

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 28, 2026 – Friday 10th July

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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

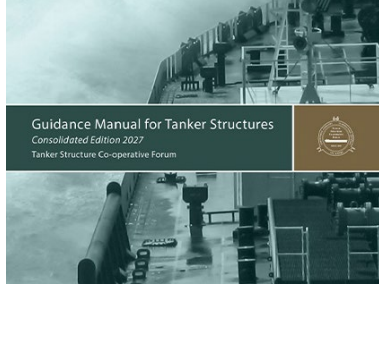
- Cyprus** – has released an update entitled '[Circular 18/2026 Cyprus Tonnage Tax System \(Law 44\(I\)/2010 as amended\): Flags which appear on the Grey List and Black List of the Paris MOU applicable for the Fiscal Year 2026](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Marine Security Bulletin: 16/2026 - Multiple attacks in the Strait of Hormuz’](#)
 - [‘Marine Security Bulletin: 15/2026 - Security incident in the Gulf of Finland’](#).
- Malta** – has released an update entitled '[Information Notice 61 – Prevention of Collisions between Merchant and Fishing Vessels in China's Coastal Waters](#)'.
- Norway** – has released an update entitled '[Adoption of Regulation amending the Regulations on employment agreement and pay statement, etc. – implementation of Directive \(EU\) 2019/1152 on transparent and predictable working conditions](#)'.

New from Witherbys

Out May 2026

Due August 2026

Due September 2026



Ballast Water Record Book - 7th Edition (2026)

Tank Cleaning Practice - A Handbook to: Planning, Recipe Formation, Best Practices and Techniques

Guidance Manual for Tanker Structures - Consolidated Edition 2027

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Navigation and Security News

- [‘IFC: AIS deception drives surge in maritime cyber security incidents’](#) (*Safety4Sea*)
- [‘Panama Canal tightens draught limits again’](#) (*Splash 24/7*)
- [‘Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd Expand Suez Canal Return With AE15 Service’](#) (*gCaptain*)
- [‘One Dead, 16 Rescued After Freighters Hits Vietnamese Fishing Boat’](#) (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released an update entitled '[Regulatory News 07/2026 - Use of Toxic Cargoes as Fuel Under the Amended IGC Code](#)'.
- Bureau Veritas** – has released an update entitled '[Advancing Safe Hydrogen Deployment at Sea Through Early Regulatory Collaboration](#)'.
- DNV** – has released an update entitled '[Boiler tube plugging – class requirements](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Revision of “Guideline for Shaft Generator Systems”](#)
 - [‘\(2025-IMO-16 \(Rev.2\)\) Implication Analysis on Draft Amendments to the IGC Code \(Rev.2\)’](#).
 - [‘Notice for Amendments to the KR Technical Rules\(Rule Pt.4\)’](#).

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Demurrage Claims and the Pumping Warranty’](#)
 - [‘Commercial Shipping Regulations and Standards’](#).
- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Rise in fishery claims in South Korea waters’](#)
 - [‘Emergency power system: Will it work in a blackout?’](#).
- Japan P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Philippines - Key Changes from POEA to the New DMW Standard Employment Contract \(Effective on 3 July 2026\)’](#)
 - [‘Measures to assure safe navigation during the peak season of drift-net fishing in the Seto Inland Sea \(Revised\)’](#).
- NorthStandard** – has released an update entitled '[Ballast Water Requirements in Brazil - updates](#)'.
- Skuld** – has released an update entitled '[Fire in the engine room due to auxiliary engine erosion plug failure](#)'.
- The Swedish Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘The Swedish Club warns crew competence must keep pace with Asia’s new generation of vessels’](#)
 - [‘Somali Piracy Returns: Understanding the Risk and How Your Cover Responds’](#).
- The American Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Loss Prevention: Seafarer Safety Ashore’](#)
 - [‘Circular No. 15/26 - OFAC Revokes General License Authorizing Certain Transactions Involving Iranian-origin Oil and Petroleum Products’](#).
- West** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Iran Update: OFAC Revokes Iran Sanctions Waiver Issued on 17 June 2026’](#)
 - [‘Cuba Sanctions Update - Wind-Down Period Ends As US Designations Accelerate’](#)
 - [‘The 2010 HNS Convention: Key Provisions and What Shipowners Need to Know’](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- UK CoS** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Making Safety Routine: New Onboard Familiarisation Guidance Released’](#)
 - [‘Environment Round-up | April - June 2026’](#)
 - [‘Greater Certainty, Stronger Collaboration: What the 2025-2026 ICS Maritime Barometer Report Means for UK Shipping’](#).
- BIMCO** – has released an update entitled '[BMP Maritime Security updated with new guidance on managing activism at sea](#)'.
- ICS** – has released an update entitled '[ICS in Action – June 2026](#)'.
- ICC** – has released an update entitled '[Maritime piracy incidents fall to lowest since 1992, but risk remains](#)'.
- IMO** – has released three updates:
 - [‘IMO announces regional team to deepen on-the-ground impact’](#)
 - [‘IMO Secretary-General calls for urgent release of 44 seafarers held by pirates’](#)
 - [‘IMO Secretary-General condemns new attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz’](#).
- INTERCARGO** – has released an update entitled '[Fewer Accidents, Evolving Risks: INTERCARGO Highlights Progress and Priorities in Bulk Carrier Safety](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- Australia** – The ATSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the steering failure on board the mixed cargo ship '*Matthew Flinders III*' north of Waterhouse Island, Tasmania on 23rd July 2025. The ship was underway when the autopilot system experienced a rudder angle feedback failure, causing loss of steering. Engine power was reduced and a manual backup heading control system was activated until the issue was identified and fixed. There was no pollution or injuries. The investigation concluded that a loose linkage arm was the main cause of the loss of steering, but also highlighted that inadequate training, SMS and drills impeded the crew's successful use of the backup control system.

Recent IMO Circulars

- NWRC.1/Circ.75 – 09/07/2026** – Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007.
- BUNKERS.1/Circ.104 – 09/07/2026** – International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001.
- CLC.6/Circ.90 – 09/07/2026** – Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969.
- IMO.7/Circ.24 – 09/07/2026** – Amendments Adopted in December 2021 to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization.
- MSC.1/Circ.1701 – 08/07/2026** – Interim Guidelines for the Safety of Ships Using Hydrogen as Fuel.
- CCC 12/7 – 08/07/2026** – Revision of the Revised Guidelines for the Preparation of the Cargo Securing Manual (MSC.1/Circ.1353/Rev.2) to Include a Harmonized Performance Standard for Lashing Software to Permit Lashing Software as a Supplement to the Cargo Securing Manual.
- Circular Letter No.5233 – 08/07/2026** – Twenty-second meeting of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group on Maritime Radiocommunication Matters (28 September to 1 October 2026).
- MEPC 85/3/8 – 07/07/2026** – Consideration and Adoption of Amendments to Mandatory Instruments (MARPOL Annex VI).
- Circular Letter No.5237 – 07/07/2026** – Communication from the Government of the Russian Federation.
- MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.17 – 07/07/2026** – Guidance on Assessments and Applications of Remote Surveys, ISM Code Audits and ISPS Code Verifications.

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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