

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 25, 2026 – Friday 19th June
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Australia** – has released five updates:
 - ['Marine Order 15 \(Construction — fire protection, fire detection and fire extinction\) 2014'](#)
 - ['Marine Order 41 \(Carriage of dangerous goods\) 2017'](#)
 - ['Marine Order 43 \(Cargo and cargo handling — livestock\) 2018'](#)
 - ['Marine Order 49 \(High-speed craft\) 2015'](#)
 - ['Marine Order 70 \(Seafarer certification\) 2014'](#)
- Bahamas** – has released two updates:
 - ['MN001 – Marine Notices, Information Notices & Yacht Notices'](#)
 - ['MN080 – Inspection and Testing of Automatic Sprinkler Systems'](#)
- Liberia** – has released two updates:
 - ['ADM-008 - Integrated IMO Identification Number Scheme \(ship and company\)'](#)
 - ['Marine Security Advisory: 02/2026 - U.S. Coast Guard Revises Security Advisory Regarding Ports Not Maintaining Effective Anti-Terrorism Measures \(Supersedes Marine Security Advisory 01/2025\)'](#)
- UK** – has released three updates:
 - ['MGN 475 \(M\) Amendment 2 MLC, 2006 - recruitment and placement'](#)
 - ['MGN 706 \(M\) Amendment 1 MLC, 2006: implementation of the 2022 amendments'](#)
 - ['MIN 734 \(M+F\) Amendment 1 welfare support for seafarers and fishers'](#)
- US** – has released an update entitled ['Safety Alert 10-26 Commercial Dredge Fishing Safety Risks: Heavy Gear, Cold-Water Operations, and Limited Margin for Error'](#).

New from Witherbys

Out May 2026	Out May 2026	Due July 2026
		
Ballast Water Record Book - 7th Edition (2026)	Passage Planning Guide: Suez Canal - (2026-27 Edition)	Shipping and the Environment: A Guide to Environmental Compliance - Sixth Edition
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Navigation and Security News

- ['JMIC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East' \(UKMTO\)](#)
- ['Hormuz reopens under US-Iran deal amid uncertainty over future transit fees' \(Splash 24/7\)](#)
- ['Australian Authorities Bust Big Meth Shipment in Cargo of Charcoal' \(The Maritime Executive\)](#)
- ['Two separate maritime security incidents reported near Yemen and Oman' \(Safety4Sea\)](#)
- ['Turkish Straits transit fee rises to \\$6.70 from July 1' \(Türkiye Today\)](#)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released five updates:
 - ['Regulatory News 04/2026 Letter to Industry - Potential Bypass \(BWMS\)'](#)
 - ['Regulatory News 03/2026 Confined Space Entry'](#)
 - ['EU ETS: Inclusion of Maritime Emissions'](#)
 - ['Amendments to SOLAS Pilot Transfer Arrangements'](#)
 - ['Hybrid and All-Electric Power Systems for Marine and Offshore Applications'](#)
- Bureau Veritas** – has released three updates:
 - ['NR675 - Ships equipped with SMART systems'](#)
 - ['NR480 - Approval of the manufacturing process of metallic materials'](#)
 - ['Bureau Veritas Advances Ultrasonic Weld Inspection for LNG-Fueled Vessels'](#)
- CCS** – has released three updates:
 - ['Rules for Classification of Sea-Going Steel Ships 2026 Amendment'](#)
 - ['Rules for Construction of Sea-going Ships Engaged on Domestic Voyages 2026 Amendment'](#)
 - ['Rules for Materials and Welding 2026 Amendment'](#)
- Lloyd's Register** – has released an update entitled ['First class approval granted for 100% hydrogen marine engine'](#).

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Gard** – has released an update entitled ['05/2026 Safe Carriage of Nickel Ore Cargoes in the south-western Pacific Ocean'](#).
- Japan P&I Club** – has released an update entitled ['China - Update on Fishery Farms around Rizhao, Lanshan and Lianyungang ports'](#).
- NorthStandard** – has released three updates:
 - ['Safe Carriage of Nickel Ore Cargoes in the south-western Pacific Ocean'](#)
 - ['Libya: Port Situation and Safe Navigation'](#)
 - ['China: Correspondents' advice on maritime-related risks'](#)
- The Swedish Club** – has released two updates:
 - ['IG Circular – Safe Carriage of Nickel Ore Cargoes in the south-western Pacific Ocean'](#)
 - ['MSS Case June: Case Study - Catastrophic engine fire caused serious injury'](#)
- West** – has released an update entitled ['Notice No.6 2026/27 - IG Circular – Safe Carriage of Nickel Ore Cargoes in the south-western Pacific Ocean'](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has released two updates:
 - ['What's happening in ship recycling?'](#)
 - ['Harmonising maritime digital interfaces: From alignment to action'](#)
- INTERCARGO** – has released an update entitled ['Safe Carriage of Nickel Ore Cargoes in the south-western Pacific Ocean'](#).
- UK Chamber of Shipping** – has released an update entitled ['UK Chamber of Shipping comment on Middle East agreement'](#).
- ICS** – has released an update entitled ['Statement by Thomas A. Kazakos on the US-Iran Peace Agreement'](#).
- IMO** – has released an update entitled ['IMO Secretary-General welcomes US-Iran agreement'](#).
- ILO** – has released an update entitled ['Cuba joins efforts to promote decent work at sea'](#).

Recent Accident Reports

- Canada** – The TSBC has released an [investigation report](#) into the implosion of the submersible 'Titan' 372 NM S-SE of Cape Race, Newfoundland and Labrador on 18th June 2023. The submersible, carrying 5 passengers, had been descending towards the wreck of the RMS 'Titanic' when the pressure hull suffered a critical failure and the 'Titan' imploded, resulting in a total loss of vessel and life. The investigation identified several contributing factors, the most significant being that the vessel's design and construction had not followed appropriate engineering practices, nor had the subsequent condition monitoring processes. This led to progressive deterioration of the 'Titan's structural integrity.
- Singapore** – The TSIB has released an [investigation report](#) into the fatality on board the bulk carrier 'Seacon Oslo' in the Mozambique Channel on 28th October 2025. The Chief Officer was found severely injured at the bottom of one of the ship's tanks, seemingly having fallen through an opening in the inspection walkway. Despite immediate first aid, he subsequently died of his injuries. The investigation identified several operational failings, mainly the lack of proper documentation for entering cargo holds and conducting work aloft, as well as a lack of appropriate PPE.
- US** – The NTSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the accident involving the emissions control barge 'STAX 1' in the port of Los Angeles, California on 2nd June 2024. The 'STAX 1' was working alongside the moored container ship 'Erving' when a container crane struck its capture and control arm, causing it to collapse and fall onto both ships and into the water. One person sustained minor injuries and approximately 10 gallons of hydraulic oil were released onto the deck of the 'Erving' and into the water. The investigation found that the crane operator was unaware of 'STAX 1's presence and did not operate the crane from the usual station, which would have afforded him better visibility.
- Germany** – The BSU has released an [investigation report](#) into two similar accidents that occurred in February and March 2025. On 25th February 2025, in Rostock, a cargo surveyor fell from the tween deck on board the cargo ship 'Finn III' into the cargo hold below and was seriously injured. On 23rd March 2025, in Eckernförde, a crew member fell down the stairs into the engine room on board the dredger 'Josephine'. The investigation identified several operational failures, but particularly highlighted the fact that, in both cases, no safeguards had been installed around openings made during maintenance or loading activities to alert personnel to the hazard and prevent them falling from height.

Recent IMO Circulars

- C 137/16 – 17/06/2026** – Protection of Vital Shipping Lanes.
- MEPC.1/Circ.925 – 17/06/2026** – 2024 Guidelines for the Development of a Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP), as Amended (Resolution (MEPC.395(82), as Amended by Resolutions MEPC.401(83) and MEPC.413(84)).
- III 12/2 – 17/06/2026** – Decisions of Other IMO Bodies.
- C 137/9/1 – 17/06/2026** – Report of the Maritime Safety Committee.
- C 137/5(b)/2 – 16/06/2026** – Resource Management.
- L 48/4 – 16/06/2026** – Consideration of the Report of the Scientific Groups.
- Circular Letter No.5226 – 16/06/2026** – Communication from the Government of the Republic of Cameroon.
- CCC 12/5 – 16/06/2026** – Amendments to the IMSBC Code and Supplements.
- III 12/2 – 15/06/2026** – Analysis of Consolidated Audit Summary Reports.
- Circular Letter No.5222 – 15/06/2026** – Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, Amendments to the International Code of the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code), Amendments to the International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or other Low-flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code), Amendments to the Technical provisions for means of access for inspections (resolution MSC.133(76), as amended).

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.

- 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)
- 01-04 September – Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships (ISWG-GHG)
- 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 – Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships (ISWG-GHG)
- 30 November-03 December – 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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