

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 29, 2026 – Friday 17th July

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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

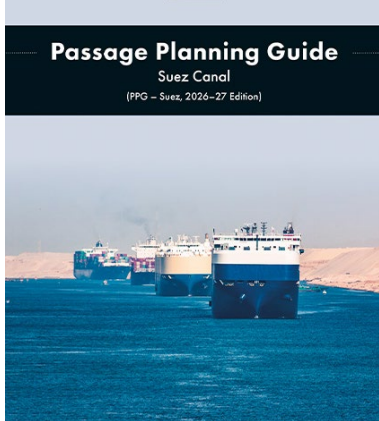
- Canada** – has released an update entitled '[SSB No. 11/2026 - Reporting requirements for the Canadian Carbon Intensity Indicator](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released four updates:
 - '[Marine Advisory: 17/2026 - Resolution of Seafarers' Complaints Onboard Liberian Flagged Vessels](#)'
 - '[Marine Advisory: 18/2023-Rev.1 - Interim Guidance on the Use of Biofuels for Fuel Oil Consumption Data and Operational Carbon Intensity Calculations](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin - 07/2026/Rev.3 - U.S Naval Blockade of all Iranian Ports and Coastal Areas](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin - 17/2026 - Multiple attacks in the Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman](#)'.
- Panama** – has released two updates:
 - '[Merchant Marine Circular MMC-193 - Optional and Voluntary System for Electronic Books or Electronic Record Books on board Panamanian Flagged Vessels](#)'
 - '[Merchant Marine Notice MMN-05/2026 - Vessel Transit Near Iranian Territorial Waters](#)'.
- UK** – has released an update entitled '[Second edition of the course criteria for the Maritime & Coastguard Agency's Small Ships Navigation and Radar \(SSNR\) Course](#)'.

New from Witherbys

Out May 2026

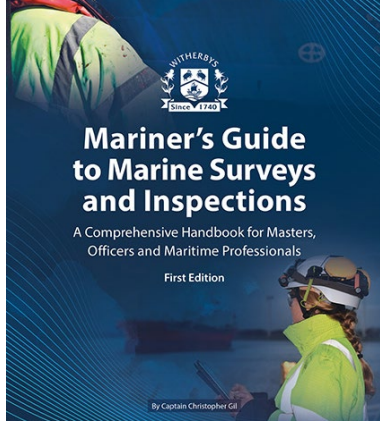
Due September 2026

Due September 2026



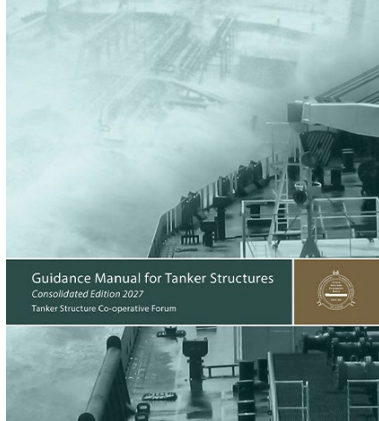
Passage Planning
Guide: Suez Canal -
(2026-27 Edition)

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Handbook for Masters,
Officers and Maritime
Professionals

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Tanker Structures -
Consolidated Edition
2027

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Navigation and Security News

- '[Tanker fires warning shots after close approach by boats near Yemen](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Singapore Strait crackdown sends Asian sea robberies to seven-year low](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[CSSF: Why containership fires keep getting worse](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[Panama Arrests 26 Port Workers Aiding International Cocaine Trafficking](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released two updates:
 - '[Regulatory News 08/2026 - Revised IMO Guidelines for Means of Embarkation and Disembarkation](#)'
 - '[Regulatory News 09/2026 - Manual Rescue Boat Davits - Potential PSC Compliance Risk for Existing Vessels](#)'.
- Bureau Veritas** – has released an update entitled '[NI640 Structural assessment of passenger ships and ro-ro ships](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released two updates:
 - '[FOBAS Fuel Insight: Fuel quality reports](#)'
 - '[Lloyd's Register targets ageing feeder fleet with retrofit and renewal push](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released an update entitled '[Revision of " Guidelines for Ships carrying Liquefied Hydrogen in Bulk"](#)'.
- ClassNK** – has released an update entitled '[Release of the "Notation Handbook \(2026-2 Edition\)"](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released five updates:
 - '[Safe Planning and Conduct of Overside Work](#)'
 - '[Personal Safety During Gauging and Sampling Operations](#)'
 - '[Falls from Hatch Cover Edges](#)'
 - '[Crew Injuries when Dealing with High-pressure Machinery](#)'
 - '[Lifeboat Safety: Reducing Risk During Drills and Maintenance](#)'.
- Gard** – has released an update entitled '[AIS-assisted collisions: The risks of over-reliance](#)'.
- Japan P&I Club** – has released three updates:
 - '[Fatal Fall of Chief Officer in a Cargo Hold Onboard a Bulk Carrier - Preventive Measure](#)'
 - '[CINS Guidelines for the Carriage of Cocoa Butter in Freight Containers](#)'
 - '[Philippines - DMW Releases Cover Page of the New Standard Employment Contract for Seafarers](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released two updates:
 - '[Amazon drought – updates](#)'
 - '[Understanding Roll Risk: A New Tool for Safer Container Ship Operations](#)'.
- The Swedish Club** – has released an update entitled '[Ceasefire or no ceasefire, the risk in the Strait remains high](#)'.
- The American Club** – has released an update entitled '[Good Catch Update: 9 Meter Diving Competition? - Slips, Trips and Falls](#)'.
- UK P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - '[LNG - Alternative Fuel Spill Response Considerations](#)'
 - '[Circular 12/26: Update on Club Merger and Acquisition Proposal](#)'.
- West** – has released an update entitled '[Plastic Pellets \(Nurdles\): India Moves Ahead with Targeted Controls](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- UK Chamber of Shipping** – has released an update entitled '[UK Chamber of Shipping Statement on the Latest Situation in the Strait of Hormuz](#)'.
- BIMCO** – has released two updates:
 - '[Navigating alternative fuels: new industry guidelines for methanol Safety Management Systems](#)'
 - '[BIMCO Biofuel Clause for Time Charter Parties 2026: What owners and charterers need to know](#)'.
- ICS** – has released an update entitled '[Statement from Thomas A. Kazakos, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Shipping, on the latest situation in the Strait of Hormuz](#)'.
- IMO** – has released two updates:
 - '[IMO condemns attacks on civilian merchant vessels in the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea](#)'
 - '[IMO Council reaffirms commitment to protecting vital shipping lanes](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- Australia** – The ATSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the steering failure on board the mixed cargo ship '*Matthew Finders 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

- LC 48/5/3 – 15/07/2026** – Marine Geoengineering Including Ocean Fertilization.
- LC 48/3 – 15/07/2026** – Progress on the Implementation of the LP/LC Strategic Plan.
- LC 48/15 – 15/07/2026** – Administrative Arrangements and Future Work.
- MEPC.1/Circ.924 – 15/07/2026** – Technical Guidance on Co-optimizing Energy Efficiency and Underwater Radiated Noise at the Design and Retrofit Stage.
- CCC 12/5/6 – 15/07/2026** – Amendments to the IMSBC Code and Supplements.
- CCC 12/12/2 – 15/07/2026** – Any Other Business.
- LC 48/8 – 14/07/2026** – Technical Cooperation and Assistance.
- Circular Letter No.5234 – 14/07/2026** – Amendment to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL), 1965.
- FAL 51/3 – 14/07/2026** – Consideration and Adoption of Proposed Amendments to the Convention.
- CCC 12/4/2 – 14/07/2026** – Development of a Safety Regulatory Framework to Support the Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships Using New Technologies and Alternative Fuels.

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.

- 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)

