

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

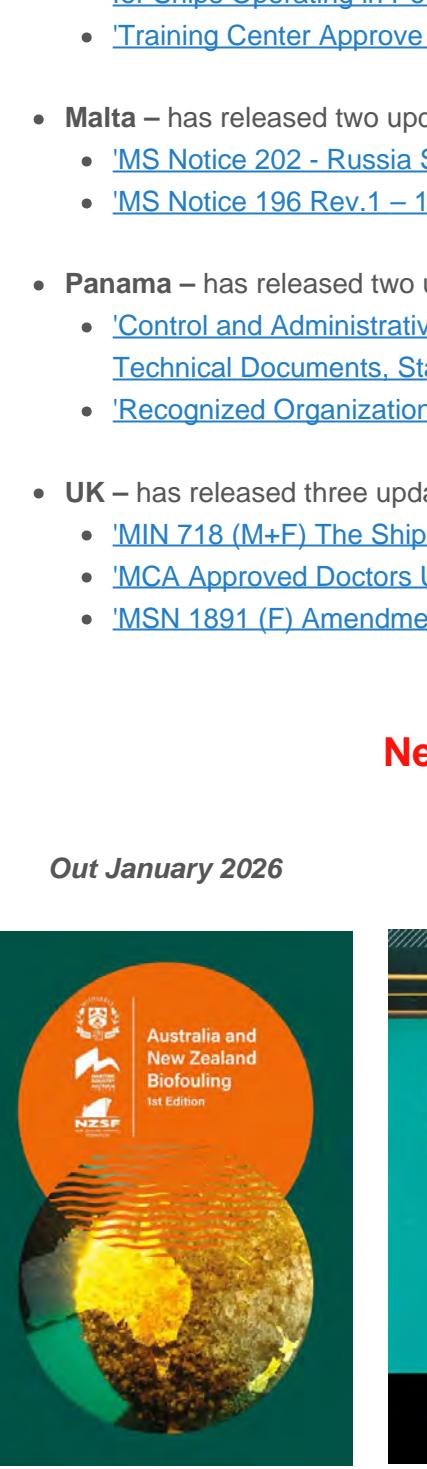
Week 5, 2026 – Friday 30th January

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New on Witherby Connect!

Free ECDIS S-100 Training Module



New Free Training Module

ECDIS S-100 – What you need to know!

18 minutes | [Free](#) | [Online](#)

Are you prepared for the S-100 transition?

Our free interactive update explains the timeline, challenges, and what you need to know now.

[Access now on Witherby Connect](#)

Witherby's has developed a new delivery option for its training and information modules. Integrated into Witherby Connect, the online maritime industry library already used by 40,000 ships, this new feature informs users of important regulatory changes and includes relevant compliance CBT and other interactive material.

The 'Interactive Update on S-100 Implementation' module covers the important aspects of ECDIS S-100 implementation and the expected developments over the next few years.

To learn more about the timelines and challenges, login to Witherby Connect to access the free ECDIS S-100 Interactive Training Module and remain compliant with ECDIS S-100 developments.

Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

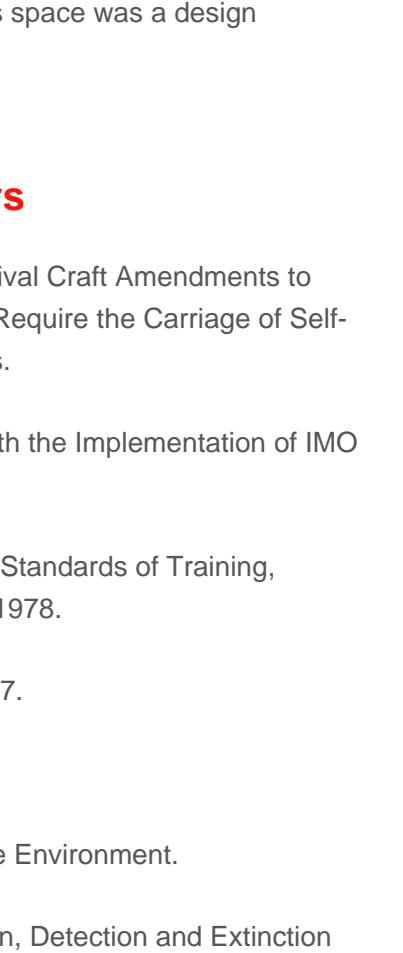
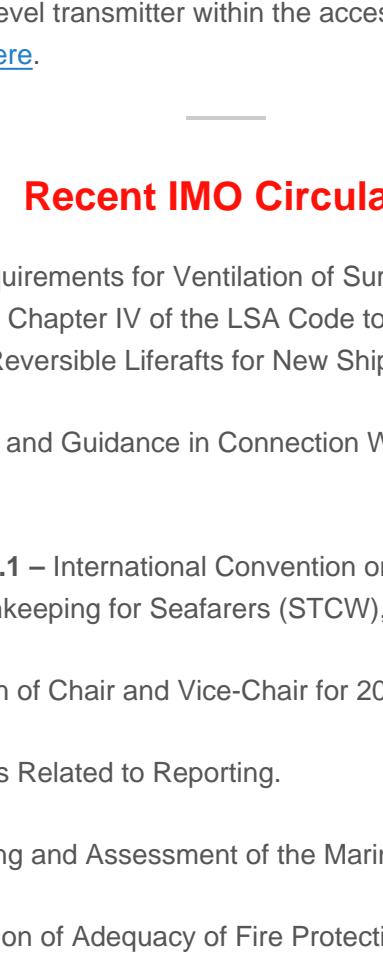
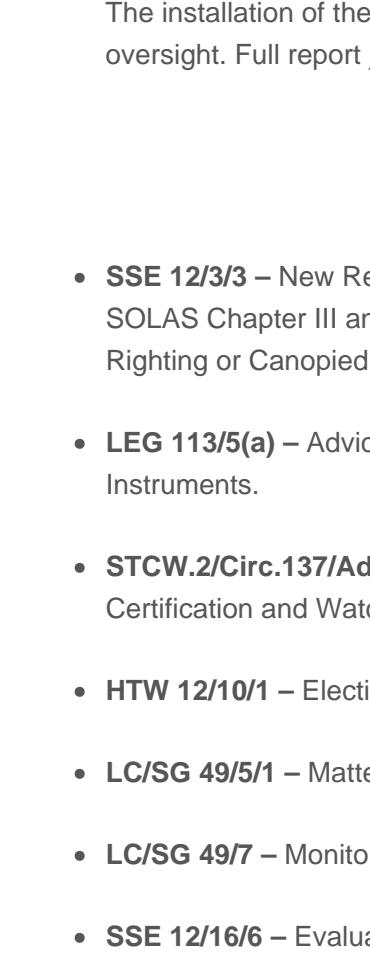
- Australia – has released an update to a Marine Order entitled '[Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Regulations 2003](#)'.
- Bahamas – has released an update entitled '[MN093 – Port State Control Inspections](#)'.
- Cyprus – has released an update entitled '[Mandatory Requirements for the Reporting of the Loss of Freight Containers or the Observation of Freight Containers Drifting at Sea](#)'.
- Liberia – has released two updates:
 - '[SAF-009 – Implementation, Survey and Certification under the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters \(Polar Code\)](#)'
 - '[Training Center Approve List](#)'.
- Malta – has released two updates:
 - '[MS Notice 202 – Russia Sanctions – Updated Oil Price Cap](#)'
 - '[MS Notice 196 Rev.1 – 18th Russia Sanctions Package](#)'.
- Panama – has released two updates:
 - '[Control and Administrative Fees imposed by the Republic of Panama to the Technical Documents, Statutory Certificates issued, endorsements and approvals](#)'
 - '[Recognized Organizations authorized by the Republic of Panama](#)'.
- UK – has released three updates:
 - '[MIN 718 \(M+F\) The Ship Captain's Medical Guide 24th Edition](#)'
 - '[MCA Approved Doctors UK Based](#)'
 - '[MSN 1891 \(F\) Amendment 2 ILO Work in Fishing Convention, List of Crew](#)'.

New from Witherby's

Out January 2026

Out January 2026

Due March 2026



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[Order Here](#)

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Navigation and Security News

- [JMIC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East](#) (UKMTO)
- [Pilot Transfer and Reportable Anomaly Reports Statistics for 2025](#) (UKMPA)
- [Piracy: A continuing threat to seafarers](#) (GARD)
- [Carriage of Philippines Nickel Ore Cargo Leads to Another Tragedy](#) (North Standard)
- [Shipping Targeted in Emerging Brazilian Smuggling Trend](#) (North Standard)
- [Valenciaport and Port of Santos Sign for Green Transatlantic Corridor](#) (Safety4Sea)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- Bureau Veritas – has released an update entitled '[Ship Design and Construction Sub-Committee 12th Session \(SDC 12\) Summary Report](#)'.
- China Classification Society – has released an update entitled '[Notice on Implementation of Revised Guidelines for Construction, Installation, Maintenance and Inspection/Survey of Means of Embarkation and Disembarkation \(MSC.1/Circ.1331/Rev.1\)](#)'.
- ClassNK – has released an update entitled '[Update on ClassNK RuleViewer Functionality](#)'.
- DNV – has released an update entitled '[IMO Sub-Committee on ship design and construction \(SDC 12\)](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register – has released five updates:
 - '[SDC 12 Summary Report](#)'
 - '[LR-GN-061 Guidance Notes for Onboard Hydrogen Generation](#)'
 - '[LR-GN-062 Guidance Notes for Risk Based Inspection of Hull Structures](#)'
 - '[IMO meetings and future legislation](#)'
 - '[Machinery Planned Maintenance and Condition Monitoring](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia – has released three updates:
 - '[Britannia Loss Prevention Webinar: Unlocking the Drivers of Seafarer Mental Wellbeing](#)'
 - '[IG Ship Condition Survey Report Form – Guidance Notes for Masters](#)'
 - '[IG Ship Condition Survey Report Form – Guidance Notes for Surveyors](#)'.

- Japan P&I Club – has released two updates:
 - '[ReCAAP ISC Annual Report 2025 – Situation of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia and Recommended Measures](#)'
 - '[Slow in the Fishing Season During the Peak Season 2026 – The Expected Navigable Water Area in the Traffic Lane During the Peak Season](#)'.

- North Standard – has released three updates:
 - '[China Correspondents' Guide to Maritime Related Risks](#)'
 - '[WCS 2025 Marine Fuel Quality Review](#)'
 - '[Safety in the 500m Zone – A Common Understanding is Key](#)'.

- Skuld – has released an update entitled '[Maintaining an Effective Bridge Watch While at Anchor](#)'.

- The American Club – has released two updates:
 - '[Good Catch Update: Unplugged and Unsafe – Slips, Trips and Falls](#)'
 - '[Russian Oil Price Cap: Unplugged and Unsafe – European Union \(EU\) and United Kingdom \(UK\)](#)'.

- UK P&I – has released an update entitled '[Marine Biofuel an Overview](#)'.

- West – has released an update entitled '[No 16 2025/26 – Class 1 & 2 Rule Changes for 2026](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- Bureau Veritas – has published news entitled '[Bureau Veritas Marine & Offshore President Alex Gregg-Smith Elected IACS Council Chair](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register – has published two press releases:
 - '[LR Shipbuilding's Multi-fuel-ready Ultramax Bulk Carrier Concept Receives 'LR Approval'](#)'
 - '[LR Enhances CAP Thickness Analysis to Improve Confidence in Tanker Structural Assessments](#)'.
- International Chamber of Shipping – has published a press release entitled '[ICS Publishes 2025-2026 Flag State Performance Table Highlighting Strong Compliance with Global Standards](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- Bahamas – On 21st January 2025, an electrical cadet on board the Bahamas-registered passenger vessel, *Grandeur of the Seas*, entered an access space to troubleshoot a malfunctioning level transmitter located in a bilge water settling tank. While attempting to exit the space, he lost his footing on the ladder and became trapped in a position that restricted his breathing. He was found unconscious. Subsequent atmospheric testing of the access space confirmed the presence of hydrogen sulphide (H_2S) gas. The space had not been classed as confined or dangerous and therefore was not identified as an enclosed space that needed additional entry precautions. The bilge settling tank contained untreated waste, creating conditions conducive to the formation of H_2S gas, which entered the space through a ventilation pipe. The installation of the level transmitter within the access space was a design oversight. Full report [here](#).

Recent IMO Circulars

- SSE 12/3/3 – New Requirements for Ventilation of Survival Craft Amendments to SOLAS Chapter III and Chapter IV of the LSA Code to Require the Carriage of Self-Righting or Canopied Reversible Liferafts for New Ships.

- LEG 113/5(a) – Advice and Guidance in Connection With the Implementation of IMO Instruments.

- STCW 2/13/7/Add.1 – International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) 1978.

- HTW 12/1/1 – Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2027.

- LC/SG 49/5/1 – Matters Related to Reporting.

- LC/SG 49/7 – Monitoring and Assessment of the Marine Environment.

- SSE 12/1/6 – Evaluation of Adequacy of Fire Protection, Detection and Extinguishment Arrangements in Vehicle, Special Category and Ro-Ro Spaces in Order to Reduce the Fire Risk of Ships Carrying New Energy Vehicles.

- SSE 12/1/5 – Development of Amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-2 and on the Cargo Deck Concerning Detection and Control of Fires in Cargo Holds and on the Cargo Deck of Containerships.

- LEG 113/4(a) – Fair Treatment of Seafarers.

- Reactors and Floating Power Units – Safety Regulation Aspects of Vessels With Nuclear Reactors.

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

[PDF Download](#)

A Guide to What's Coming at the IMO

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

- 28-19 February – Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR)

- 23-26 February – Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping

- 09-13 March – Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE)

- 23-27 March – Facilitation Committee (FAC)

- 27-17 April – Legal Committee (LEG)

- 13-22 May – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)

- 08-12 June – Technical Cooperation Committee (TCC)

- 22-26 June – Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation, Communication and Search and Rescue (NSCR)

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