

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

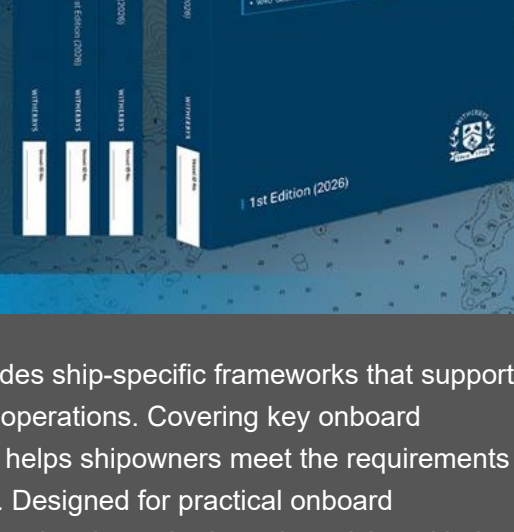
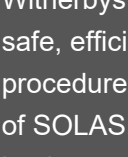
Week 23, 2026 – Friday 5th June
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Introducing Witherbys' Management Plans

Introducing

A comprehensive series of Management Plans, designed to support compliant, safe and efficient ship operations.



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Witherby's series of 20 Management Plans provides ship-specific frameworks that support safe, efficient and regulatory compliant maritime operations. Covering key onboard procedures, including Ship Sanitation, the series helps shipowners meet the requirements of SOLAS, MARPOL, ISM, ISPS, MLC and PSC. Designed for practical onboard implementation, the plans support consistent operational standards, reduce risk and help ensure ships remain inspection ready.

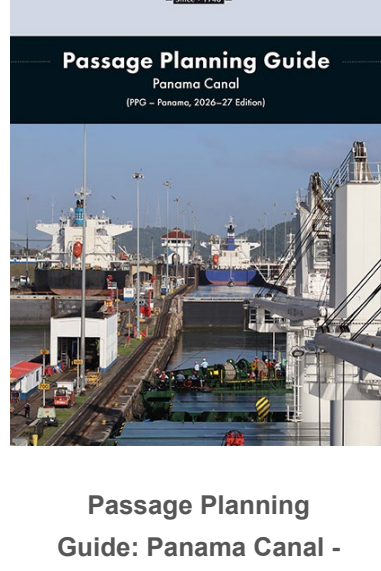
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Bahamas** – has released two updates:
 - '[IN030 – Digital version of the Seafarer Identification and Record Book](#)'
 - '[MN029 – Record of Employment, Bahamas Seaman's Record Book & Certificate of Discharge](#)'.
- Canada** – has released four updates:
 - '[Bulletin 09/2026 Safety measures concerning life-saving appliances](#)'
 - '[Bulletin 08/2026 Protecting killer whales in the waters of southern British Columbia, 2026](#)'
 - '[Bulletin 07/2026 2026 Fire Hazard Prevention Concentrated Inspection Campaign](#)'
 - '[Bulletin 06/2026 Coming into force of the Vessel Traffic Services Zones Regulations \(SOR/2025-275\)](#)'.
- Panama** – has released an update entitled '[Armed Security Personnel on board Panama flagged vessels transiting High Risk Areas](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released five updates:
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin: 14/2026 - Security incident in the Arabian Gulf](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin: 13/2026 - Suspected Floating Mine while Transiting Omani Territorial Waters](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin: 12/2026 - Security incidents in the Black Sea](#)'
 - '[SAF-010 - Approval of Ship Structural Access Manuals \(SSAM\)](#)'
 - '[Marine Advisory: 15/2026 - Maritime Mobile Satellite Service – Reception of MSI Coastal Warning Areas](#)'.
- UK** – has released three updates:
 - '[MIN 735 \(M\) CS-SL 3-W/S3 Ideas Connected Ltd Lifejacket Lights](#)'
 - '[MIN 732 \(M+F\) Amendment 3 guidance for shipowners, fishing vessel owners, seafarers and fishers affected by the conflict in the Middle East](#)'
 - '[UK Maritime Innovation Hub](#)'.
- US** – has released an update entitled '[Know Your Boat: Responding to an Engine High Temperature Alarm](#)'.

New from Witherbys

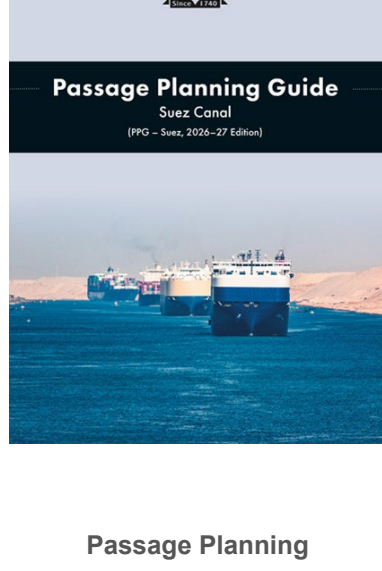
Out May 2026



Passage Planning Guide: Panama Canal - (PPG - Panama, 2026-27 Edition)

[Order Here](#)

Out May 2026



Passage Planning Guide: Suez Canal - (2026-27 Edition)

[Order Here](#)

Out May 2026



Passage Planning Guide for the Turkish Straits - 2026-27 Edition

[Order Here](#)

Navigation and Security News

- '[JMJC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East](#)' (*UKMTO*)
- '[U.S. administration proposes new tariffs for 60 countries](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Australian Police Find Cocaine Inside a Luxury Bus Aboard a Ro/Ro](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)
- '[Suspected mine spotted in Omani waters near Hormuz](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released an update entitled '[Norway - GHG Intensity Reduction Requirements for Offshore Petroleum Vessels](#)'.
- Bureau Veritas** – has released two updates:
 - '[NR615 - Buckling assessment of plated structures](#)'.
 - '[NR467 - Rules for the classification of steel ships](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released an update entitled '[Establishment of the "Guidelines for Offshore Substations"](#)'.
- Indian Register of Shipping** – has released an update entitled '[Technical Circular No. 011/2026: Liberian Maritime Authority - Concentrated Inspection Campaign \(CIC\) on MLC – Seafarer Employment Agreements and Wage Compliance](#)'.
- ClassNK** – has released two updates:
 - '[TEC-1377 LRIT conformance test for Panamanian flagged ship](#)'
 - '[ClassNK releases "Guidelines for Onboard CO2 Capture and Storage Systems \(Edition 2.1\)"](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Japan P&I Club** – has released three updates:
 - '[CINS Guidelines for Shipping Lithium-ion Cells and Batteries in Containers](#)'
 - '[Akashi Kaikyo Traffic Route and Its Vicinity in 2026 - Navigation Safety Measures during the Fishing Season](#)'
 - '[Ship Handling in Rough Seas - 2026 Typhoon and Hurricane Outlook](#)'.
- Skuld** – has released two updates:
 - '[Use of scrubbers in the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area \(Med ECA\)](#)'
 - '[Maritime security update: Gulf Region / Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea](#)'.
- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - '[Gard welcomes landmark judgment in M/T Heroic Idun case](#)'
 - '[04/2026 UK Expands Russia Sanctions Regime – Key Implications for Maritime, Energy and Trade](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released two updates:
 - '[Potential strikes in June at Portugal ports](#)'
 - '[CINS Guidelines for the Carriage of Cocoa Butter in Containers](#)'.
- Britannia** – has released an update entitled '[UK Emissions Trading Scheme \(ETS\) for Shipping](#)'.
- The Shipowners' Club** – has released two updates:
 - '[Revised Maritime Code of the People's Republic of China](#)'
 - '[Enclosed Space Entry Resources](#)'.
- The Kingdom Club** – has released an update entitled '[Circular No. 13/26 - United Kingdom \(UK\) Expands Russia Sanctions Regime - Key Implications for Maritime, Energy and Trade](#)'.
- West** – has released two updates:
 - '[EU Expands Iran Sanctions Framework to Target Threats to Freedom of Navigation](#)'
 - '[The "CATALAN SEA" – Court of Appeal Clarifies the Sanctions Risk Threshold for Shipowners](#)'.
- UK P&I** – has released four updates:
 - '[Cuba Sanctions: What Shipping Needs to Know](#)'
 - '[CINS guidelines for the safe carriage of lithium-ion cells and batteries in containers](#)'
 - '[Crew Health Advice: How to Quit Smoking](#)'
 - '[From Machinery to Liability: Navigating the Complexities of the Modern Engine Room](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- ICS** – has released two updates:
 - '[ICS in Action – May 2026](#)'
 - '[The rise of shipping's multi-technology era](#)'.
- IMO** – has released an update entitled '[IMO treaty on hazardous and noxious cargo to enter into force in 2027](#)'.
- International Institute of Marine Surveying** – has released three updates:
 - '[Turning embarkation and disembarkation regulations into safe practice](#)'
 - '[Guidance for the safe carriage of cocoa butter in containers](#)'
 - '[Black Sea MoU releases results of 2025 CIC on Ballast Water Management](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- Bahamas** – The BMA has released an [investigation report](#) into the collision between the ro-ro cargo vessel '*Commodore Goodwill*' and the fishing vessel '*L'Ecume II*' off the coast of the Jersey on 8th December 2022, with the loss of three lives. In a close quarters situation, both vessels made small alterations of course, but these were insufficient to avoid a collision. The investigation found several failings on the part of both vessels, including inadequate lookout and application of the COLREGs as well as potentially fatigued crew.

Recent IMO Circulars

- MEPC 85/INF.2 – 03/06/2026** – Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships.
- LEG 113/19/Add.1 – 03/06/2026** – Report of the Legal Committee on its 113th Session.
- C 137/12 – 03/06/2026** – Report of the Facilitation Committee.
- SSE 12/21 – 03/06/2026** – Report to the Maritime Safety Committee.
- C 137/15(b)/2 – 03/06/2026** – External Relations.
- BWM.2/Circ.66/Rev.6 – 03/06/2026** – International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, Unified Interpretations to the BWM Convention and the BWMS Code.
- C 137/4(a)/2 – 03/06/2026** – Strategy and Planning.
- C 137/5(a)/1 – 03/06/2026** – Resource Management.
- C 137/10 – 03/06/2026** – Report of the Marine Environment Protection Committee.
- MSC-MEPC.1/Circ.5/Rev.7 – 02/06/2026** – Organization and Method of Work of the Maritime Safety Committee and the Marine Environment Protection Committee and their Subsidiary Bodies.

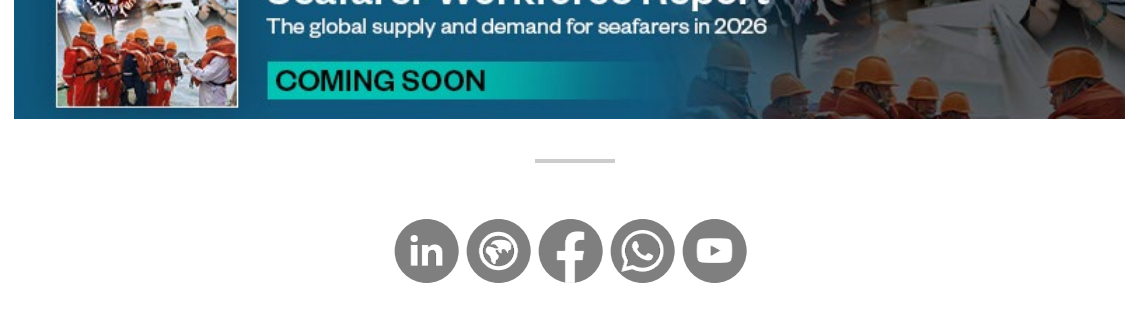
List of Amendments Expected to Enter into Force This Year and in the Coming Years

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A Guide to What's Happening at the IMO

The IMO has released the programme for 2026-2027. Please see the IMO's [Meeting Summaries](#) webpage for more information.

- 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)
- 25-29 January – Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR)
- 08-12 February – Legal Committee (LG)
- 22-26 February – Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW)
- 15-19 March – Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE)
- 12-16 April – Facilitation Committee (FAL)
- 26-30 April – Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR)
- 24-28 May – Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC)



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