

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 32, 2025 – Friday 8th August
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2025 Port State Control Concentrated Inspection Campaign: Ballast Water Management

2 Week Preparation Plan

The Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU have announced a Port State Control (PSC) Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) to start on 1st September, running to 30th November 2025.

The campaign will focus on Ballast Water Management (BWM) and will aim to determine the level of compliance with the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention).

Ships of 400 GT and above engaged in international voyages must demonstrate full adherence to ballast water management requirements, with particular emphasis on the D-2 performance standard that became mandatory on 8 September 2024.

Read the article below to help you prepare for the CIC. Written in collaboration with a former PSC inspector, it covers critical countdown milestones to action over a 2 week period for a successful inspection.

Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Liberia** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Marine Advisory: 18/2025 Concentrated Inspection Campaign \(CIC\) on Liberian legislation implementation’](#)
 - [‘Marine Advisory: 19/2025 High-Pressure Water Mist Nozzles – Corrosion Risk and Potential Failure’](#)
- Marshall Islands** – has published an update entitled [‘Marine Safety Advisory No.05-25 Changes in Mitsubishi Electric Product Support for Marioff Hi-Fog Systems’](#).
- Panama** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Measures adopted to enhance the performance of the Panamanian Merchant Fleet – Pre-arrival checklist for ports under the Port State Control supervision of the USCG, Paris MoU, AMSA and People’s Republic of China MSA’](#)
 - [‘Panama Policy on the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships \(HKC\), 2009’](#)
 - [‘Ship to Ship Transfer \(STS\) Operations Plan’](#).
- Singapore** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Shipping Circular No.05 of 2025 - Prevention of Pollution of the Sea \(Air\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2025 and Prevention of Pollution of the Sea \(Ballast Water Management\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2025’](#)
 - [‘Port Marine Circular No.09 of 2025 - Notice of Non-renewal of Bunker Supplier Licence and Bunker Craft Operator Licence of Sirius Marine Pte Ltd’](#).
- Hong Kong** – has released five updates:
 - [‘Merchant Shipping Information Note 41/2025 - United Nations Sanctions \(Somalia\) Regulation 2019 \(Amendment\) Regulation 2025’](#)
 - [‘Merchant Shipping Information Note 40/2025 - United Nations Sanctions \(Libya\) Regulation 2019 \(Amendment\) Regulation 2025’](#)
 - [‘Merchant Shipping Information Note 39/2025 - Amendments to Part A of the Seafarers’ Training, Certification and Watchkeeping \(STCW\) Code’](#)
 - [‘Merchant Shipping Information Note 38/2025 - Escape Arrangements from the Lower Part of Machinery Spaces \(SOLAS regulations II-2/13.4.1 and 13.4.2\)’](#)
 - [‘Merchant Shipping Information Note 37/2025 - Coming into Force of Hong Kong Legislation Implementing Amendments to Requirements of MARPOL Annex VI’](#)
 - And one more available [here](#).
- Cyprus** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Circular 20/2025 - Entry into force of amendments to IMO International Conventions and Instruments: January to July 2026’](#)
 - [‘Circular 21/2025 - New package of national legislative measures concerning the sanctions framework’](#).

New from Witherbys

Published May 2025	Due August 2025	Due September 2025
INTERTANKO Guide to the Vetting Process - 15th Edition, 2025	Passage Planning Guide: Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait (2026-27 Edition)	Ship to Ship Transfer Guide for Petroleum, Chemicals and Liquefied Gases Second Edition
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Navigation and Security News

- [‘JMIC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East’ \(UKMTO\)](#)
- [‘Dryad Global: Trojan Cargo as an emerging security threat’ \(SAFETY4SEA\)](#)
- [‘At Least 76 Dead, Dozens Missing in Migrant Vessel Capsizing off Yemen’ \(The Maritime Executive\)](#)
- [‘Maersk Containership and SFL Car Carrier Collide in Danish Straits’ \(The Maritime Executive\)](#)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- DNV** – has published an update entitled [‘PSC CIC 2025 on Ballast Water Management – Questionnaire now published’](#).
- American Bureau of Shipping** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Tokyo and Paris MoU Joint CIC for 2025 on Ballast Water Management’](#)
 - [‘Guide for Building and Classing Floating Offshore Wind Turbines’](#)
 - [‘Requirements for the Certification of Offshore Mooring Chain’](#).
- Bureau Veritas** – has published an update entitled [‘NR526 - Rules for the Certification of Lifting Appliances Onboard Ships and Offshore Units’](#).
- Korean Register** – has released five updates:
 - [‘Notice for Establishment to the KR Technical Rules\(Guidance for Photovoltaic Systems Onboard Ships\)’](#)
 - [‘Fire Safety of RO-RO Passenger Ships in Service’](#)
 - [‘Notice for Amendments to KR Classification Technical Rules \(Pt 9 Ch 2 of Rules/Ch 16 of Guidance for LFFS\)’](#)
 - [‘Notice for Amendments to KR Classification Technical Rules \(Rules & Guidance for Classification of Ships Using Low-flashpoint Fuels\)’](#)
 - [‘List of National Operational Contact Points for SOPEP/SMPEP \(Latest Update: 31 July 2025\)’](#).
- Lloyd’s Register** – has released three updates:
 - [‘19/2025: Electronic inclinometers for new bulk carriers and container ships’](#)
 - [‘18/2025: New IMO Requirements for reporting loss of containers at sea’](#)
 - [‘17/2025: Amendment of IMO Guidelines for development of IHMs \(Res. MEPC.405\(83\)’](#).
- ClassNK** – has published an update entitled [‘TEC-1358 STS Operations Plan for Panamanian-flagged Ships’](#).

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- The American Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Good Catch Update: Engine Room Flooding Averted!’](#)
 - [‘Joint Paris and Tokyo Memoranda of Understanding Concentrated Inspection Campaign Ballast Water Management’](#).
- SKULD** – has published an update entitled [‘Updated threats to shipping in the Red Sea’](#).
- Britannia P&I Club** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Meeting the Requirements of the IMSBC Code’](#)
 - [‘PSC Concentrated Inspection Campaign on Ballast Water Runs 1 September - 30 November 2025’](#)
 - [‘Malaysian Authorities Announce Increased Vigilance in their Waters Aimed at “Unauthorised Activities”](#).
- Japan P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘BIMCO War Risks Clause 2025’](#)
 - [‘Turkey Enhanced Marine Pollution Regulations and Substantial Fines’](#).
- NorthStandard** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Djibouti National Carbon Contribution Scheme’](#)
 - [‘Management of distraction causing devices onboard ships’](#).
- Shipowners’ Club** – has published an update entitled [‘Jamming and Spoofing - Responding to GNSS and AIS Interference’](#).
- UK P&I** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Ship’s Biofouling Compliance: Regional Standards and Global Alignment’](#)
 - [‘Managing Risks in Dual-Fuel Vessels: Lessons from Recent Claims and Operator Practice’](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- International Institute of Marine Surveying** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Valve failures is the lead cause of ammonia-related maritime accidents’](#)
 - [‘AMSA National Compliance Plan 2025-2026 published’](#).
- European Maritime Safety Agency** – has published an update entitled [‘Safety of ammonia as a fuel in shipping: new reports’](#).

Recent Accident Reports

- US** – On 27th July 2024, there was an incident in Chesapeake Bay when the yacht ‘Lovebug’ started listing and partially sank north of Shady Side, Maryland. There was one injured and a contained oil sheen. The investigation pointed to the partially open garage door and watertight door as the likely cause of the incident. Read the full report [here](#).

Recent IMO Circulars

- CCC 11/3/16 – 07/08/2025** – Amendments to the IGF Code and Development of Guidelines for Alternative Fuels and Related Technologies.
- VP.CC.A34.Italy – 07/08/2025** – Candidacy for Re-election to the Category "A" of the IMO Council.
- VP.CC.A34.Netherlands – 07/08/2025** – Aide-mémoire.
- Circular Letter No.5032 – 07/08/2025** – World Maritime Day.
- MEPC.1/Circ.921 – 06/08/2025** – Guidance on the Content of the Engine Emission Test Plan.
- LC 47/8 – 06/08/2025** – Technical Cooperation and Assistance.
- LC 47/5 – 05/08/2025** – Marine Geoengineering Including Ocean Fertilization.
- C 135/13 – 04/08/2025** – Items for Inclusion in the Agenda for the Next Session of the Council (C 136).
- C 135/1 – 04/08/2025** – Provisional Agenda.

List of Amendments Expected to Enter into Force This Year and in the Coming Years

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A Guide to What's Happening at the IMO

The IMO has released the programme of meetings for 2025. Please see the IMO’s [‘Meeting Summaries’](#) webpage for more information.

- 08-12 September – Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC)
- 14-17 October – Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)
- 27-31 October – Consultative Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Convention 1972) and Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996)
- 19-21 November – IMO Council
- 24 November-03 December – IMO Assembly
- 04 December – IMO Council

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