

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

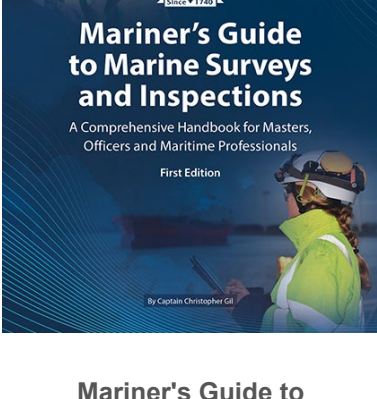
Week 30, 2026 – Friday 24th July
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Liberia** – has released five updates:
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin - 20/2026 -Vessel attacks in the Gulf of Oman](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin: 19/2026 - Multiple Security incidents in the Black Sea](#)'
 - '[MAN-004 - Manning Requirements For Mobile Offshore Units \(MOUs\)](#)'
 - '[Marine Advisory: 18/2026 - Nishi-F Co., Ltd Freefall Lifeboat Model: FF-65 \(Capacity: 25 persons\)](#)'
 - '[Marine Operations Note: 05/2026 - Carriage of Limited Amounts of Liquid Chemicals in Bulk for New and Existing Offshore Support Vessels \(OSV\)](#)'.
- Hong Kong** – has released an update entitled '[Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note 6/2026 - Guidance related to Rescue Operations at Sea](#)'.
- UK** – has released an update entitled '[MGN 711 \(M\) The Merchant Shipping \(Port State Control\) Regulations 2026](#)'.

New from Witherbys

<i>Out May 2026</i>	<i>Due September 2026</i>	<i>Due September 2026</i>
		
Passage Planning Guide: Suez Canal - (2026-27 Edition)	Mariner's Guide to Marine Surveys and Inspections - A Comprehensive Handbook for Masters, Officers and Maritime Professionals	Guidance Manual for Tanker Structures - Consolidated Edition 2027
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Navigation and Security News

- '[Argentina ratifies the Nairobi Convention on the Removal of Wrecks](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Amazon drought to impact shipping through early 2027, says Maersk](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Panama Canal Suspends Auction for Close-in Transits Slots](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)
- '[Danube water levels reach lowest in 30 years, hampering farming and shipping](#)' (*Reuters*)
- '[Houthis declare naval blockade on Saudi Arabia](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[Second tanker in three months hijacked off Yemen by suspected Somali pirates](#)' (*BBC News*)
- '[69% of maritime cyber risks stem from compromised identities, Marlink warns shipowners](#)' (*Digital Ship*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released two updates:
 - '[ABS Guidelines for the Application of the IGC Code Amendments](#)'
 - '[Regulatory News 10/2026 - Letter to Industry: Engine-room Fire Prevention: Protection of Oil Systems and Hot Surfaces](#)'.
- Indian Register of Shipping** – has released an update entitled '[Technical Circular No.013/2026: St. Kitts & Nevis Maritime Authority extended implementation of Concentrated Inspection Campaign \(CIC\) on MLC 2006](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released five updates:
 - '[What MEPC 84 means for shipping's Net Zero ambitions](#)'
 - '[War risk insurance under pressure as volatility reshapes shipping routes](#)'
 - '[Bridging the digital strategy gap](#)'
 - '[Extending the life of offshore assets](#)'
 - '[What the new biodiversity agreement means for shipping](#)'
 - and more [here](#).
- Korean Register** – has released two updates:
 - '[Notice for Amendments to the KR Technical Rules \(Guidance Relating to the Rules for the Classification of Steel Ships Pt 5\)](#)'
 - '[Guidance on Secondary Means of Support for Accommodation Ladders on Vessels Calling at the Port of Dampier](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - '[The risk of taking over a vessel without its history](#)'
 - '[Argentina formally ratifies the Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention](#)'.
- International Group of P&I Clubs** – has released an update entitled '[International Group Confirms Pooling Arrangements for Autonomous Vessels](#)'.
- London P&I** – has released an update entitled '[BIMCO Publishes New Biofuel Clause for Time Charter Parties 2026](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released an update entitled '[India Introduces New Rules for Sea Carriage of Plastic Pellets](#)'.
- The Swedish Club** – has released an update entitled '[Houthi forces in Yemen have announced an immediate maritime embargo against Saudi Arabia](#)'.
- The American Club** – has released an update entitled '[Loss Prevention: Animation - Do's and Don'ts for Collecting Perishable Evidence](#)'.
- UK P&I Club** – has released an update entitled '[Ask an Expert: Vehicle Cargoes](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- IIMS** – has released an update entitled '[Commercial fishing remains key safety issue says TSB annual report](#)'.
- World Shipping Council** – has released an update entitled '[WSC: ETS rightly reinvests more into maritime decarbonisation, but new port rules risk targeting competition rather than emissions](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- Germany** – The BSU has released an [investigation report](#) into the incident which occurred on board the tanker 'Seahake' while at anchor off Piraeus, Greece on 6th June 2023. The crew was conducting drills including launching the ship's rescue boat. When the boat was lowered after three crew members boarded it, it went down much faster than intended. This fall from a height of ten metres resulted in injuries for all three crew members. The investigation found that the likely cause of the accident was a defect in the rescue boat davit's winch, identified by an external expert.

Recent IMO Circulars

- ISWG-GHG 22/3/6– 23/07/2026** – Further Consideration of the Draft Guidelines Supporting the Uniform and Effective Implementation of IMO's Mid-term Measures.
- ISWG-GHG 22/2/7– 23/07/2026** – Consideration of Proposals on How to Address Concerns with the Draft Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI on the Net-zero Framework, in Line with the 2023 IMO GHG Strategy.
- ISWG-GHG 22/4/1– 23/07/2026** – Further Consideration of the Development of the IMO Life Cycle GHG Assessment (LCA) Framework.
- CCC 12/INF.10 – 22/07/2026** – Amendments to the IMSBC Code and Supplements.
- Circular Letter No.5249 – 22/07/2026** – Communication from the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- MSC.1/Circ.1588/Rev.4 – 22/07/2026** – Revised Emergency Response Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods (EMS Guide).
- Circular Letter No.5246 – 22/07/2026** – Communication from the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- CCC 12/INF.20 – 22/07/2026** – Any Other Business.
- CCC 12/INF.19 – 22/07/2026** – Development of a Safety Regulatory Framework to Support Dangerous Goods GHG Emissions from Ships Using New Technologies and Alternative Fuels.
- CCC 12/INF.18 – 22/07/2026** – Development Consideration of Reports of Incidents Involving Dangerous Goods or Marine Pollutants in Packaged Form on Board Ships or in Port Areas.

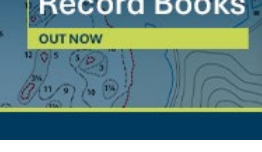
List of Amendments Expected to Enter into Force This Year and in the Coming Years

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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)



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