

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 8, 2026 – Friday 20th February
View this email as a PDF [here](#)

Forward this Email

Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

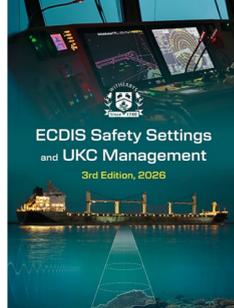
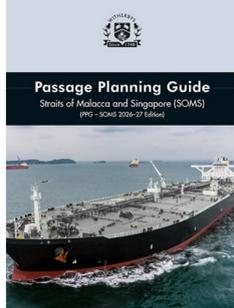
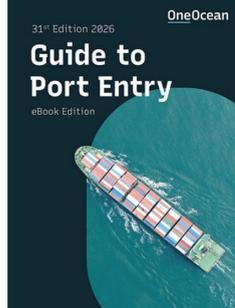
- Bahamas** – has released an update entitled '[TA002 – MARPOL VI Reg 27 – IMO List of ships expected to submit fuel report for 2025](#)'.
- Denmark** – has released two updates:
 - ['Order 210 on Section 8 health and safety courses for safety committees and safety groups on fishing vessels'](#)
 - ['Order 211 on safety work on fishing vessels \(Health and safety on ships\)'](#).
- Liberia** – has released an update entitled '[MSB - 02/2026 - Report of Piracy Activity in the Somali Basin](#)'.
- Malta** – has released an update entitled '[MS Notice 204 - Escalating security situation in the North Black Sea](#)'.
- Norway** – has released an update entitled '[How to apply for exemptions for vessels carrying 12 passengers or less operating from motherships in the territorial waters surrounding Svalbard \(2026\)](#)'.

New from Witherbys

Out February 2026

Out February 2026

Due March 2026



Guide to Port Entry -
31st Edition 2026

Passage Planning
Guide Straits of
Malacca and Singapore
(SOMS) - (PPG - SOMS
2026-27 Edition)

ECDIS Safety Settings
and UKC Management -
3rd Edition, 2026

Order Here

Order Here

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- ['JMJC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East' \(UKMTO\)](#)
- ['Landlocked Zimbabwe flags fraud to IMO after tanker's bogus registry link' \(Splash 24/7\)](#)
- ['Beijing Convention on the Judicial Sale of Ships enters into force' \(Safety4Sea\)](#)
- ['Study: A Fire Tornado Could be Used to Clean Up Oil Spills' \(The Maritime Executive\)](#)
- ['El Salvador's Navy Posts Record 6.6-Tonne Cocaine Bust' \(The Maritime Executive\)](#)
- ['Containership collides with ferries at Brazil's Santos Port' \(Baird Maritime\)](#)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- Bureau Veritas** – has released an update entitled '[NR600 - Hull structure and arrangement for the classification of cargo ships less than 65 m and non-cargo ships less than 90 m](#)'.
- Indian Register** – has released an update entitled '[No.003/2026: Liberian Maritime Authority Concentrated Inspection Campaign on Machinery and Electrical Failures](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released an update entitled '[Implication Analysis on Draft Amendments to the IGC Code \(Rev.1\)](#)'.
- IMO Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee 13th Session**
 - [American Bureau of Shipping](#)
 - [Bureau Veritas](#)
 - [DNV](#)
 - [Lloyd's Register](#).

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- The American Club** – has released an update entitled '[USCG TAC Plus - Health Spotlight Q4](#)'.
- Britannia** – has released two updates:
 - ['SOLAS Amendment: New Regulation Affecting Lifting Appliances'](#)
 - ['Commercial Shipping Regulations and Standards'](#).
- Gard** – has released an update entitled '[Shipping's role in protecting whales](#)'.
- International Group of P&I Clubs** – has released an update entitled '[IG Sustainability Report 2024](#)'.
- Japan P&I Club** – has released an update entitled '[Measures to Address the Revised Recommendations for Entering Enclosed Spaces Aboard Ships \(MSC.581\(110\)\)](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released five updates:
 - ['Heavy Rains in Brazil Increases Liquefaction Risk for Iron Ore Cargoes'](#)
 - ['America's Maritime Action Plan'](#)
 - ['Itaguai, Porto Sudeste Brazil – Iron Ore Fines Warning'](#)
 - ['Protests in Bangladesh impact port operations'](#)
 - ['US Action on Venezuela – Impact on Shipping'](#)
 - and 5 more [here](#).
- Skuld** – has released five updates:
 - ['Continued exclusion and buy-back solution in respect of certain war risks'](#)
 - ['Ratifications of MLC convention'](#)
 - ['INSIGHT: Bunker Convention 2001'](#)
 - ['INSIGHT: Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks \(Wreck Removal Convention\) 2007'](#)
 - ['INSIGHT: Venezuela Sanctions'](#).
- UK P&I** – has released two updates:
 - ['The Hidden Risks of Simultaneous Multi-Grade Discharge Operations'](#)
 - ['Circular 03/26: Update from the Board'](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has released two updates:
 - ['Results of 2025 Ballast Water Management Survey'](#)
 - ['An overview of BIMCO's Emissions Trading Scheme Clause for Memoranda of Agreement 2025'](#).
- ICS** – has published an update entitled '[Ensuring Safe and Efficient Marine Pilot Transfers by Helicopter](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- US** – The NTSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the flooding and partial sinking of the bulk carrier 'Cuyahoga' in Ashtabula, Ohio on 18th March 2025. The ship had been deemed a constructive total loss following a fire in 2024, and was in cold layup while awaiting sale when it started taking on water, and sank partially while remaining moored. No pollution or injuries were reported, and the ship was salvaged a few months later. The investigation found that water ingress in the engine room had come from the water cooling systems' duplex strainers and strainer drains, which had been uncovered and opened as part of the layup process.

Recent IMO Circulars

- III 12/16 – 18/02/2026** – Election of Chair and Vice-chair for 2027.
- MSC 111/5/4 – 18/02/2026** – Development of a Goal-based Instrument for Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS).
- MSC 111/111 – 18/02/2026** – Review of the Financial Architecture of the LRIT System.
- MSC 111/19/2 – 18/02/2026** – Work Programme.
- MSC 111/7 – 18/02/2026** – Measures to Enhance Maritime Security.
- MEC 111/8 – 18/02/2026** – Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships.
- LEG 113/3/1 – 18/02/2026** – Facilitation of the Entry into Force and Harmonized Interpretation of the 2010 HNS Protocol.
- Circular Letter No.5103 – 18/02/2026** – World Maritime Day 2026-2027.
- Circular Letter No.5130 – 18/02/2026** – Communication from the Government of the Republic of Palau.
- LEG 113/15 – 18/02/2026** – Measures to Address Maritime Security Threats.

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

PDF Download

A Guide to What's Happening at the IMO

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

- 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)
- 06-10 July – IMO Council
- 20-24 July – Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III)
- 14-18 September – Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC)
- 05-09 October – Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties and London Convention 1972) and Meeting of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996)
- 02-06 November – IMO Council
- 16-20 November – Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)
- 07-11 December – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)



WITHERBY
CONNECT

New Free eLearning Module

ECDIS 5-100 – What you need to know!

Learn what you need to know about the 5-100 transition in just 18 minutes.

Access now on Witherby Connect



WITHERBYS

Witherby Publishing Group
Navigation House
3 Almondvale Business Park
Livingstone Way
EH54 6GA
United Kingdom

You are receiving this email because you signed up to receive our weekly SR&G update.

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)