

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 46, 2025 – Friday 14th November

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Wetherbys sign licensing agreement with TSO to release official MCA and ILO eBooks on Witherby Connect

Wetherbys are pleased to announce that The Stationery Office (TSO) eBooks from the MCA and ILO, including the ‘Ship Captain’s Medical Guide, 24th Edition’ and the ‘Code of Safe Working Practices (COSWP) for Merchant Seafarers, 2025’, will launch on Witherby Connect.

Hosted on Witherby Connect, these official eBooks will be delivered through a secure, browser-based platform built to meet carriage inspection requirements. Used on more than 40,000 vessels worldwide, Witherby Connect enables crews to access continuously updated digital editions that support safety, compliance and efficient onboard management.

View Press Release

Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

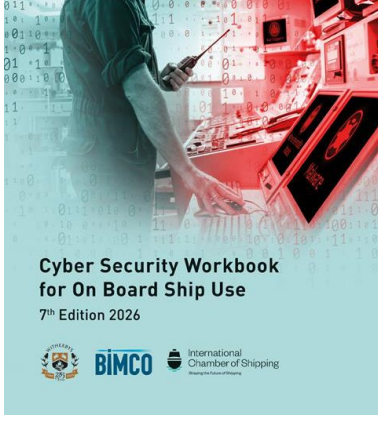
- Liberia** – has released an update entitled '[MA 33/2025 Basic Training with Updated Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities \(PSSRY\)](#)'.
- Hong Kong** – has released five updates:
 - '[MSIN No. 60/2025 - Guidance on In-water Cleaning of Ship's Biofouling](#)'
 - '[MSIN No. 59/2025 - Interim Guidance on the Carriage of Blends of Biofuels and MARPOL Annex I Cargoes by Conventional Bunker Ships](#)'
 - '[MSIN No. 58/2025 - Amendments to the 2023 Guidelines for the Development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials](#)'
 - '[MSIN No. 57/2025 - 2025 Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships](#)'
 - '[MSIN No. 56/2025 - Amendments to the 2022 Guidelines on Survey and Certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index \(EEDI\)](#)'
- and 5 others available [here](#).

New from Witherbys

Out November 2025

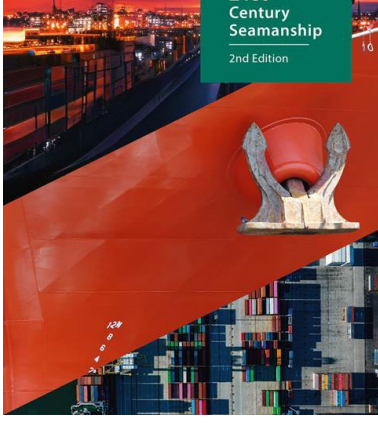
Due November 2025

Due December 2025



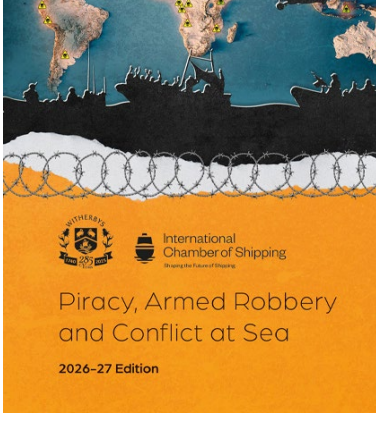
Cyber Security
Workbook for On Board
Ship Use - 7th Edition
2026

Order Here



21st Century
Seamanship - 2nd
Edition

Pre-order Here



Piracy, Armed Robbery
and Conflict at Sea -
2026-27 Edition

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- '[JMJC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East](#)' (*UKMTO*)
- '[Ferry collides with product tanker in Singapore](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[Seafarer Arrested on Charges of Smuggling Meth Into Australia](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)
- '[UK to establish maritime services ban on Russian LNG](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Panama Canal administrator highlights strategic developments to shape the future of logistics](#)' (*Panama Canal Authority*)
- '[France signs Jeddah Amendment to boost maritime security](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Maritime Security: Navigating an Era of Unprecedented Challenges](#)' (*Marine Insight*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- American Bureau of Shipping** – has released an update entitled '[ABS Regulatory News 12/2025 Reporting of the Loss of Containers](#)'.
- Bureau Veritas** – has released two updates:
 - '[Bureau Veritas signs declaration of cooperation to accelerate nuclear for maritime applications with New Energies Coalition](#)'
 - '[New SOLAS Requirements for Lifting Appliances – Entry into force on 1 January 2026](#)'.
- DNV** – has released an update entitled '[Site visit requirements under EU MRV and FuelEU Maritime](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released an update entitled '[Communication Guidance on VHF Communication Unavailability in Canadian Waters](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released two updates:
 - '[IMO Net-Zero Framework resources](#)'
 - '[23/2025: Machinery alert - Steam systems and steam hammer risks](#)'.
- ClassNK** – has released an update entitled '[TEC-1366 Fleet Risk Assessment \(FRA\) and Performance Accelerated Program \(PMAP\) for Panamanian vessels](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Gard** – has published an update entitled '[Premium policy for the 2026 policy year](#)'.
- Skuld** – has released three updates:
 - '[Somali piracy resurgence: A new era of risk in the Indian Ocean](#)'
 - '[Updated threats to shipping in the Red Sea](#)'
 - '[EU, UK and US sanctions updates](#)'.
- Britannia** – has published an update entitled '[Whale Protection Measures](#)'.
- Japan P&I** – has released two updates:
 - '[China China's Maritime Code Revised \(Effective 1 May 2026\)](#)'
 - '[China China Suspends Imposition of Special Port Dues on U.S.-Affiliated Vessels for One Year](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has published an update entitled '[Sewage discharge at sea](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- International Institute of Marine Surveying** – has published an update entitled '[Lithium-ion battery fires: What we know so far](#)'.
- European Maritime Safety Agency** – has published an update entitled '[Successful launch of Copernicus Sentinel-1D](#)'.
- World Shipping Council** – has published an update entitled '[World Shipping Council launches updated global Whale Chart to help protect whales](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- US** – The NTSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the fire that broke out on board the bulk carrier '*Cuyahoga*' in Ashtabula, Ohio on 15th March 2024, which resulted in the total loss of the vessel. The fire started while crewmembers were conducting hot work in and below cargo hold no. 2, and the investigation concluded that the epoxy coating on the forward bulkhead of the cargo hold likely ignited and led to the fire. There were no injuries or pollution.

Recent IMO Circulars

- C 135/4(d)/Add.1 – 12/11/2025** – Resource Management.
- SDC 12/6 – 12/11/2025** – Development of Engine Control Room Alert Management (ECRAM) Performance Standard.
- A 34/2/1 – 12/11/2025** – Rules of Procedures of the Assembly.
- A 34/17/Add.1 – 12/11/2025** – Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter; 1972 and the 1996 Protocol Thereto; Report on the Performance of Secretariat Functions and Other Duties.
- SDC 12/9 – 11/11/2025** – Development of a Safety Regulatory Framework to Support the Reduction of the GHG Emissions from Ships Using New Technologies and Alternative Fuels.
- C 135/10 – 11/11/2025** – Report of the Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Convention 1972 and the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to 1996 Protocol to the London Convention.
- FAL 50/18/1 – 11/11/2025** – Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2027.
- A 34/23/2/Corr.1 – 10/11/2025** – Election of Members of the Council, as Provided for in Articles 16 and 17 of the IMO Convention.
- SDC 12/8/3 – 10/11/2025** – Experience-Building Phase for the Reduction of Underwater Radiated Noise from Shipping.
- A 34/7 – 10/11/2025** – Report of the Council to the Assembly on the Work of the Organization since the Thirty-third Regular Session of the Assembly.

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 plus the preliminary programme for Q1 and Q2 2026. Please see the IMO's '[Meeting Summaries](#)' webpage for more information.

- 19-21 November – IMO Council
- 24 November-03 December – IMO Assembly
- 04 December – IMO Council
- 19-23 January – Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC)
- 09-13 February – Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR)
- 23-26 February – Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW)
- 09-13 March – Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE)
- 23-27 March – Facilitation Committee (FAL)
- 13-17 April – Legal Committee (LEG)
- 17 April-01 May – Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)
- 13-22 May – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)
- 08-12 June – Technical Cooperation Committee (TC)
- 22-26 June – Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation, Communication and Search and Rescue (NCSR)

