

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 27, 2026 – Friday 3rd July
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

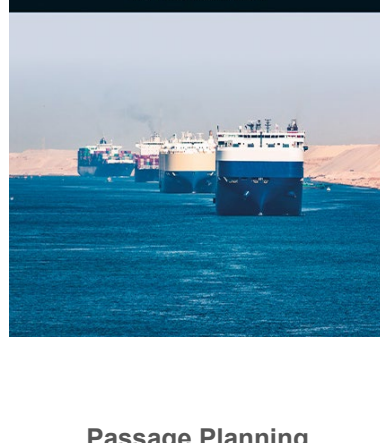
- Liberia** – has released an update entitled '[SAF-005 - Lifeboat And Survival Craft, Rescue Boat and Launching Appliances - Testing, Servicing and Maintenance](#)'.
- Marshall Islands** – has released an update entitled '[Marine Notice No. 2-014-1 Rev. Jun/2026 Ballast Water Management](#)'.
- Norway** – has released an update entitled '[Regulation amending the Regulations on the tonnage measurement of ships and mobile offshore units](#)'.
- Panama** – has released two updates:
 - '[Circular 269 - Maritime Labour Certificate \(MLC\) – Certification Process – Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended \(MLC\)](#)'
 - '[Circular 175 - Crew Dispensations under the Article VIII of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended](#)'.
- Singapore** – has released an update entitled '[Shipping Circular No.6 of 2026 \(Rev.1\) - Implementation of SOLAS Chapter II-1 Regulation 3-13 for Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches on Board Singapore-registered Ships](#)'.
- US** – has released an update entitled '[Safety Alert 11-26 Notice of Unmanned Maritime System Operations](#)'.

New from Witherbys

Out May 2026

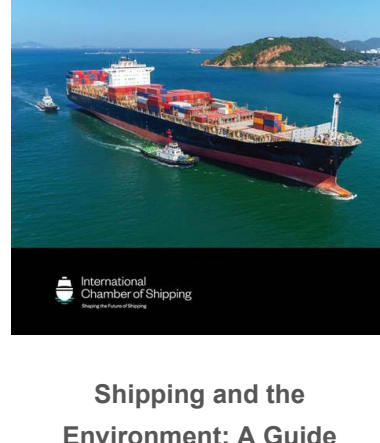
Out July 2026

Due July 2026



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

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Shipping and the Environment: A Guide to Environmental Compliance - Sixth Edition

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

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Navigation and Security News

- '[Pirates board and damage tanker south of Yemen](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[Iran rejects proposal for mine clearance mission in Strait of Hormuz](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Somalia Accedes to Fifteen International Maritime Conventions and Legal Instruments in a Historic Modernization of Its Maritime Legal Framework](#)' (*Shabelle Media*)
- '[One-hundred-and-ten bricks of cocaine intercepted at Port Botany, concealed amongst frozen berries](#)' (*Sky News Australia*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released five updates:
 - '[Survey After Construction - Part 7](#)'
 - '[Marine Vessel Rules \(MVR\)](#)'
 - '[Offshore Rules \(OR\)](#)'
 - '[International Naval Ships](#)'
 - '[Methanol and Ethanol Fueled Vessels](#)'
 - and several other updated Rules and Requirements available [here](#).
- DNV** – has released two updates:
 - '[New IMO requirements for pilot transfer arrangements](#)'
 - '[Now available: The July 2026 edition of the DNV class rules and standards for ship and offshore](#)'.
- CCS** – has released three updates:
 - '[Rules for Classification of Sea-Going Steel Ships 2026](#)'
 - '[Rules for Materials and Welding 2026](#)'
 - '[Rules for Construction of Sea-going Ships Engaged on Domestic Voyages 2026](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released an update entitled '[Notice for Establishment to the KR Technical Rules\(Rules and Guidance for Classification of Steel Ships, Pt. 7&Pt. 7 Ch.5.6\)](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released two updates:
 - '[LR-CO-001 Code for Lifting Appliances in a Marine Environment](#)'
 - '[Future IMO & ILO Legislation Summer 2026](#)'.
- IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications, and Search and Rescue, 13th Session (NCSR 13)**
 - [ABS](#)
 - [Bureau Veritas](#)
 - [DNV](#)
 - [Korean Register](#)
 - [Lloyd's Register](#)

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released an update entitled '[BSafe Incident Case Study 31: Fatal Crush Injury on Board a Ro-ro Vessel](#)'.
- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - '[General Average: Managing the Process and Protecting the Recovery](#)'
 - '[US courts signal shift in the interpretation of "package" under COGSA](#)'.
- Japan P&I Club** – has released an update entitled '[Safe Carriage of Nickel Ore Cargoes in the south-western Pacific Ocean](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released two updates:
 - '[Amazon drought – updates](#)'
 - '[Impact of earthquake in Venezuela](#)'.
- Skuld** – has released an update entitled '[Idle vessel reinstatement – fuel integrity, hull condition and antifouling performance](#)'.
- The Swedish Club** – has released an update entitled '[Strait of Hormuz – Status Update](#)'.
- The Shipowners' Club** – has released two updates:
 - '[Emissions Trading System \(ETS\) in shipping](#)'
 - '[Cuba Sanctions Update – Executive Order 14404](#)'.
- UK P&I** – has released an update entitled '[United States Eases Sanctions on Iranian Petroleum Trade – Key Implications](#)'.
- West** – has released an update entitled '[Iran sanctions – OFAC issue General License X](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has released an update entitled '[Basel OEWG outcome brings ship recycling clarity closer, but more work is needed](#)'.
- IIMS** – has released an update entitled '[Allianz Safety and Shipping Review 2026](#)'.
- INTERCARGO** – has released an update entitled '[Advice for Members regarding situation in Strait of Hormuz and Middle East](#)'.
- Marine Traffic** – has released an update entitled '[Port State Control Monthly Update - May 2026](#)'.
- Paris MoU** – has released an update entitled '[2025 Paris MoU Annual Report "Port State Control: Progress and performance, highlights of the Paris MoU 2025"](#)'.
- WSC** – has released an update entitled '[World Shipping Council releases Containers Lost at Sea Report: 2026 Update](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- New Zealand** – The TAIC has released an [investigation report](#) into the serious injury on board the bulk carrier '*Thor Nitirundi*' while drifting in the Cook Strait, New Zealand on 20th March 2025. The crew had improvised a lifting system to retrieve cargo lashing chains which had slipped to the side of the ship in rough weather when a component of the system failed, and a crew member was struck and sustained serious head injuries. The investigation found several factors contributed to the accident, including lack of risk assessment, lack of supervision and inadequate safety briefing. However, the immediate cause was the failing of a web sling that had not been inspected or listed in the Lifting Gear Register.
- Singapore** – The TSIBS has released an [investigation report](#) into the fatal injury on board the container vessel '*Ever Wish*' in the South China Sea on 23rd October 2025. A team of six crew members had attempted to recover a fouled mooring rope in rough weather with no success. As they were preparing to abandon the operation, a large wave struck the deck of the ship, injuring all and ultimately killing one. The investigation found that the mooring ropes had not been secured for navigating in rough weather as the forecasted conditions did not meet the company's SMS criteria for heavy weather. In addition, the proper documents had not been prepared and the Master had not been informed of the operation.

Recent IMO Circulars

- MEPC 85/3/1 – 02/07/2026** – Consideration and Adoption of Amendments to Mandatory Instruments.
- C 137/15(d)/Add.2 – 01/07/2026** – External Relations.
- EGDH 15/12 – 01/07/2026** – Any Other Business.
- PMP.7/Circ.94 – 30/06/2026** – Protocol of 1997 to Amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 as Modified by the Protocol of 1978 Relating Thereto.
- PSLS.1/Circ.114 – 30/06/2026** – Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as Amended.
- PPR.1/Circ.16 – 30/06/2026** – Hazard Evaluation of Substances Transported by Ships.
- C 137/16/2 – 30/06/2026** – Protection of Vital Shipping Lanes.
- COLREG.1/Circ.166 – 30/06/2026** – Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972.
- CLC.6/Circ.89 – 30/06/2026** – Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969.
- SUA.3/Circ.55 – 30/06/2026** – Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation.

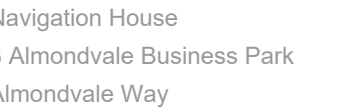
List of Amendments Expected to Enter into Force This Year and in the Coming Years

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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.

- 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)
- 07-11 June – Technical Cooperation Committee (TC)
- 16-25 June – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)



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