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

IN FOCUS: Supporting seafarers on the frontline of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has put seafarers around the world in precarious situations. Travel restrictions mean some cannot leave their ships, be repatriated home, or even get urgent medical assistance. Other seafarers have seen their contracts unilaterally terminated or have been quarantined on board ships for more than 14 days, without getting paid.

A large number of seafarers, as well as their spouses and family members, have reached out to IMO to share their concerns about a variety of difficult situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

IMO has established an internal team to help resolve individual cases, often working alongside other organizations like the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). Since the beginning of the crisis, this dedicated team works around the clock – contacting representatives from national governments, NGOs, trade unions or relevant associations, or orienting seafarers towards the right organisation, to find solutions. More...

IMO MEETINGS FOR 2020 – List of meetings postponed to the COVID-19 pandemic

LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS

Customs and ports urged to maintain flow of critical goods during pandemic
Briefing: 12, April 17, 2020

IMO and port State inspection authorities set pragmatic approach to support global supply chain
Briefing: 11, April 10, 2020

IMO postpones further meetings due to COVID-19 (updated)
Briefing: 10, April 2, 2020

IMO urges keyworker exemptions for crew changes and repatriations
Briefing: 9, April 1, 2020

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE  (Winter 2019)

IMO PUBLISHING  Just Published 2020  April 2020 Newsletter
UNITED NATIONS


$2.5 trillion COVID-19 rescue package needed for world’s emerging economies. UN News. 30 March 2020. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060612 The economic fallout from COVID-19 is likely to get “much worse” before it gets better for some six billion people living in developing economies, the UN said on Monday, in an appeal for a $2.5 trillion rescue package to boost their resilience to further hardship.


UN launches COVID-19 plan that could ‘defeat the virus and build a better world’. UN News. 31 March 2020. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060702 The UN chief launched on Tuesday a new plan to counter the potentially devastating socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, calling on everyone to “act together to lessen the blow to people”.


The World Health Organization (WHO) must be supported across the world, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres said on Wednesday, describing the UN health agency, which has led the multilateral response since the beginning, as “absolutely critical” in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic.


COVID-19: A 10-point action plan to strengthen international trade and transport facilitation in times of pandemic - UNCTAD Policy Brief No. 79.

CASUALTIES


Busan berth will be offline for months after boxship prang takes out multiple cranes. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 8 April 2020. Available from: https://splash247.com/busan-berth-will-be-offline-for-months-after-boxship-prang-takes-out-multiple-cranes/. Officials at Busan New Port say that its seventh berth will be out of action for months as cleanup operations get underway to remove shattered crane debris following Monday's dramatic boxship accident.


The key causes of ship total losses. IHS Markit. 23 April 2020. Available from: https://ihsmarkit.com/research-analysis/the-key-causes-of-ship-total-losses.html. The maritime industry has seen a decrease in total losses of ships over the past five years attributed by many in the industry to increased safety measures and updates in technological systems, according to the inaugural State of Maritime Safety report published by IHS Markit and available for download.
**ENVIRONMENT**

**Hindsight 2020: Lessons We Cannot Ignore from the BP Disaster.** Oceana. April 2020.

**Environment**

Available from: [https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/nature-takes-back-world-s-empty-city-streets-1.4873282](https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/nature-takes-back-world-s-empty-city-streets-1.4873282) As humans retreat into their homes as more and more countries go under coronavirus lockdown, wild animals are slipping cover to explore the empty streets of some of our biggest cities.

**Governing the sun: the challenges of geoengineering.** Griffith University (Australia). 6 April 2020.
Available from: [https://news.griffith.edu.au/2020/04/06/governing-the-sun-the-challenges-of-geoengineering/](https://news.griffith.edu.au/2020/04/06/governing-the-sun-the-challenges-of-geoengineering/) Governments have previously sought to reduce climate-change inducing concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO2) in the earth’s atmosphere through mitigation and adaptation activities, but are now exploring other measures.

**5 Ways the Economic Upheaval of Coronavirus May Impact CO2 Emissions.** Benjamin Storrow. 


**How Covid-19 Could Impact the Climate Crisis.** Daniel Wilkinson and Luciana Téllez Chávez. 
'We're watching them die': can right whales pull back from the brink? Megan Mayhew Bergman. The Guardian. 17 April 2020. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/17/north-atlantic-right-whales-were-watching-them-die. Dedicated conservationists are striving to save the North Atlantic right whale – believed to be down to 400 individuals as ships and fishing gear take their toll.


FROM THE FIELD: ‘Green practices' boost blue economy. UN News. 21 April 2020. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1062262 The introduction of “green” or sustainable practices supported by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) is helping the “blue economy” of an Indian Ocean archipelago to thrive.


Earth Day turns 50: Get to know our planet without leaving home. US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 22 April 2020. Available from: https://www.noaa.gov/stories/earth-day-turns-50-get-to-know-our-planet-without-leaving-home Earth Day (April 22) was started as a movement to bring awareness to the health and well being of our planet. It has special significance for NOAA because this grassroots effort helped usher the creation of our agency the same year — 1970.


ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Seafloor of Fram Strait is a sink for microplastic from Arctic and North Atlantic Ocean. Ulrike Windhövel. Phys.org. 30 March 2020. Available from: https://phys.org/news/2020-03-seafloor-fram-strait-microplastic-arctic.html Working in the Arctic Fram Strait, scientists from the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) have found microplastic throughout the water column with particularly high concentrations at the ocean floor.


Microplastics found in Antarctic ice core sample taken 10 years ago. Manika Champ. ABC (Australia). 23 April 2020. Available from: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-22/microplastics-found-in-antarctic-sea-ice-for-first-time/12173386 It is one of the world's most remote locations and home to few inhabitants, but despite this, researchers say they have discovered plastic microfibres for the first time in Antarctic sea ice.


**HEALTH & SAFETY**


Maersk confirms corona infections among ship crew. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 30 March 2020. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12046441.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12046441.ece) Maersk has now received a response from local authorities in China after several seafarers last week were isolated on ship *Gjertrud Maersk* with symptoms of covid-19.


**Tomini crew refuse to offload cargo in Bangladesh over fears of contracting coronavirus.**


**Solution found to offload cargo from controversial Tomini bulk carrier off Chittagong.**


**Coronavirus: guidance on repatriating cruise ship passengers and protecting ship crews.**


**Greater Access to PPE called for by concerned Seafarers.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS).* 13 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/13/greater-access-to-ppe-called-for-by-concerned-seafarers](https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/13/greater-access-to-ppe-called-for-by-concerned-seafarers) Some seafarers who have been in direct contact with Human Rights at Sea are increasingly calling for greater levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be made more widely available, not just for themselves, but for those maritime workers who come onboard their vessels including surveyors, agents, pilots and stevedores, by way of example.


One crew member tests positive, 20 feverish on cruise ship in Japan. *Japan Times.*
21 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/04/21/national/one-crew-member-tests-positive-20-feverish-cruise-ship-japan](https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/04/21/national/one-crew-member-tests-positive-20-feverish-cruise-ship-japan) A crew member aboard an Italian cruise ship currently undergoing repairs in southwestern Japan has tested positive for the new coronavirus, while about 20 others are believed to have developed a fever since last week, another member of the crew said Tuesday.


Seafarers’ right to emergency medical treatment ashore in the spotlight. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com.* 28 April 2020. Available from: [https://splash247.com/seafarers-right-to-emergency-medical-treatment-ashore-in-the-spotlight/](https://splash247.com/seafarers-right-to-emergency-medical-treatment-ashore-in-the-spotlight/) The Joint Negotiating Group (JNG) and the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) have urgently called on government to step up and respect seafarers’ rights to medical care and treatment, pointing out that it is a fundamental human right that cannot be set aside because of the pandemic.

**Thome Group speaks to Human Rights at Sea about PPE for Seafarers.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 28 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/28/thome-group-speaks-to-human-rights-at-sea-about-ppe-for-seafarers/](https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/28/thome-group-speaks-to-human-rights-at-sea-about-ppe-for-seafarers/) Following the recent highlighting to Human Rights at Sea (HRAS) of concerns from seafarers about lack of access to, and availability of, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while serving on vessels transiting global shipping lanes, the charitable NGO has engaged with the maritime industry most recently speaking with the Thome Group about their actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The journey from health and Safety to healthy and safe.** Zofia Bajorek, Dan Lucy and Stephen Bevan. *Shell*. April 2020. Available from: [https://go.shell.com/2AtACyA](https://go.shell.com/2AtACyA) The wellbeing of seafarers has a direct impact on their work and safety performance and shapes their experience of life at sea.

**IMO**


**Green Groups Ask For Online IMO Meeting After MEPC Cancellation.** *Ship & Bunker*. 7 April 2020. Available from: [https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/115623-green-groups-ask-for-online-imo-meeting-after-mepc-cancellation](https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/115623-green-groups-ask-for-online-imo-meeting-after-mepc-cancellation) Environmental groups have written an open letter to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) asking the UN body to continue with its meetings in a digital-only format to ensure the COVID-19 pandemic does not derail its decarbonisation targets.


IMO Secretary General to consider How to Hold Digital – Only Meeting. *Ship & Bunker*. 17 April 2020. Available from: [https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/735528-imo-secretary-general-to-consider-how-to-hold-digital-only-meetings](https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/735528-imo-secretary-general-to-consider-how-to-hold-digital-only-meetings) An extraordinary session of the International Maritime Organization Council has asked the Secretary-General Kitack Lim to consider how the UN body's meetings can be held online while the COVID-19 pandemic prevents meeting in person.


Kitack Lim: Digital meetings not currently possible for IMO. Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 20 April 2020. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12086644.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12086644.ece) Right now, it is not possible for the UN's maritime body to conduct its postponed meetings digitally, says Secretary General Kitack Lim in a letter to NGOs. He maintains climate strategy deadlines.

**LAW & POLICY**


Why a landmark treaty to stop ocean biopiracy could stymie research. Olive Heffernan. *Nature*. 27 March 2020. Available from: [https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00912-w](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00912-w) In 1945, a young chemist called Werner Bergmann was diving off the Florida coast, scouring its waters for undiscovered marine life.


A Path to Creating the First Generation of High Seas Protected Areas. Pew Charitable Trusts. 31 March 2020. Available from: https://bit.ly/2zU2zj1 Beyond the horizon, more than 200 nautical miles from shore, lies an area of the ocean known as the high seas.


ECSA: European Green Deal must take into account the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA). 2 April 2020. Available from: https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-european-green-deal-must-take-account-devastating-impact-covid-19-pandemic Following the statement by the Executive Vice-President, Frans Timmermans, on the postponement of the COP26, the ECSA Board of Directors who met today took note of and fully supports the firm commitment of the European Commission towards the European Green Deal, but is also of the opinion that the first priority should be the rescue and full recovery of the EU shipping industry.


Fact Finding 29 Supply Chain Innovation Teams to Begin Work. US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) 6 April 2020. Available from: https://www.fmc.gov/fact-finding-29-teams-to-begin-work/ Supply Chain Innovation Teams convened by Commissioner Rebecca Dye as part of Fact Finding 29 (International Ocean Transportation Supply Chain Engagement) will begin work this week to identify what actions can provide immediate relief to the most pressing challenges the American freight delivery system faces from COVID-19 related disruptions.


Transport Malta: Support measures to the Maltese shipping industry during the COVID-19 pandemic. Malta Winds. 7 April 2020. Available from: http://maltawinds.com/2020/04/07/transport-malta-support-measures-to-the-maltese-shipping-industry-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/ A notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters, Owners’ Representatives and Recognised Organisations published by the Transport Directorate states that further to the measures implemented by the Directorate to continue to provide an uninterrupted service to the Maltese shipping community under the current exceptional circumstances, the Directorate wishes to inform all concerned of supporting measures that have been implemented as from 1 April 2020.


Modern cargo fleet in Caspian regions and its prospects. Alexander Egorov. *Port News*. 15 April 2020. Available from: [https://en.portnews.ru/comments/2817/](https://en.portnews.ru/comments/2817/) The Strategy for the development of Russian seaports in the Caspian Basin as well as road and railway approaches to them till 2030 can be cited - the dynamics of cargo turnover in the ports of the region depends on economic processes in other Caspian countries, including Iran, as well as Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.


MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Agents must digitalise, warns leading academic. Paul Gunton. ShipInsight. 27 March 2020. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/articles/agents-must-digitalise-warns-leading-academic Ship agents will have to embrace digitalisation if they are to retain business for the long term, believes Mikael Lind, associate professor and senior strategic research advisor at Research Institutes of Sweden (RISE) and researcher in maritime informatics at Chalmers University of Technology.

Number of Ships to be Equipped with Scrubbers Hits 4,000: DNV GL. Ship & Bunker. 30 March 2020. Available from: https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/814936-number-of-ships-to-be-equipped-with-scrubbers-hits-4000-dnv-gl The HSFO / VLSFO spread may have narrowed significantly following the recent collapse in oil prices, but orders for SOx scrubbers have continued to roll in.

Strategic maritime technology industry in urgent need for specific EU measures. Sea Europe. 1 April 2020. Available from: http://www.seaeurope.eu/ClientData/181/658/444103/3665/4/COVID_19_Declaration_SEA%20Europe_Final%20version.pdf ❯ "If the EU fails to adopt tailor-made sectoral policies and financial support beyond its horizontal industrial policies, Europe risks to lose its strategic maritime technology sector to Asia, whilst European shipyards and maritime equipment manufacturers are key for the European Green Deal, for Europe’s Blue Economy and mobility, for Europe’s defence, security and autonomy and for Europe’s access to seas and trade of goods and passengers", says Kjersti Kleven, SEA Europe’s chairwoman.


To our supporters: Ocean Viking docked in Marseille – teams remain fully mobilized. *SOS Mediterranee.* 20 April 2020. Available from: [https://sosmediterranee.com/to-our-supporters-ocean-viking-docked-in-marseille-teams-remain-fully-mobilized/](https://sosmediterranee.com/to-our-supporters-ocean-viking-docked-in-marseille-teams-remain-fully-mobilized/) As the Corona virus continues to spread worldwide, we hope that you and your loved ones are well.


Race is on for US$1.5Bn autonomous vessel sector leadership. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications.* 23 April 2020. Available from: [https://bit.ly/3gW5Mj5](https://bit.ly/3gW5Mj5) Sea trials are underway testing technology to navigate an autonomous vessel across the Atlantic Ocean, as analysts predict this will be a US$1.5Bn market in the future.

USCG: Oil Spill Containment System Proven Successful. *Maritime Executive.* 27 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/uscg-oil-spill-containment-system-proven-successful](https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/uscg-oil-spill-containment-system-proven-successful) A new sub-surface oil containment and recovery system, installed in April 2019 over a damaged oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico, is successfully preventing more than 1,000 gallons of oil per day from entering the environment.


**MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**


Talking Point: Mentoring in Maritime. Dr Kate Pike. *International Seafarers’ Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/talking-point-mentoring-in-maritime](https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/talking-point-mentoring-in-maritime) In the second piece of the series, we hear from Dr Kate Pike, Associate Professor Emeritus at Solent University, Southampton and Director of Field-Research, who looks at the benefits of mentoring for seafarers and how to implement a successful mentoring initiative.
MARITIME SECURITY


EU to launch new Libya sea patrols from April: diplomats. Robin Emmott and Francesco Guarascio. *Reuter.s.* 26 March 2020. Available from: [https://reut.rs/2zSxz3c](https://reut.rs/2zSxz3c) The European Union will launch a new Mediterranean naval and air mission in April to stop more arms reach warring factions in Libya, EU diplomats said on Thursday, with Greece agreeing to take in any migrants rescued at sea.


Cyber security amid a global pandemic. *Gard.* 6 April 2020. Available from: [http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29480434/cyber-security-amid-a-global-pandemic](http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29480434/cyber-security-amid-a-global-pandemic) To cope with operational issues such as denied physical access, quarantined vessels and travel restrictions, shipowners are now actively opening for remote access and implementing remote digital survey tools towards vessels and encouraging shore staff to work remotely from home.


**ISM Code as the key driver in addressing cyber risk.** *Safety4Sea.* 21 April 2020. Available from: [https://safety4sea.com/cm-ism-code-as-the-key-driver-in-addressing-cyber-risk/](https://safety4sea.com/cm-ism-code-as-the-key-driver-in-addressing-cyber-risk/) The regulatory framework of the shipping industry is improving so that all challenges arising can be either prevented or dealt with.


**MIGRANTS**


Italy closes ports to migrant ships because of coronavirus. Wladimiro Pantaleon and Crispian Balmer. *Reuters*. 8 April 2020. Available from: [https://reut.rs/2A0ZfCL](https://reut.rs/2A0ZfCL) Italian ports cannot be considered safe because of the coronavirus epidemic and will not let charity migrant boats dock, the government has ruled.


NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Whales face more fatal ship collisions as waters warm. Patrick Whittle. ABC News (US). 29 March 2020. Available from: https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/whales-face-fatal-ship-collisions-waters-warm-69854473 Climate change is imperilling the world's largest animals by increasing the likelihood of fatal collisions between whales and big ships that ply the same waters.

Cruise company still searching for port for virus ship. France 24. 30 March 2020. Available from: https://www.france24.com/en/20200329-cruise-company-still-searching-for-port-for-virus-ship Passengers on a virus-stricken cruise liner stranded off Panama in Central America were told Sunday the company was still searching for a port which will allow them to disembark, even as they pleaded for help.

Slow down for right whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada. Gard. 30 March 2020. Available from: http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29441513/slow-down-for-right-whales-in-the-gulf-of-st-lawrence-canada Canada further strengthens its vessel speed restriction scheme in the Gulf of St. Lawrence to help prevent collisions between endangered North Atlantic right whales and ships during the 2020 whale season.


NOAA teams with pioneering explorer to understand and map the deepest parts of the ocean. US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 7 April 2020. Available from: https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/noaa-teams-with-pioneering-explorer-to-understand-and-map-deepest-parts-of-ocean NOAA intends to collaborate with a private company led by Victor Vescovo, the first person to reach the deepest point in all five of the world's named oceans, in an effort to explore, characterize, and map unknown areas of the deep ocean.

Seal the deal: amorous mammals forced to contend with cruise ships. Nicola Davis. The Guardian. 8 April 2020. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/08/seal-the-deal-amorous-mammals-forced-to-contend-with-cruise-ships Cruise ships are drowning out the roars of seals that are important for breeding the world's largest animals by increasing the likelihood of fatal collisions between whales and big ships that ply the same waters.


Iranian vessels come dangerously close to American military ships: U.S. military. Idrees Ali. *Reuters*. 15 April 2020. Available from: [https://reut.rs/2ZYjAI0](https://reut.rs/2ZYjAI0) Eleven vessels from Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGCN) came dangerously close to U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships in the Gulf, the U.S. military said on Wednesday, calling the moves “dangerous and provocative.”

COLREGS: Still fit for purpose? Harry Hirst. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 17 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/colregs-still-fit-for-purpose](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/colregs-still-fit-for-purpose) There has been much debate about the COLREGS over the last 12 months or so, with many suggesting that it is now time for not just some amendments but a total revision of the Rules.


**PORT STATE CONTROL**

Crew change for cargo ships under special circumstances in the port of Singapore, to minimise risk of community spread of (COVID-19) in Singapore. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 27 March 2020. Available from: [https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/e5d02eff-9b9e-4eac-becb-b20c2a5b7e6c](https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/e5d02eff-9b9e-4eac-becb-b20c2a5b7e6c) The Port of Singapore remains open for cargo operations and marine services, including bunkering, ship supplies and shipyard repairs in order to maintain commerce by sea and not disrupt global supply chains.

Statement Regarding Zaandam. Holland America Line. 29 March 2020. Available from: https://www.hollandamerica.com/blog/ships/ms-zaandam/statement-regarding-zaandam/ We are aware of reported permission for both Zaandam and Rotterdam to transit the Panama Canal in the near future.


Zaandam and Rotterdam Approved to Disembark Guests at Port Everglades. Lauren M. Holland America Line. 2 April 2020. Available from: https://www.hollandamerica.com/blog/ships/ms-rotterdam/zaandam-and-rotterdam-approved-to-disembark-guests-at-port-everglades/ Holland America Line is pleased to confirm that Broward County and the Unified Command cleared both Zaandam and Rotterdam for arrival to Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to disembark guests who are fit to travel per guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.


More than 750,000 tonnes of shipping have been moved in the operation. \textit{ABC (Australia)}. 5 April 2020. Available from: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-04/nsw-police-helping-cruise-ships-restock-and-refuel/12122120 Royal Caribbean Cruise Line have been cooperating with NSW Police to prepare cruise ships to leave for their home ports.


United Arab Emirates relaxes conditions for crew changes. Dale Wainwright. \textit{TradeWinds}. 6 April 2020. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/united-arab-emirates-relaxes-conditions-for-crew-changes/2-1-788369 The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the latest country to relax regulations on the changing of ships’ crews.


Time for a rethink on what a quality flag really is.... \textit{Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA)}. 6 April 2020. Available from: https://www.bahamasmaritime.com/latest-news/time-for-a-rethink-on-what-a-quality-flag-really-is/ For those wondering what a quality flag represents, they need look no further than The Bahamas.


Bermudian-registered ship in NSW inquiry. Catherine Zuill. \textit{Royal Gazette (Bermuda)}. 7 April 2020. Available from: http://www.royalgazette.com/news/article/20200407/bermudian-registered-ship-in-nsw-inquiry A Bermudian-registered cruise ship is under police investigation in Australia after passengers — many later found to have been infected with Covid-19 — were allowed to disembark without being questioned about their health.

Europe braces for cruise ship arrivals. Sam Morgan. EurActiv. 8 April 2020. Available from: https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/news/europe-braces-for-cruise-ship-arrivals/. The European Commission issued more practical coronavirus advice on Wednesday (8 April), urging national governments to set up special ports that can process seafarers and up to 8,000 cruise ship passengers, due to disembark in Europe this week.

Cyprus is no longer part of the Targeted Flag List of the United States Coastguard (USCG). Maritime Cyprus. 8 April 2020. Available from: https://www.dms.gov.cy/dms/shipping.nsf/All/1838C4433BC3EBE6C22585440032D69B. The Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry is proud to announce that, based on the outcome of the US Government’s 2019 Annual Report on Port State Control, Cyprus is no longer part of the Targeted Flag List of the United States Coastguard (USCG) in relation to the safety performance of flag administrations.


Panama bulk carrier detained in South Africa released, with stern warning: SAMSA. *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA).* 24 April 2020. Available from: [https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/04/24/panama-bulk-carrier-detained-in-south-africa-released-with-stern-warning-samsa/](https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/04/24/panama-bulk-carrier-detained-in-south-africa-released-with-stern-warning-samsa/) A Panama-flagged bulk carrier, the *Top Grace*, that was detained in South Africa last month after it was found to have thrown overboard two stowaways off the KwaZulu-Natal coast has been released, according to the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA).

**Coronavirus: Cruise ship off Panama coast transfers passengers.** *BBC News.* 29 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-52072703](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-52072703) A cruise ship carrying more than 1,800 people off Panama has begun moving healthy passengers to another ship after four people died and two others tested positive for coronavirus.

### PORTS & HARBOURS


**Migrants Flee as Tripoli’s Port Shelled.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 10 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.iom.int/news/migrants-flee-tripolis-port-shelled](https://www.iom.int/news/migrants-flee-tripolis-port-shelled) Dozens of migrants held at Tripoli’s main port since yesterday fled the facility as it was being shelled early Friday morning.


**Big ships are about to get bigger at Port of Charleston.** David Wren. *Post and Courier (US)*. 16 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.postandcourier.com/business/big-ships-are-about-to-get-bigger-at-port-of-charleston/article_d25f31ee-7fe7-11ea-a2f4-df04a437c04e.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/business/big-ships-are-about-to-get-bigger-at-port-of-charleston/article_d25f31ee-7fe7-11ea-a2f4-df04a437c04e.html) The CMA CGM Panama container ship, capable of carrying 15,072 cargo boxes, is scheduled to visit the Port of Charleston in June.

Second World Ports COVID-19 survey: some ports seeing significant changes in storage utilization at ports with some overcrowded car terminals. World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP). 16 April 2020. Available from: https://bit.ly/3gRIGtV Results show COVID-19 crisis has 35% of ports reporting an increase in utilisation of warehousing and distribution facilities in the last week for foodstuffs and medical supplies, whilst other ports report both over- and under-utilization of their storage facilities, depending on cargo type.


'Move boxes to private yards' plea as Chittagong congestion worsens. The Loadstar. 20 April 2020. Available from: https://theloadstar.com/move-boxes-to-private-yards-plea-as-chittagong-congestion-worsens/ Bangladesh customs authorities have allowed logistics operators to shift a further six types of goods in containers to private off-docks in a bid to reduce the number of containers in Chittagong’s yards.


Singapore coastline packed with ships full of oil no one wants. Elizabeth Low. ShippingWatch. 27 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12099870.ece A narrow waterway off Singapore has become even more congested as oil-laden tankers wait out a slump in global fuel consumption that’s crimped demand and boosted the use of ships to store cargoes.

IMO wants port staff designated as offering essential services. Anthony Kitimo. Business Daily (Kenya). 28 April 2020. Available from: https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/corporate/shipping/IMO-wants-port-staff-designated-as-offering/4003122-5537094-11rp4cbz/index.html. IMO has called on United Nations system agencies to support its bid to categorise seafarers, port personnel and maritime workers as crucial key personnel to ensure they are not limited in their movements and to ensure ships deliver goods on time during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.


REGULATIONS


A midlife crisis? Age-related concerns for ballast water fitments. William Burroughs. Ballast Water Treatment Technology. 8 April 2020. Available from: https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/copy-of-a-midlife-crisis-age-related-concerns-for-ballast-water-fitmentsnbsp-56997. Analysis from classification society ABS suggests that vessels up to 15 years of age are likely to be the oldest to install a ballast water management system (BWMS), with owners of ships aged 16-20 years and 21 years and above more likely to opt for scrapping.

Life after IMO 2020: What’s next on the regulatory landscape? Matthew Williams. Lloyd’s Register. 8 April 2020. Available from: https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/life-after-imo-regulatory-landscape. IMO 2020, an outside Emission Control Area (ECA) sulphur 0.50% max. limit on marine fuel, has attracted substantial industry focus in the past few years; rightly so given the preparations needed and the uncertainties arising from delayed regulatory decisions and in-sector compliance relying on out-of-sector changes in fuel supply chains.


Unintended consequences. Unni Einemo. International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA). 17 April 2020. Available from: https://ibia.net/unintended-consequences In this feature article for the first 2020 issue of World Bunkering, IBIA’s Director Unni Einemo examines potential undesirable side-effects of the 0.50% sulphur limit.


Deadline Approaches for New EU Ship Recycling Regulations. Maritime Executive. 21 April 2020. Available from: https://maritime-executive.com/corporate/deadline-approaches-for-new-eu-ship-recycling-regulations New European ship recycling regulations enter into force at the end of the year – but the current tough market conditions, compounded by the delay in decision making caused by the work-from-home situation in the Coronavirus pandemic, has meant that many shipowners are still to undertake the necessary work to be compliant with the legislation.


SALVAGE


138 skips full of cargo now removed from MV Kaami. UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency. 20 April 2020. Available from: https://hmcoastguard.blogspot.com/2020/04/138-skips-full-ofcargo-now-removed.html  Good weather has made it possible for the salvors to remove 44 skips worth of cargo from the MV Kaami over the weekend.


SEAFARERS


Statement of the Officers of the STC 1 on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).


Norwegian Cruise Lines repatriates 1,000 Filipino crew. Holly Birkett. TradeWinds. 1 April 2020. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/norwegian-cruise-lines-repatriates-1-000-filipino-crew/2-1-785629 Norwegian Cruise Lines has chartered flights to repatriate almost 1,000 of its seafarers to the Philippines as the coronavirus pandemic takes its toll on the tourism sector.


DG Shipping extends validity of seafarers certificates by six months. P Manoj. Hindu BusinessLine (India). 3 April 2020. Available from: https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/dg-shipping-extends-validity-of-seafarers-certificates-by-six-months/article31251580.ece The Director General of Shipping (DG Shipping) has extended the validity of seafarers’ certificates that were expiring between March 23 and October 01, 2020 by six months in a relief to crew working on board ships amidst a three-week lockdown.
Australian prime minister urged to do the “right thing” for thousands of stranded seafarers. *International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF).* 3 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/australian-prime-minister-urged-do-right-thing-thousands-stranded-seafarers](https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/australian-prime-minister-urged-do-right-thing-thousands-stranded-seafarers) On March 29, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said that it was, “important that Australia does the right thing about those who have fallen into our care to ensure that I can say with great moral authority that Australians are doing the right thing, and we would ask you to do the right thing.”

As Goa government mounts rescue effort, some seafarers say they are safer onboard. Newton Sequeira. *Times of India.* 4 April 2020. Available from: [https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/as-govt-mounts-rescue-effort-some-seafarers-say-they-are-safer-onboard/articleshow/74975477.cms](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/as-govt-mounts-rescue-effort-some-seafarers-say-they-are-safer-onboard/articleshow/74975477.cms) Even as the Goa government makes efforts to bring back over 8,000 seafarers, some stakeholders suggest that the offshore seamen remain safer aboard the ships which serves as a natural lock down and quarantine.


The Lloyd’s List Podcast: How to help shipping’s stranded seafarers. Lloyd’s List. 9 April 2020. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131904/The-Lloyd’s-List-Podcast-How-to-help-shippings-stranded-seafarers With shipping companies continuing to postpone crew exchange and extend employment contracts as the only way of overcoming the coronavirus travel and quarantine restrictions, the industry has a ticking time bomb on its hands.


Covid-19 has had a swift and brutal impact on the cruise industry and on seafarers working in the industry.


Reflecting on the possible impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) on the future of humanity, Israeli historian, philosopher and best-selling author Yuval Noah Harari called it “perhaps the biggest crisis of our generation” and “the worst epidemic in at least 100 years,” and said “the decisions people and governments take in the next few weeks will probably shape the world for years to come.”


Merchant sailors face months of isolation at sea as the coronavirus crisis blocks ships from docking at UAE ports while other vessels have been abandoned altogether.


CMA CGM is offering crew a $500 bonus each to extend their employment contracts as travel restrictions bring the crew exchange problem to crisis point.


Ecumenical charity Liverpool Seafarers Centre has written to the UK maritime minister Kelly Tolhurst and leading NGOs including the International Maritime Organisation calling for clearer rules and guidance on seafarer repatriation.


With the world in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, the shipping industry is already feeling the impact as the global economy heads into a deep recession.


Nautilus is supporting calls for collective crew changes at designated ports, which it says are urgently needed to relieve tired Merchant Navy seafarers enabling world trade during the coronavirus pandemic.


Ever since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, all European ports have been fully operational and continue to do everything they can to fulfil their essential role in the supply chain and provide citizens, health services and businesses in Europe with the products and material they need.


Shipping Industry Personnel: Coping, Caring, Serving. The Gleaner (Jamaica). 21 April 2020. Available from: http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/article/20200421/shipping-industry-personnel-coping-caring-serving When shipping professionals speak of a ‘supply chain’, they are referring not only to how things such as warehouses, containers, ships and ports are interconnected in global trade.


In Galveston, seafarers center sits alone as mariners are kept on ships. *Galveston County Daily News* (US). 22 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.galvnews.com/news/free/article_d176fc2c-e869-59ec-8edf-ef5b2aa0402.html](https://www.galvnews.com/news/free/article_d176fc2c-e869-59ec-8edf-ef5b2aa0402.html) At the Galveston Seafarers Center, the answer is cleaning up and getting to things that might not have been done while the organization was busy helping mariners coming off ships berthed at the Port of Galveston.


**A Cruise Liner Captain’s Perspective on Recent Events.** *Maritime Executive.* 26 April 2020. Available from: [https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/a-cruise-liner-captain-s-perspective-on-recent-events](https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/a-cruise-liner-captain-s-perspective-on-recent-events) Much has been said about cruising over the past two months, and most of it has been negative.


**Seafarers are frontliners too.** John Revill. *Hellenic Shipping News.* 29 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarers-are-frontliners-too/](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarers-are-frontliners-too/) During these trying times under the movement control order (MCO) imposed to combat the Covid-19 threat, healthcare workers and those ensuring adherence to the MCO have been recognised as “frontliners” for the yeomen deeds they perform.


In two weeks 150,000 seafarers will be trapped on their ship. *ShippingWatch*. 30 April 2020. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12110551.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12110551.ece) There is still no solution to the problem with crews that cannot be changed due to the coronavirus.

**SEARCH & RESCUE**


**SHIP RECYCLING**


**SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR**


Coronavirus having ‘severe impact’ on newbuilding activity, Clarksons says. Lucy Hine. TradeWinds. 27 April 2020. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/coronavirus-having-severe-impact-on-newbuilding-activity-clarksons-says/2-1-798031. Investment in newbuildings in the first three months of this year was at the lowest quarterly figure for 11 years, according to Clarksons Research.


**SHIPPING**


As those aboard the *Zaandam* cruise wait, Carnival, county scramble to figure out plan. Taylor Dolven and Samantha J. Gross. *Miami Herald (US).* 31 March 2020. Available from: https://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/tourism-cruises/article241647566.html. Sick people on board the *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* cruise ships fear they are dying as they steam toward South Florida. But Broward County and Carnival Corporation have yet to agree on a plan that will allow them on shore once they arrive.


ECSA Board: Shipping industry keeps Europe running but will need more EU support to recover. *European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA).* 2 April 2020. Available from: https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-board-shipping-industry-keeps-europe-running-will-need-more-eu-support-recover In their meeting on 2 April, ECSA's Board of Directors thanks all maritime professionals across the whole shipping industry for their dedication and sacrifices made to continue the supply of goods and equipment and the necessary transport services to millions of citizens currently affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.


Denmark's shipping industry focuses on carbon emissions. *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA).* 3 April 2020. Available from: https://www.rina.org.uk/Denmarks_shipping_industry_focuses_on_carbon_emissions.html Since 2017, Danish Shipping has seen a growth of 7% in its number of ships and has surpassed its 10% target increase in operational tonnage.


Coronavirus is disrupting the supply of ships as well as demand. Peter Sand. BIMCO. 6 April 2020. Available from: https://www.bimco.org/news/market_analysis/2020/20200403_coronavirus_is_disrupting_the_supply_of_ships_as_well_as_demand The coronavirus outbreak has affected all aspects of the shipping industry, lowering, if not wiping out, demand growth prospects for the year across all segments.


Countries propose environmental rating system for vessels. Katrine Grønvald Raun. ShippingWatch. 6 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12062944.ece It should be much easier for parties collaborating with the shipping industry to understand a ship's environmental profile, and this should be achieved through a rating system adopted by the UN, according to new proposal submitted to the IMO.


Joint ETF-ECSA Declaration of Intention to Address the Enhanced Participation of Women in European Shipping. European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA). 7 April 2020. Available from: https://www.ecsa.eu/news/joint-ETF-ECSA-declaration-intention-address-enhanced-participation-women-european-shipping The European social partners for maritime transport, the European Transport Workers’ Federation (ETF) and the European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA), are jointly seeking to increase the participation of women in careers in the European shipping industry.
Maersk maintains its ambitious climate targets despite coronavirus. Katrine Grønvald Raun. ShippingWatch. 7 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12065602.ece While some worry that the coronavirus outbreak could end up postponing key milestones in shipping's climate work, nothing has changed at the world's biggest container shipping line, Maersk, the company's head of regulatory affairs, Simon Bergulf, tells ShippingWatch.

Coronavirus will trigger revolutionary change in shipping. Frank Coles. Maritime Optimisation & Communications. 7 April 2020. Available from: https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/coronavirus-will-trigger-revolutionary-change-in-shipping-58867 In a few short months, the mayhem wrought by coronavirus has changed the world.

Drewry begins tracking weekly containership cancelled sailings and waiting times. Drewry Shipping Consultants. 7 April 2020. Available from: https://www.drewry.co.uk/news/drewry-begins-tracking-weekly-containership-cancelled-sailings-and-waiting-times Responding to unprecedented market volatility following the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak, Drewry Supply Chain Advisors, the logistics consultancy arm of Drewry Shipping Consultants, is pleased to announce the launch of two new container shipping tracking services reporting cancelled sailings and ship waiting times every week.


Could a reborn cruise industry be a better environmental steward? Nick O’Malley. *Brisbane Times (Australia).* 12 April 2020. Available from: https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/environment/climate-change/could-a-reborn-cruise-industry-be-a-better-environmental-steward-20200409-p54igo.html. Well before the *Ruby Princess* came to the attention of Australian police the ship’s parent company, Carnival Corporation, was involved in another scandal on the other side of the world involving something called, colourfully enough, a magic pipe - a home-made device that would eventually cost the company $US60 million in fines.


New alliance of shipowners want politicians to ensure crew changes. Thomas Christiansen. *Shipping Watch.* 14 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12074939.ece. Shipping lines like Norden and Grieg Star as well as ship managers like V. Group and Synergy have banded together in a distress call to politicians, who should immediately ensure than crews can be changed aboard vessels.

This could be the end of the line for cruise ships. Freya Higgins-Desbiolles. *The Conversation.* 14 April 2020. Available from: https://theconversation.com/this-could-be-the-end-of-the-line-for-cruise-ships-135937. Stranded cruise ships have become a symbol of the COVID-19 pandemic. Passengers and crew are desperate to get off but the ports to which they’ve headed don’t want them.

I am not captivated by carbon capture. Paul Gunton. ShipInsight. 15 April 2020. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/articles/i-am-not-captivated-by-carbon-capture I confess that I am a bit late bringing you news that a small UK company has been awarded government funding to explore the potential of using on-board carbon capture to deliver a carbon-free future for global shipping.


The Poseidon Principles - Part 2 – Implementation. Marie-Anne Moussalli and Ioanna Tsekoura. Clyde & Co LLP. 16 April 2020. Available from: https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/the-poseidon-principles-part-2-implementation The Third Principle, "the Enforcement Principle", requires that the lender ensures ongoing compliance with the Principles by including a covenant requiring the borrower to provide the necessary information in order for the lender to comply with the Principles.

Clyde & Co moderates Decarbonization panel at Capital Link International Shipping Forum. Clyde & Co LLP. 17 April 2020. Available from: https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/cl... At the 2020 Capital Link International Shipping Forum, John Keough moderated a panel on decarbonization and green shipping that discussed the reduction of greenhouse emissions as the next challenge which will have transformational impact on the shipping industry. Full Panel Discussion.
Where are all the cruise ships now? Mary Bond. Seatrade Cruise News. 17 April 2020. Available from: https://www.seatrade-cruise.com/news/where-are-all-cruise-ships-now With over 95% of the world’s oceangoing cruise ships in temporary layup, berthed or at close anchor, and the final few making their way to a safe haven, Seatrade with the help of Informa’s Lloyd’s List Intelligence made-to-measure data has drawn up where the vessels are currently located.


The Lloyd’s List Podcast: Is shipping sailing into a great depression? Lloyd’s List. 17 April 2020. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131952/The-Lloydys-List-Podcast-Is-sailing-into-a-great-depression ® The doom-laden forecasts have been coming thick and fast this week, warning of the steepest downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s, a lost decade of growth in Latin America and a shrinking Chinese economy for the first time since 1992.

A flag state’s duty of care during a pandemic. Superyacht News. 20 April 2020. Available from: https://www.superyachtnews.com/business/a-flag-states-duty-of-care-during-a-pandemic During the coronavirus pandemic, a number of cruise ships have been repeatedly refused permission to dock and disembark passengers amid precautionary measures to curb the spread of the virus. In light of these incidents, the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) publicly criticised flag states for failing to protect seafarer and passenger health.


LR and UMAS publish Techno-Economic Assessment of Zero-Carbon Fuels University Maritime Advisory Services (UMAS). 20 April 2020. Available from: https://www.umas.co.uk/Latest/Post/421 LR and UMAS have published their latest assessment of the current and future fuels available to shipping to help define the optimum solutions as the maritime industry seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

‘Bad neighbour’: will the cruise industry resume its rise in Australia after coronavirus? Ben Sme. The Guardian. 20 April 2020. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2020/apr/22/bad-neighbour-will-the-cruise-industry-ever-be-the-same-again-after-coronavirus Plans to welcome larger ships and more frequent visits to Australia are now in limbo amid uncertainty about when – or if – the business will recover.


Update On Cruise Industry Response To COVID-19. Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA). 21 April 2020. Available from: https://cruising.org/news-and-research/press-room/2020/april/clia-covid-19-toolkit As the world continues to address challenges regarding COVID-19, Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has been working with local and national governments around the world, as well as leading health authorities and our partners across the wider cruise community to coordinate our efforts during the ongoing suspension of worldwide cruise operations.


Major oil fluctuations rub off on shipping lines' fuel prices. Soren Pico. ShippingWatch. 23 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12093913.ece The massive fluctuations in the oil price in recent days mean that the price of low-sulfur in the US on Wednesday was lower than that of high-sulfur fuel, notes shipping analyst Lars Jensen.

South Korea's billion dollar aid to strained shipping companies faces harsh criticism: "The last thing we need". Tomas Kristiansen, Christian Carlsen and Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch. 24 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12097211.ece It is "very worrying" that South Korea plans to help the country's shipping companies with USD 1 billion, says Danish Shipping, which fears that this could lead to further overcapacity in an already strained market.

The Lloyd’s List Podcast: The View from Singapore. Lloyd's List. 24 April 2020. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132081/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-The-View-from-Singapore We should have been in Singapore this week, setting the agenda for digitalisation and decarbonisation.


ICS after South Korean state aid: "We must ensure level playing field". Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 27 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12101280.ece The International Chamber of Shipping, ICS, emphasizes the need for fair competition in a comment to ShippingWatch on the South Korean state's million-dollar aid scheme for the national shipping industry.


Carbon quotas for shipping feature on EU’s fall agenda. Tomas Kristiansen and Daniel Logan Berg-Munch. ShippingWatch. 28 April 2020. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12104149.ece The German EU chairmanship, set to begin in July, maintains that carbon quotas will be implemented on shipping.
S&B Viewpoint: Can Russia Cling on to Its Bunker Market Share in the IMO 2020 Era?


Shipping guru crystal ball: less globalization, more tech. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 29 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.freightwaves.com/news/shipping-guru-crystal-ball-less-globalization-more-tech](https://www.freightwaves.com/news/shipping-guru-crystal-ball-less-globalization-more-tech) When the leading sage of ocean shipping, Martin Stopford, gave a Zoom presentation on Tuesday, it called to mind a classic Grateful Dead concert: extremely long, frequently brilliant, often memorable, improvisational, meandering off on tangents, and rough around the edges in a good way.


Global shipping fleet to sound horns on labour day to raise alarm over need for urgent crew change. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 30 April 2020. Available from: [https://bit.ly/307P3Dm](https://bit.ly/307P3Dm) The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) are coordinating ships around the world to sound their horns when in port at 12.00 local time on Labour Day - 1 May. [Seafarers Supporting Global Trade during the COVID-19 Pandemic](https://bit.ly/307P3Dm).


**Milner J, Hamilton I, et al. Health benefits of policies to reduce carbon emissions. BMJ. 30 March 2020. Available from: https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/368/bmj.l6758.full.pdf** James Milner and colleagues argue that carefully considered policies to lower carbon emissions can also improve health, and we should use these benefits to push for strong climate action.


**Serra P and Fancello G. Towards the IMO’s GHG Goals: A Critical Overview of the Perspectives and Challenges of the Main Options for Decarbonizing International Shipping. Sustainability. 16 April 2020. Available from: https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/12/8/3220** The Initial Strategy on reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from ships adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 2018 commits the IMO to reduce total GHG emissions of shipping by at least 50% by 2050.
Kane IA, Clare MA, et al. **Seafloor microplastic hotspots controlled by deep-sea circulation.** *Science.* 30 April 2020. Available from: [https://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/early/2020/04/29/science.aba5899.full.pdf](https://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/early/2020/04/29/science.aba5899.full.pdf) While microplastics are known to pervade the global seafloor, the processes that control their dispersal and concentration in the deep sea remain largely unknown.

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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.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email with your contact details to: maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org