

## Shipping Regulations and Guidance

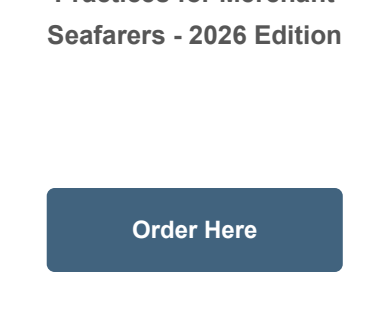
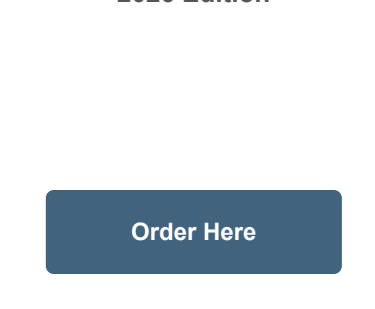
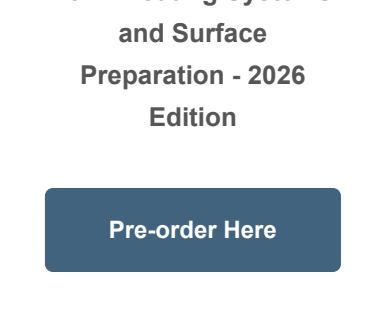
Week 13, 2026 – Friday 27th March  
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### Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Bahamas** – has released five updates:
  - '[MN0101 The Merchant Shipping \(Tonnage\) Regulations 2026](#)'
  - '[MN0100 The Merchant Shipping \(Load Lines\) Regulations 2026](#)'
  - '[MN094 Port State Control Detentions](#)'
  - '[MN027 Security Training, Instruction and Certification](#)'
  - '[MN004 Reporting Requirements](#)'.
- Norway** – has released an update entitled '[Counterfeit Batteries for use on Jotron GMDSS-products](#)'.
- UK** – has released nine updates:
  - '[MSN 1908 \(M+F\) Amendment 3 The merchant shipping \(control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments\) regulations 2022](#)'
  - '[MSN 1924 \(M+F\) EPIRB and PLB registration requirements](#)'
  - '[MGN 675 \(M+F\) Amendment 2 The merchant shipping \(control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments\) regulations 2022](#)'
  - '[MGN 665 \(M+F\) Amendment 1 Mandatory registration of EPIRBs and PLBs](#)'
  - '[MGN094 \(M\) Amendment 2 M.L.C. 2006 - Medical care](#)'
  - '[MGN 706 \(M\) M.L.C. 2006 implementation of the 2022 amendments](#)'
  - '[MGN 707 \(M\) M.L.C. 2006 - provision of social connectivity and internet access](#)'
  - '[MSN 1845 \(M\) Amendment 2 Food and catering, provision of food and fresh water](#)'
  - '[MIN 733 - Conflict in the Middle-East – MCA approach to survey and certification of UK vessels](#)'.

### New from Witherbys

<b>eBook Out Now</b>	<b>eBook Out Now</b>	<b>Print Due April 2026</b>
		
Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers - 2026 Edition	LNG Berth Details - 2026 Edition	Guidelines for Ballast Tank Coating Systems and Surface Preparation - 2026 Edition
<a href="#">Order Here</a>	<a href="#">Order Here</a>	<a href="#">Pre-order Here</a>

### Navigation and Security News

- '[JMJC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East](#)' (*UKMTO*)
- '[Ukraine Drone Strike Reportedly Damages Russian Arctic Patrol Icebreaker 'Purga' at Vyborg Shipyard](#)' (*gCaptain*)
- '[Iran Demands Crew, Cargo Details to Send Ships Through Hormuz](#)' (*gCaptain*)
- '[Massive amount of cocaine found in shipping container of bananas at UK dock](#)' (*Sky News*)
- '[New AI technology to track maritime emissions](#)' (*BBC News*)

### Recent Class Society Guidance

- Bureau Veritas** – has released two updates:
  - '[NR647 LPG-Fuelled Ships](#)'
  - '[Decarbonization – What Do We Do Now?](#)'.
- DNV** – has released an update entitled '[Post-fire ship hull structure and material assessment](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released two updates:
  - '[Engine Retrofit Report: Applying alternative fuels to existing ships](#)'
  - '[05/2026: IACS guidelines for Human Element in maritime sector](#)'.

### Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released ten updates:
  - '[Frighted Spongy Moth Complex \(FSMC\) – Formerly Asian Gypsy Moth Season 2026](#)'
  - '[A&N Seaways v Allianz Bulk Carriers](#)'
  - '[The Three Functions of a Bill of Lading: What Masters Need to Know](#)'
  - '[Navigation in Restricted Visibility](#)'
  - '[Vacuum Mooring Systems: Safer and More Efficient Mooring?](#)'
  - '[Non-Harbour Towing Operations](#)'
  - '[SQJAS Amendment: New Regulation Affecting Lifting Appliances](#)'
  - '[Enclosed Space Entry for Shore Workers](#)'
  - '[Risk Watch March 2026](#)'
  - '[Climate Change: Impact on Solid Bulk and Grain Cargoes](#)'.
- Gard** – has released three updates:
  - '[Heavy weather risks at anchor, waiting off and entering port](#)'
  - '[Temporary waiver of the U.S. Jones Act: What to know](#)'
  - '[The Middle East conflict: Frequently Asked Questions](#)'.
- Japan P&I** – has released three updates:
  - '[Conflicts in the Middle East – No. 7](#)'
  - '[Australia – Maritime Safety Awareness Bulletin on Pilot Transfer Arrangements](#)'
  - '[China – Update on Fishery Farms around Rizhao and Lanshan ports](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released an update entitled '[Iran Conflict – Impact on Marine Bunkers](#)'.
- The Swedish Club** – has released an update entitled '[Crew Welfare Notice – Persian Gulf Operations](#)'.
- West** – has released an update entitled '[China - Changes to calculation of pollution fines from 15 August 2026](#)'.
- UK P&I** – has released an update entitled '[Neurodiversity in Maritime: An Untapped Advantage](#)'.

### Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- IMO** – has published an update entitled '[IMO condemns attacks on shipping, calls for safe-passage framework in Strait of Hormuz](#)'.

### Recent Accident Reports

- UK** – The MAIB has released an [accident investigation report](#) into the fatal accident on board the roll-on/roll-off cargo ship 'Laureline'. The accident happened while the ship was alongside, loading and discharging trailers using tugs driven by shore workers under the direction of the ship's crew. A member of the crew passing behind a moving trailer was crushed between its rear and the ship's structure.

### Recent IMO Circulars

- Circular Letter No.5154 – 26/03/2026** – Technical Seminar on methane-based fuels, 12 May 2026.
- MSC 111/INF.16 – 26/03/2026** – Any Other Business.
- MSC 111/INF.13 – 26/03/2026** – Any Other Business.
- MSC 111/INF.12 – 26/03/2026** – Development of a Goal-Based Instrument for Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS).
- CCC 12/9 – 26/03/2026** – Unified Interpretation of Provisions of IMO Safety, Security, Environment, Facilitation, Liability and Compensation-Related Conventions.
- NCSR 13/3 – 26/03/2026** – Routing Measures and Ship Reporting Systems.
- MSC 111/13 – 26/03/2026** – Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping.
- MEPC 84/8/6 – 26/03/2026** – Follow-Up Work Emanating from the Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships.
- Circular Letter No.5141 – 26/03/2026** – Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI): Safe Horizons – Promoting Zero Tolerance for Violence and Harassment in the Maritime Sector.
- III 12/11 – 26/03/2026** – Non-Exhaustive List of Obligations Under Instruments Relevant to the IMO Instruments Implementation Code (III Code).


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

- 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 (London Convention 1972) and Meeting of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996)
- 02-06 November – IMO Council
- 23-27 November – Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)
- 14-18 December – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)





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