

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 26, 2026 – Friday 26th June
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

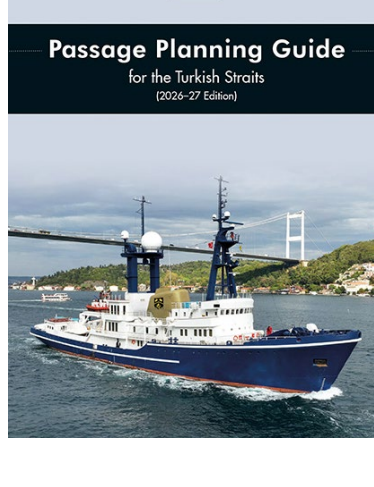
- Australia** – has released three updates:
 - ['Marine Order 94 \(Marine pollution prevention — packaged harmful substances\) 2014'](#)
 - ['Marine Order 27 \(Safety of navigation and radio equipment\) 2023'](#)
 - ['Marine Order 12 \(Construction — subdivision and stability, machinery and electrical installations\) 2023'](#)
- Cyprus** – has released an update entitled ['Circular 17/2026 Use of Electronic Log Books \(Deck, Engine Room and GMDSS Radio Log Books\) on Cyprus flagged vessels'](#).
- Isle of Man** – has released an update entitled ['Manx TAN 009-23 \(Rev.2\) Shipboard Lifting Appliances'](#).
- Liberia** – has released an update entitled ['Marine Advisory: 16/2026 - Reporting of Alleged Inadequacy of Port Reception Facilities'](#).
- Malta** – has released an update entitled ['Technical Notice SLS.30 Rev.2 - Fire Control Plan Graphical Symbols'](#).
- Panama** – has released an update entitled ['Crew Dispensations under the Article VIII of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended'](#).
- Singapore** – has released two updates:
 - ['Shipping Circular No.6 of 2026 - Implementation of SOLAS Chapter II-1 Regulation 3-13 for Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches on Board Singapore-registered Ships'](#)
 - ['Port Marine Circular No.6 of 2026 - Safety of Harbour and Pleasure Craft Operating in Port'](#)

New from Witherbys

Out May 2026

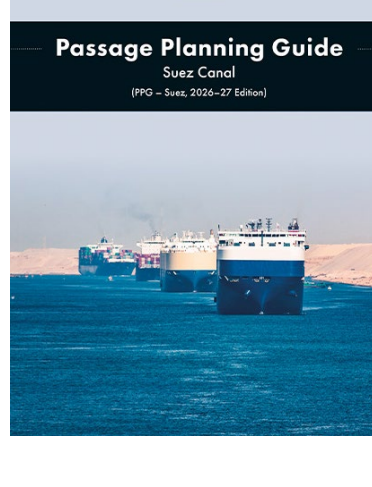
Out May 2026

Due July 2026



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

[Order Here](#)



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

[Order Here](#)



Seafarer Workforce Report - The global supply and demand for seafarers in 2026

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Navigation and Security News

- ['JMJC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East' \(UKMTO\)](#)
- ['More than 150 shipwrecks discovered beneath Gibraltar waters' \(Euronews\)](#)
- ['Hormuz moves from shutdown to managed recovery' \(Splash 24/7\)](#)
- ['Dark side of AI exposes maritime cyber training gap, warns SmartSea' \(Hellenic Shipping News\)](#)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released four updates:
 - ['Regulatory News 05/2026 Biofuels as Marine Fuels Under the IMO's and EU's Regulatory Framework'](#)
 - ['Regulatory News 06/2026 Permanent Means of Access \(PMA\) - Inspection & Maintenance'](#)
 - ['Single Point Moorings \(SPM Rules\)'](#)
 - ['Special Loading of Ore and Ore/Oil Carriers'](#)
- Bureau Veritas** – has released two updates:
 - ['NR206 - Wind propulsion systems'](#)
 - ['NR533 - Approval of service suppliers'](#)
- DNV** – has released an update entitled ['North-east Atlantic joins the expanding network of ECAs'](#).
- Lloyd's Register** – has released an update entitled ['11/2026: Crew annual inspection of Permanent Means of Access on oil tankers'](#).

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released an update entitled ['Philippine Shipping Update'](#).
- Gard** – has released four updates:
 - ['Gard Crew Claims Report 2026: Most seafarer injuries happen during routine work'](#)
 - ['The New China Maritime Code: key cargo issues for carriers'](#)
 - ['Heroic Idun: What we can learn from the landmark ITLOS ruling'](#)
 - ['Beyond Specification: Bunker Claims Insights, Early 2026'](#)
- Japan P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - ['Pre-Employment Medical Examination \(PEME\) for Filipino Crew - Updates on Japan P&I PEME Package'](#)
 - ['China - Joint Special Campaign on Ship Pollution Prevention and Control Launched by the Four MSAs around the Bohai Sea \(2026\)'](#)
- NorthStandard** – has released an update entitled ['Iran Sanctions update'](#).
- Skuld** – has released an update entitled ['Underperformance without good weather – Part II: Alternative methods'](#).
- The Swedish Club** – has released an update entitled ['The Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, OFAC Iran General License X, and the Strait of Hormuz: situation update'](#).
- The American Club** – has released an update entitled ['Circular No. 14/26 - OFAC Issues General License Authorizing Certain Transactions Involving Iranian-origin Oil and Petroleum Products'](#).
- UK P&I** – has released an update entitled ['Shipping to Venezuela: Navigating a Reopening Market'](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has released two updates:
 - ['BIMCO commends the IMO Strait of Hormuz Evacuation Plan'](#)
 - ['Managing geopolitical cyber security risks'](#)
- ICS** – has released five updates:
 - ['John Denholm Appointed Chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping'](#)
 - ['Seafarer statement 2026: Putting MLC at the heart of decision making'](#)
 - ['BIMCO and ICS report warns of potential future shortage of officers'](#)
 - ['Statement from the International Chamber of Shipping on the Oman Notice to Mariners and International Maritime Organization's Evacuation Plan'](#)
 - ['New ICS Maritime Barometer Report reveals geopolitical instability as defining force shaping global shipping'](#)
- IIMS** – has released an update entitled ['Overall non-compliance rate improves slightly on pilot transfer arrangements'](#).
- IMO** – has released an update entitled ['IMO announces evacuation plan in the Strait of Hormuz'](#).
- WSC** – has released an update entitled ['Misdeclared dangerous goods remain a persistent threat to shipping and supply chains'](#).

Recent Accident Reports

- Sweden** – The SHK has released an [investigation report](#) into the grounding of the bulk carrier *'Meshka'* off Landskrona, Öresund on 31st May 2025. The vessel was transiting the Sound southward when it grounded on a shoal area off Landskrona. No pollution was reported and the vessel suffered minor damage. The investigation found several deficiencies, including inadequate voyage planning, insufficient knowledge of ECDIS and poor implementation of navigational procedures and the SMS. In addition, the crew lacked experience and were transiting the Sound for the first time..
- Sweden** – The SHK has released an [investigation report](#) into the sinking of the towing vessel *'Ron Jeremy'* off the coast of Piteå, Sweden on 1st June 2025. The vessel had been towing a barge loaded with timber when it developed a list and sank. Three crew members escaped, but a fourth was later found deceased inside the engine room. The vessel was a total loss and there was minor diesel pollution. The investigation found several possible contributory factors to the accident, but concluded that the likely direct cause was minor damage to the hull which allowed water to enter the watertight compartments. This was not immediately noticed by the crew as the bilge alarm in the area was not working.
- Marshall Islands** – The RMIMA has released an [investigation report](#) into the collision between the bulk carrier *'Jabal Hafit'* and the fishing vessel *'Nirali'* in the Arabian Sea on 4th March 2025. The *'Jabal Hafit'* was transiting westward at night when it collided with the *'Nirali'*. The fishing vessel sank, with the loss of five of the eight crew members. The investigation found several failings on the part of both vessels, including inadequate lookout and non-compliance with the COLREGs.

Recent IMO Circulars

- MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.10 – 24/06/2026** – Unified Interpretations to MARPOL Annex VI.
- CCC 12/4 – 24/06/2026** – Development of a Safety Regulatory Framework to Support the Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships Using New Technologies and Alternative Fuels.
- CCC 12/12 – 24/06/2026** – Any Other Business.
- HTW 13/6/2 – 24/06/2026** – Comprehensive Review of the 1978 STCW Convention and Code.
- C 137/6 – 24/06/2026** – Enhancement of Multilingualism.
- Circular Letter No.5222 – 24/06/2026** – Communication from the State of Kuwait.
- CCC 12/5/3 – 23/06/2026** – Amendments to the IMSBC Code and Supplements.
- CCC 12/2 – 23/06/2026** – Decisions of Other IMO Bodies.
- C 137/9 – 23/06/2026** – Report of the Maritime Safety Committee.
- C 137/11/1 – 22/06/2026** – Report of the Legal Committee.

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 2026-2027. 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)



Designed to keep ships compliant and inspection ready

