mediterranean Sea seized metal objects and began smashing the ship and threatening crew members after they realized they were being returned to Libya, the ship’s captain said Friday.

‘Manning Industry Dying’: PH seafarer deployment cut by more than 100,000. By Raffy Ayeng.  
Manila Times. 30 March 2019. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/ph-seafarer-deployment-cut-by-more-than-100000/532671/  The deployment of Filipino seafarers dwindled by more than 100,000, according to preliminary data for the year 2018 obtained by The Manila Times.


Employee satisfaction on the rise among container liners. By Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch.* 8 April 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11305357.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11305357.ece) Employees at the largest liner companies have become more satisfied during the year, shows a study.

Philippines’ dominant crewing position comes under threat. By Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.* 9 April 2019. Available from: [https://splash247.com/philippines-dominant-crewing-position-comes-under-threat/](https://splash247.com/philippines-dominant-crewing-position-comes-under-threat/) The Philippines, the world’s dominant source of seafarers this century, is coming under severe pressure with the number of deployed crew dropping drastically last year and a host of top managers warning today that the country’s manning preeminence is under threat.

Ships abandoned off UAE towed in to port as three-year stand-off ends. By Nick Webster. *The National (United Arab Emirates).* 11 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.thenational.ae/uae/ships-abandoned-off-uae-towed-in-to-port-as-three-year-stand-off-ends-1.847985](https://www.thenational.ae/uae/ships-abandoned-off-uae-towed-in-to-port-as-three-year-stand-off-ends-1.847985) The first of seven ships abandoned at sea, with more than 30 crew on board, are being towed to shore after arrest warrants were served against a UAE firm.

Is MLC working for seafarers? Splash 247.com. 12 April 2019. Available from: https://splash247.com/is-mlc-working-for-seafarers/ This year, the International Labour Organization celebrates 100 years. Its history of resilience in the face of criticism and threats to its survival, while continuing to contribute to decent work for workers worldwide, is perhaps reason to highlight its successes more so than its failures.


Andhra Pradesh: Sailor rescued from dangerous conditions in Persian Gulf returns home. By Ch Sushil Rao. Times of India. 12 April 2019. Available from: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/andhra-pradesh-sailor-rescued-from-dangerous-conditions-in-persian-gulf-returns-home/articleshow/68851077.cms An Indian sailor from Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh who had a frightening experience at sea in the Persian Gulf with the merchant ship he was working in falling into danger, has been rescued.

Fraud alert issued to seafarers. UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency. 12 April 2019. Available from: https://hmcoastguard.blogspot.com/2019/04/fraud-alert-issued-to-seafarers.html The UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) Investigation & Enforcement Unit have been notified by several members of the public throughout the world who have been offered fake dream jobs on cruise ships.


The lonely seafarer. By Michael Grey. Seatrade Maritime News. 16 April 2019. Available from: http://www.seatrade-maritime.com/news/europe/the-lonely-seafarer.html The annual review of the Seafarers International Research Centre (SIRC) at Cardiff University notes, in its director's overview, that "loneliness is one of the most prevalent emotions amongst contemporary seafarers”.

Helping cadets achieve careers at sea. Sailors’ Society. 16 April 2019. Available from: https://www.sailors-society.org/about-us/press-room/helping-cadets/ Rachel Vassallo, 23, from South Shields, is one of the 70 students who have received a Sailors’ Society scholarship since 2015 to help achieve a career at sea.


Are we doing enough for the well-being of our seafarers? By Dimitrios Lyarakos.
*Maritime Executive*. 20 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.maritime-executive.com/blog/are-we-doing-enough-for-the-well-being-of-our-seafarers](https://www.maritime-executive.com/blog/are-we-doing-enough-for-the-well-being-of-our-seafarers) Are we doing enough for the mental health and well-being of our seafarers?

Tag Offshore abandons its only tanker with 17 crew onboard. By Jason Jiang.

With international intervention, Indian sailors abandoned on ships in Persian Gulf for over two yrs on way home. By Ch Sushil Rao. *Times of India*. 23 April 2019. Available from: [https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/31-sailors-at-high-seas-for-2-years-finally-rescued/articleshow/69015753.cms](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/31-sailors-at-high-seas-for-2-years-finally-rescued/articleshow/69015753.cms) As many as 31 several Indian sailors, stranded on abandoned ships in the Persian Gulf for the last more than two years, have finally received help.


**SEARCH & RESCUE**


Ship takeover by migrants raises concerns for rescues at sea. By Elena Becatoros and Maggie Michael. Associated Press. 30 March 2019. Available from: https://www.apnews.com/fa5d40293a84c558d8140404130c567 A rescue in the Mediterranean Sea that took an ominous turn has raised concerns that some merchant ship captains might become reluctant to save migrants in danger of drowning during the perilous crossing from north Africa to Europe, fearing they could lose control of their ship.


Dutch government blocks Sea-Watch 3 and other NGO ships with a new policy, citing concerns for 'safety,' while people are left to drown. Sea-Watch. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://sea-watch.org/en/dutch-government-blocks-sea-watch-3/ Today, a new policy imposed by the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management will take effect, which has severe implications on Sea-Watch and other NGOs operating ships under the Dutch flag.

German charity ship rescues 64 migrants off Libya. France 24. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://www.france24.com/en/20190403-german-charity-ship-rescues-64-migrants-off-libya A German charity rescue ship has picked up 64 migrants, including women and children, stranded off Libya while trying to cross the Mediterranean and enter Europe.

German NGO seeks help for Mediterranean migrant rescue ship. Deutsche Welle (Germany). 7 April 2019. Available from: https://www.dw.com/en/german-ngo-seeks-help-for-mediterranean-migrant-rescue-ship/a-48244874 The Sea-Eye, a Germany-based rescue organization, said the migrants aboard the Alan Kurdi vessel have had to endure "unsustainable humanitarian conditions." Italy and Malta have forbidden the ship to dock in their ports.

Four EU countries to take rescued migrants after Med standoff. By Chris Scicluna. Reuters. 13 April 2019. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-malta/four-eu-countries-to-take-rescued-migrants-after-med-standoff-idUSKCN1RP06J Four European Union countries have agreed to take in 64 African migrants rescued by the German ship Alan Kurdi and stranded at sea for almost two weeks, the Maltese government announced on Saturday.


Rescue ship says Spain is blocking its bid to aid refugees in Greece. By Maria Martín. El País (Spain). 16 April 2019. Available from: https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/04/15/inenglish/1555321756_764415.html A Basque fishing vessel converted into a migrant rescue boat called the Aita Mari is having problems going to the Greek island of Lesbos, where it aims to deliver humanitarian aid to the thousands of refugees concentrated there.
Case filed against Greece in Strasbourg Court over Criminalising Search and Rescue. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS).* 23 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2019/04/23/case-filed-against-greece-in-strasbourg-court-over-criminalising-search-and-rescue/](https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2019/04/23/case-filed-against-greece-in-strasbourg-court-over-criminalising-search-and-rescue/) Not-for-profit organisation Team Humanity's founder Salam Aldeen through the representation of the Global Legal Action Network, have decided to take the Greek government to the Strasbourg Court, to held them accountable for the legal ordeal they have put Salam Aldeen and his crew through since 14th January 2016, when the Greek authorities falsely accused him of attempted migrant smuggling.

**Coast Guard vessels deployed in search & rescue mission.** By Abraham Diaz. *Guardian (Trinidad & Tobago).* 25 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/coast-guard-vessels-deployed-in-search--rescue-mission-6.2.832017.d71a23245e](https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/coast-guard-vessels-deployed-in-search--rescue-mission-6.2.832017.d71a23245e) The Coast Guard has confirmed that it is embarking on a search and rescue mission of a Venezuelan vessel that sank on its way to Trinidad and Tobago, with dozens of Venezuelans on board.

**Italian migrant rescue ship judged unfit for sea by coastguard.** *The Local (Italy).* 25 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.thelocal.it/20190425/italian-migrant-rescue-ship-judged-unfit-for-sea-by-coastguard](https://www.thelocal.it/20190425/italian-migrant-rescue-ship-judged-unfit-for-sea-by-coastguard) An Italian aid ship that rescued 49 migrants off Libya last month has been declared unfit for rescue operations at sea, the Italian coastguard said on Wednesday.

**SHIP RECYCLING**

**Two roads for Hong Kong Convention to enter into force.** By Nikos Mikelis. *Maritime Executive.* 31 March 2019. Available from: [https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/two-roads-for-hong-kong-convention-to-enter-into-force](https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/two-roads-for-hong-kong-convention-to-enter-into-force) At the beginning of this year it appeared that the prospects of Hong Kong Convention's entry into force were not too bright.

**Greener ship recycling aids workers, environment.** By Martin Dorsman. *Government Europa.* 4 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/greener-ship-recycling/92809/](https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/greener-ship-recycling/92809/) The drive for greener ship recycling across Europe, as well as the drive to cultivate safer working conditions for labourers at these yards, has led to the HKIC and the new EU regulation.

**EU ship recycling rules look like protectionism.** By Rasmus Nord Jorgensen. *BIMCO.* 8 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20190408-eu-ship-recycling-rules-are-protectionism](https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20190408-eu-ship-recycling-rules-are-protectionism) "The EU list is hard to take seriously. I called one of these "recycling shipyards" a few months ago, and they hadn't even started building the yard yet," says Angus Frew, BIMCO Secretary General & CEO.


**Maersk tightens its ship recycling procedures.** *Maersk.* 8 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.maersk.com/about/sustainability/shared-value/leading-change-in-ship-recycling-industry/maersk-tightens-its-ship-recycling-procedures](https://www.maersk.com/about/sustainability/shared-value/leading-change-in-ship-recycling-industry/maersk-tightens-its-ship-recycling-procedures) Maersk is introducing contractual steps to ensure that its sales contracts include a strong financial incentive for ship recycling to be carried out responsibly.


SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR


Wärtsilä and Samsung to co-develop most efficient LNG Carrier & Shuttle Tanker solutions. Wärtsilä Corporation. 4 April 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2UXL1Hn The technology group Wärtsilä and Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI) have signed a Joint Development Project agreement aimed at establishing a more efficient solution for LNG Carrier and Shuttle Tanker vessels.


Windstar ships' lengthening called 'the most complex refit ever attempted'. By Theresa Norton. Seatrade Cruise News. 15 April 2019. Available from: https://bit.ly/2ZcXtGz Windstar Cruises detailed its $250m Star Plus Initiative at Seatrade Cruise Global, with company President John Delaney calling it "the most complex refit ever attempted."


Are battery-powered cruise ships a viable option? By Elly Yates-Roberts. Cruise & Ferry. 25 April 2019. Available from: http://www.cruiseandferry.net/articles/are-battery-powered-cruise-ships-a-viable-option Are batteries only for ferries and small passenger vessels – or can technology provide energy storage solutions suitable for large cruise ships?
How shipyard handled complex MSC scrubber refit. By Rebecca Moore. Passenger Ship Technology. 25 April 2019. Available from: https://www.passengership.info/news/view,how-shipyard-handled-complex-msc-scrubber-refit_57617.htm Chantier Naval de Marseille (CNM) has seen an increased demand for repair and refurbishment works focused on greener and more fuel-efficient operations — and this is an area it is keen to develop further.


SHIPPING


IMO2020: Quality testing blended fuels no guarantee against fuel-related problems. Ship & Bunker. 2 April 2019. Available from: https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/539189-imo2020-quality-testing-blended-fuels-no-guarantee-against-fuel-related-problems Blending fuel will be the way the bunker industry meets new demand for low sulfur material once the 0.5% sulfur cap comes into force form the start of next year.

Changing Tides: Women leaders in the PH maritime industry. By Yashika F. Torib. Manila Times. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/changing-tides-women-leaders-in-the-ph-maritime-industry/534497/ Until about a decade ago, the maritime industry in the Philippines has always been dominated and led by men — mostly those who used to be seafarers onboard.

Huge Chinese ambitions threaten Europe's shipping sector. By Mette Mandrup. ShippingWatch. 3 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/Services/article11292821.ece China has several projects in the works aimed at helping the country’s shipbuilding and shipping sector.


A foggy outlook for container shipping, but a brighter tomorrow still likely. *Drewry Shipping Consultants.* 4 April 2019. Available from: [https://www.drewry.co.uk/news/a-foggy-outlook-for-container-shipping-but-a-brighter-tomorrow-still-likely](https://www.drewry.co.uk/news/a-foggy-outlook-for-container-shipping-but-a-brighter-tomorrow-still-likely) The container shipping industry is facing an exceptionally high level of uncertainty, ranging from the extra cost associated with IMO 2020 and how much carriers will recover from shippers, to the possibility of a trade recession and unknown future engagement by shipowners in large vessel building programmes, according to the recently published Container Forecaster from global shipping consultancy Drewry.


Maritime sector, which facilitates 95% of UK trade, is among the most exposed to Brexit. *Centre for Economics and Business Research (Cebr).* 8 April 2019. Available from: [https://cebr.com/reports/maritime-sector-which-facilitates-95-of-uk-trade-is-among-the-most-exposed-to-brexit/](https://cebr.com/reports/maritime-sector-which-facilitates-95-of-uk-trade-is-among-the-most-exposed-to-brexit/) One sector that has arguably not received the attention it deserves in the Brexit debate is the maritime sector, which is comprised of ports, shipping, and associated services.


Extreme weather has become a real risk factor for shipping. By Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 9 April 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11307988.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11307988.ece) More typhoons and hurricanes at sea, and floods that undermine ports and railroads, have become a risk factor for shipping.


Crucial to address challenges women face in maritime sector - DPM. *Bernama (Malaysia)*. 10 April 2019. Available from: [http://www.bernama.com/en/news.php?id=1715087](http://www.bernama.com/en/news.php?id=1715087) Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail said it is crucial to address challenges women face in the maritime sector, not only in Malaysia but also all around the world.


Singapore and Copenhagen master the art of attracting maritime talents. By Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 10 April 2019. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11310919.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11310919.ece) Two cities stand out significantly in a new comprehensive survey about which maritime hubs are best at attracting the talents of the future.


Maersk and BW Group recommend CO2 tax on shipping. By Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 11 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11314761.ece A number of the world’s biggest shipping companies now recommend the introduction of a CO2 tax as part of the shipping industry’s goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Industry leaders discuss push for fossil fuel alternatives. Ship Management International. 11 April 2019. Available from: http://shipmanagementinternational.com/industry-leaders-discuss-push-for-fossil-fuel-alternatives/ Kicking off the third and final day of the Sea Asia 2019 conference, industry leaders from across the energy supply chain came together to discuss what the push for alternatives to fossil fuels means for the maritime industry.


Independent study reveals LNG reduces shipping GHG emissions by up to 21%. SEALNG. 11 April 2019. Available from: https://sea-lng.org/independent-study-reveals-lng-reduces-shipping-ghg-emissions-by-up-to-21/ The independent study report launched today has revealed that Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reductions of up to 21% are achievable now from LNG as a marine fuel, compared with current oil-based marine fuels over the entire life-cycle from Well-to-Wake (WtW).


Storms going ashore are bad news for shipping. By Christian Carlsen. ShippingWatch. 12 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11318558.ece A cocktail of rising air and water temperatures has created more violent storms that go “ashore” with consequences for ports and liners, which are increasingly worried, says Weathernews.
Can DNV GL claim to be shipping’s largest class society? By Adam Corbett. TradeWinds. 16 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/1756801/can-dnv-gl-claim-to-be-shippings-largest-class-society DNV GL is shipping's largest classification society, at least based on the traditional gross tonne form of measurement, according to the latest statistics from the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS).

Little change to gender pay in UK Maritime. Spinnaker Global Ltd. 16 April 2019. Available from: https://spinnaker-global.com/Blog/Details/0_16-Apr-2019_little-change-to-gender-pay-in-uk-maritime On the second anniversary of the obligation to report gender pay figures, HR Consulting from Spinnaker Global (in conjunction with their legal partners at Clyde & Co) brought together a group of maritime HR professionals to discuss the challenges and opportunities on gender diversity within this unique industry.


The changing face of maritime. By Mark Charman. Faststream Recruitment. 16 April 2019. Available from: https://www.faststream.com/insights/the-changing-face-of-maritime In January 2019, Maritime recruiter Faststream Recruitment surveyed over 2,000 Senior Maritime Executives from across the world to gain a unique insight into the views, thoughts and feelings that these individuals have on future talent, leadership, career development and pay & reward.


The writing is on the wall for the world’s old way of doing business. By Terry Macalister. TradeWinds. 18 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/weekly/1757755/the-writing-is-on-the-wall-for-the-worlds-old-way-of-doing-business Shipping must learn to adapt as the political and economic norms we have taken for granted come under challenge from every direction.


Sadan Kaptanoglu opens up on her plans as Bimco president. By Jonathan Boonzaier. TradeWinds. 23 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/1759671/sadan-kaptanoglu-opens-up-on-her-plans-as-bimco-president Third-generation Turkish shipowner will become the first woman to lead the international shipping association, where the environment will top her agenda.


30 container ships could be sent to yards every month ahead of 2020. By Trine Vestergaard. ShippingWatch. 24 April 2019. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11335531.ece More container ships will be taken out of service in the last months of the year to have scrubbers installed.

Slow steaming seems the only obvious way for shipping to meet carbon emissions targets. By Adam Corbett. TradeWinds. 24 April 2019. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/1762766/slow-steaming-seems-the-only-obvious-way-for-shipping-to-meet-carbon-emissions-targets The days when the term "full steam ahead" used to be associated with a ship getting underway at the start of a voyage may soon be a thing of the past, judging by the slow progress being made at the IMO over emissions reductions.

Talent management: The future has started, yesterday. Splash 247.com. 24 April 2019. Available from: https://splash247.com/talent-management-the-future-has-started-yesterday/ Following on from the chief editor's reflections from Singapore Maritime Week 2019 in which he railed about weak leadership among today's c-suite of shipowners, today, Axel Knudsen, a talent optimisation consultant, and Andy Lane from CTI Consultancy explore these reflections further.


Shipping out: Unions, industry, defence analysts concerned by shrinking merchant fleet.


Viewpoint: Slow boats to disaster. By Michael Grey. Lloyd's List. 25 April 2019. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1127119/Viewpoint-Slow-boats-to-disaster There are several problems about slowing ships down to such a low speed that the people who shipped the cargo forget they ever loaded it and the consignees give up in despair, including the safety of the vessel in the unpredictable elements.


Cruise ship pollution is causing serious health and environmental problems.
By James Ellsmoor. Forbes. 26 April 2019. Available from: https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesellsmoor/2019/04/26/cruise-ship-pollution-is-causing-serious-health-and-environmental-problems/ As nations strive to reduce their CO2 emissions and companies come under pressure to decrease their carbon footprint, the maritime industry is finding itself under growing scrutiny.


**RESEARCH**


**The rise in ocean plastics evidenced from a 60-year time series.** By C. Ostle, R. C. Thompson et al. Nature Communications. (2019). Available from: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-09506-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-09506-1) Plastic production has increased exponentially since its use became widespread in the 1950s.

**Multi-faceted particle pumps drive carbon sequestration in the ocean.** By P. W. Boyd, H. Claustre et al. Nature. (2019). Available from: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1098-2](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1098-2) The ocean's ability to sequester carbon away from the atmosphere exerts an important control on global climate.

**Foresight must guide geoengineering research and development.** By A. Lenton, P. W. Boyd et al. Nature Climate Change. (2019). Available from: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-019-0467-z](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-019-0467-z) Large-scale climate geoengineering will probably be required to limit warming to well below 2 °C, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement.


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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.