

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 39, 2026 – Friday 25th September

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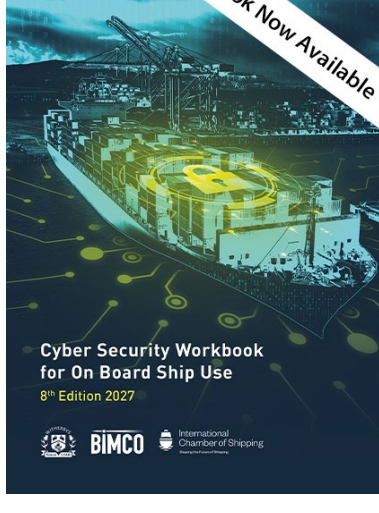
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Australia** – has released an update entitled '[Marine Order 54 \(Coastal pilotage Amendment Order 2026\)](#)'.
- The Bahamas** – has released three updates:
 - '[Safety Alert 26-03 – Allergies and anaphylaxis](#)'
 - '[Information Notice 2 – Bahamas Archipelagic Baselines](#)'
 - '[Information Notice 14 – Port State Control – Recurring Detainable Deficiencies](#)'.
- Malta** – has released an update entitled '[MS Notice 118 Rev.2- Guidelines on the Issue of a Maltese Seaman Record Book](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released five updates:
 - '[Marine Security Advisory: 02/2020 Rev.2 Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems](#)'
 - '[Marine Advisory: 22/2026 AMSA Marine Notice - Invalid Extensions of Statutory Certification](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin 35/2026 Cybersecurity Incident in the Atlantic Ocean](#)'
 - '[SAF-015 Rev. 09/26 Requirements for the Reporting of the Loss of Freight Containers or the Observation of Freight Containers Drifting at Sea](#)'
 - '[ISM-001 Rev. 09/26 International Safety Management Code \(ISM Code\) and SOLAS 74 Chapter IX, Management for the Safe Operation of Ships](#)'.
- Hong Kong** – has released four updates:
 - '[MSIN 9/2026 A fatal accident happened inside a cargo hold onboard a bulk carrier](#)'
 - '[MSIN 10/2026 Fatal cases of malaria happened on board Hong Kong-registered ships](#)'
 - '[MSIN 11/2026 United Nations Sanctions \(Haiti\) \(Amendment\) Regulation 2026](#)'
 - '[MSIN 12/2026 United Nations Sanctions \(Yemen\) Regulation 2019 \(Amendment\) Regulation 2026](#)'.
- US** – has released three updates:
 - '[Marine Safety Alert 13-26 Hidden Hazards Created by Systemic Failures in Gas Detection Practices](#)'
 - '[Marine Safety Alert 14-26 Vessel Gangway Inspection, Maintenance, and Operational Safety](#)'
 - '[Marine Safety Alert 15-26 Guidance and Safety Considerations on the Hazards of Retractable Pilot Houses on Towing Vessels](#)'.

New from Witherbys

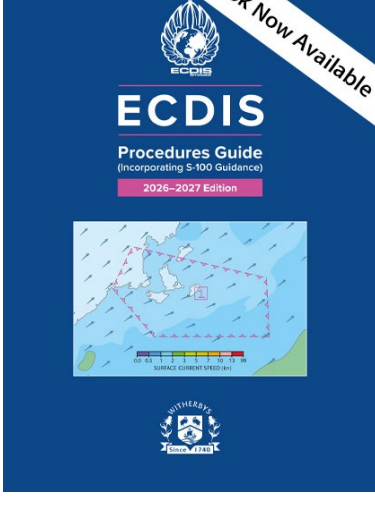
Out September 2026



Cyber Security
Workbook for On Board
Ship Use - 8th Edition
2027

Pre-order Here

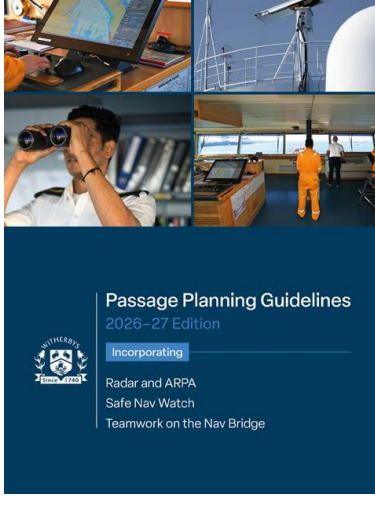
Out September 2026



ECDIS Procedures
Guide (incorporating S-
100 Guidance) -
2026-2027 Edition

Pre-order Here

Out November 2026



Passage Planning
Guidelines, 2026-27
Edition

Pre-Order Here

Navigation and Security News

- '[Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview](#)' (*UKMTO*)
- '[LNG tanker diverts after suspected cyberattack disrupts onboard systems](#)' (*Safety4Sea*)
- '[Crew Rescued After Abandoning Small MSC Boxship off Vietnam](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released two updates:
 - '[Pilbara Ports Vessel Safe Access](#)'
 - '[Hidden Hazards Created by Systemic Failures in Gas Detection Practices](#)'.
- IMO Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers, 12th Session (CCC 12)**
 - [ABS](#)
 - [BV](#)
 - [DNV](#)
 - [Lloyd's Register](#)

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released an update entitled '[Guidance on ISO 8217 specifications for marine fuels: What does it mean for the engine?](#)'.
- Steamship Mutual** – has released an update entitled '[Safe Ports and Berths - FAQs](#)'.
- NorthStandard** – has released four updates:
 - '[ANTAQ overhauls Brazil's Inland Navigation Framework](#)'
 - '[New biofouling regulations in Brazil](#)'
 - '[Ballast Water Requirements in Brazil - updates](#)'
 - '[Brazilian Ports revise operational limits](#)'.
- Skuld** – has released an update entitled '[The UK ETS arrives for shipping - what it means for charterers](#)'.
- West** – has released an update entitled '[Neptune Bunker Information Update: Off-Spec Trends Highlight Risk Areas](#)'.
- The American Club** – has released an update entitled '[Good Catch Update: Famous Last Words! Animated Images](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- ICS** – has released an update entitled '[International Chamber of Shipping addresses UN Security Council on maritime security and freedom of navigation](#)'.
- INTERCARGO** – has released an update entitled '[Joint Industry Open Letter - Ship Recycling](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- US** – The NTSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the engine room fire on board the chemical tanker ‘*Scot Stuttgart*’ in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 17th May 2025. The ship was moored when a fire broke out in one of its engine rooms. The fire was successfully extinguished by the crew without any injuries or pollution. The investigation found several contributing factors and concluded that the likely cause of the fire was a leak of fuel oil from a fuel return line that had not been isolated during maintenance.

Recent IMO Circulars

- MEPC 85/6 – 22/09/2026** – Energy Efficiency of Ships.
- MSC 112/14/15 – 22/09/2026** – Work Programme.
- MSC 112/3/2 – 22/09/2026** – Amendments to Mandatory Instruments.
- MEPC 85/3/12 – 22/09/2026** – Consideration and Adoption of Amendments to Mandatory Instruments.
- LC-LP.2/Circ.41 – 22/09/2026** – 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972.
- MSC 112/7/1 – 22/09/2026** – Measures to Enhance Maritime Security.
- MSC 112/16/4 – 21/09/2026** – Any Other Business.
- Circular Letter No.5273 – 21/09/2026** – Establishment of a Mini-Group to prepare the joint IMO-WCO Guidelines on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Booking and Reservation Information (BRI) for maritime transport.
- MSC 112/2/1 – 21/09/2026** – Decisions of Other IMO Bodies.
- Circular Letter No.5275 – 18/09/2026** – Communication from the Government of the State of Kuwait.

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.

- 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)
- 10-14 May – Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III)
- 24-28 May – Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC)
- 16-25 June – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)
- 05-09 July – Technical Cooperation Committee (TC)
- 19-23 July – IMO Council

Are You a Mariner Navigating the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS)?
Share your experience of navigation practices & Aids to Navigation (AtoN).
A survey from Witherbys and Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

