

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 50, 2025 – Friday 12th December

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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

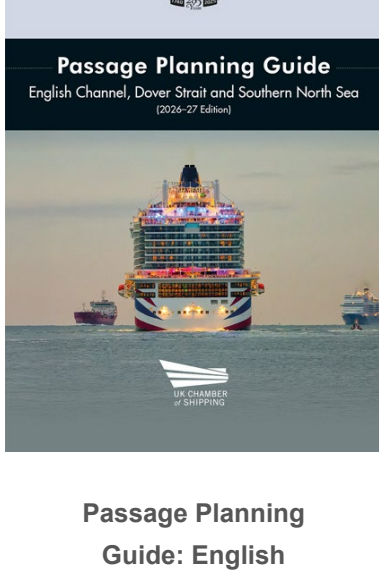
- Bahamas** – has released three updates:
 - '[IN010 – LRIT Testing ASPs](#)'
 - '[MN049 – Long Range Identification & Tracking \(LRIT\)](#)'
 - '[MN108 – Hatches, Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches](#)'.
- Denmark** – has released an update entitled '[Executive Order No. 886 of 25/06/2025 on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships](#)'.
- Cyprus** – has released an update entitled '[Circular 26-2025 Implementation of IMO Resolution MSC.560\(108\) – Amendments to Section A-VI/1-4 of the STCW Code \(Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities\)](#)'.
- Isle of Man** – has released an update entitled '[TAN 006-25 Amendments to the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue \(IAMSAR\) Manual Volume III](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released three updates:
 - '[Marine Advisory: 42/2025 - Advisory on Russia-Related Sanctions](#)'
 - '[Marine Advisory: 41/2025 - Recognized Training Center \(RTC\) Program](#)'
 - '[Marine Advisory: 40/2025 - Submission of Amended SEEMP Part II, Part III, and Mandatory Reporting of Revised Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Data \(Updates Marine Advisory 27/2025\)](#)'.
- Marshall Islands** – has released three updates:
 - '[MSA-13-25 New STCW Requirements for Seafarers](#)'
 - '[SSA-11-25 Geopolitical Conflict in Israel](#)'
 - '[SSA-10-25 Geopolitical Conflict in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov](#)'.
- Norway** – has released an update entitled '[Issuance of Certificate for Deck Officer Class 5 Pleasure Craft based on foreign competence](#)'.
- UK** – has released three updates:
 - '[MSN 1919 \(M\) - Code of Safety for Special Purpose Ships, 2008](#)'
 - '[MSN 1920 \(M\) Code of safety for special purpose ships, 1983](#)'
 - '[MSN 1874 \(M+F\) Amendment 11 Marine Equipment United Kingdom conformity assessment and type approval procedures for marine equipment](#)'.

New from Witherbys

Out December 2025

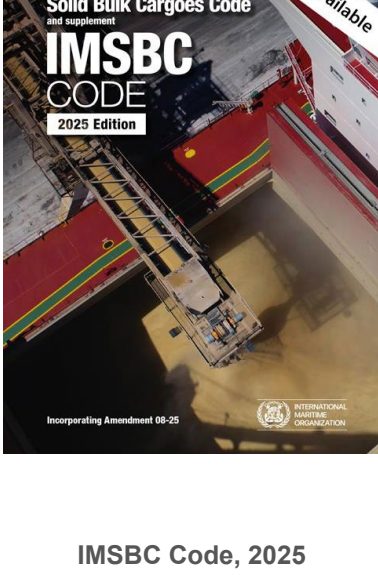
Out December 2025

Due January 2026



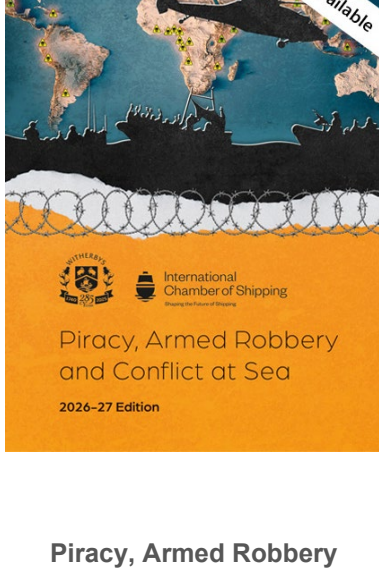
Passage Planning
Guide: English
Channel, Dover Strait
and Southern North
Sea - 2026-27 Edition

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IMSBC Code, 2025
Edition (KM260E)

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*)
- '[Containers fall overboard in English Channel](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[Containers suddenly returning to Suez could pose new pressures](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Coast Guard seizes 150,000 pounds of cocaine through Operation Pacific Viper, interdicts drug smuggling vessel loaded with over 20,000 pounds of cocaine](#)' (*USCG News*)
- '[Early Thick Arctic Ice Forces Russian LNG Carrier to Retreat](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- American Bureau of Shipping** – has released five updates:
 - '[Regulatory News 14/2025 Confined Space Entry](#)'
 - '[Regulatory News 15/2025 Fire Safety Requirements for Ro-Ro, Passenger, and Cargo Ships](#)'
 - '[Regulatory News 16/2025 Letter to Industry: Dewatering Valves Found in Closed Position](#)'
 - '[Offshore Spaceports](#)'
 - '[Alarm Management: Fundamentals and Industry Challenges](#)'.
- China Classification Society** – has released an update entitled '[Rules for Construction of Ocean going Steel Fishing Vessels 2025 RCN No.1](#)'.
- Indian Register** – has released an update entitled '[Technical Circular No:033/2025: New IMO Requirements coming into force in 2026](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released three updates:
 - '[Future IMO & ILO Legislation Autumn 2025](#)'
 - '[27/2025: Marine diesel engine amendments to NOx Technical Code](#)'
 - '[Assembly 34 Summary Report - topics discussed and decisions made](#)'.
- ClassNK** – has released an update entitled '[TEC-1370 Application of IMSBC Code 8th Amendment](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - '[Enclosed spaces: When saving a life turns fatal](#)'
 - '[The Grain Code is being revised – are you ready?](#)'.
- Japan P&I Club** – has published an update entitled '[China - Vessel Routing System for Central Bohai Bay Waters \(Effective 1 January 2026\)](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released three updates:
 - '[Run-Off of The Standard Club Asia](#)'
 - '[Strike & Delay Class Renewal 2026](#)'
 - '[VPS Bunker Alerts 2025](#)'.
- Shipowners' Club** – has published an update entitled '[Prohibition of the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid \(PFOS\) in fire-extinguishing media](#)'.
- Skuld** – has published an update entitled '[Focused Inspection Campaign on Maritime Security \(SIRE 2.0\)](#)'.
- The American Club** – has published an update entitled '[12-04-25 Alert- New Rules for Calling Russian Ports](#)'.
- UK P&I Club** – has published an update entitled '[Book it right and pack it tight - updated](#)'.
- West** – has published an update entitled '[Lithium-ion batteries & closing the fire safety gap](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has published an update entitled '[BIMCO to launch new Maritime Digitalisation Network](#)'.
- International Institute of Marine Surveying** – has released four updates:
 - '[Mediterranean MoU Annual Report 2024](#)'
 - '[Top 10 classification societies in 2025 revealed](#)'
 - '[Marine surveyor hit with US\\$70000 settlement after subcontractor error](#)'
 - '[The dry dock danger zone: Why a shipyard safety plan must be bulletproof](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- US** – The NTSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the allision of the container ship '*Dali*' with the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, Maryland on 26th March 2024. The ship was making its way out of Baltimore Harbour when it experienced a complete electrical power outage, leaving it without propulsion or steering. Despite the crew and pilot's efforts, the ship struck one of the bridge's spans, causing a large portion to collapse over it and into the water. Six workers present on the bridge at the time subsequently died. The investigation concluded that the likely cause for the accident was a signal wire whose label band had been improperly installed, meaning the ferrule could not be fully inserted into the terminal block and the connection remained loose, eventually resulting in a blackout.

Recent IMO Circulars

- SDC 12/INF.14 – 10/12/2025** – Experience-building Phase for the Reduction of Underwater Radiated Noise from Shipping.
- HTW 12/6/77 – 10/12/2025** – Comprehensive review of the 1978 STCW Convention and Code.
- NV.077 – 10/12/2025** – Notice of 2026 Assessment.
- III.3/Circ.14 – 10/12/2025** – Lessons Learned from Marine Casualties (from the outcome of III 11).
- SDC 12/INF.15 – 09/12/2025** – Development of a Safety Regulatory Framework to Support the Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships Using New Technologies and Alternative Fuels.
- PAL.4/Circ.38 – 09/12/2025** – Protocol of 2002 tot he Athens Convention Relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974.
- III.3/Circ.15 – 09/12/2025** – Casualty Analysis and Statistics.
- SDC 12/3/Rev.1 – 09/12/2025** – Revision of the Interim Explanatory Notes for the Assessment of Passenger Ship Systems' Capabilities after a Fire or Flooding Casualty (MSC.1/Circ.1369) and Related Circulars.
- MEPC 84/15 – 08/12/2025** – Any Other Business.
- PPR 13/5/6 – 08/12/2025** – Development of a Legally Binding Framework for the Control and Management of Ship's Biofouling to Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species.

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

- 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)
- 27 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)

