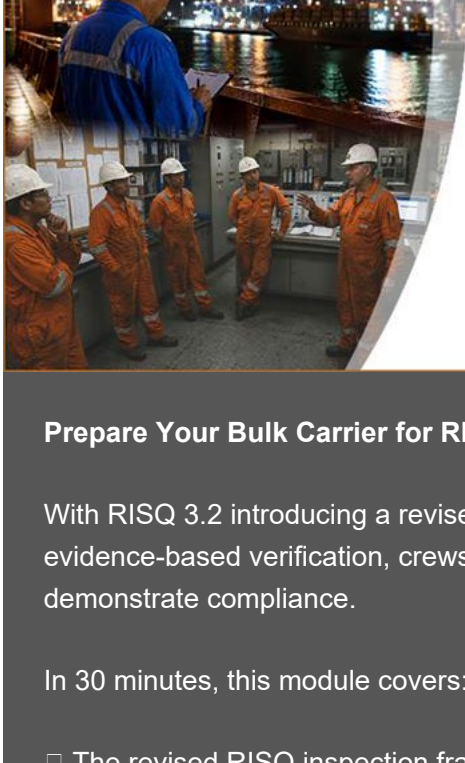


Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 40, 2026 – Friday 2nd October
View this email as a PDF [here](#)

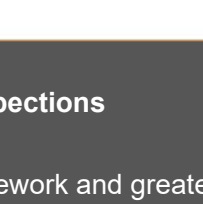
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New Free Information Module: RISQ 3.2 Bulk Carrier Vetting Inspection Training



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Prepare Your Bulk Carrier for RISQ 3.2 Vetting Inspections

With RISQ 3.2 introducing a revised assessment framework and greater emphasis on evidence-based verification, crews need to know what inspectors expect and how to demonstrate compliance.

In 30 minutes, this module covers:

- ☐ The revised RISQ inspection framework and assessment of findings
- ☐ key requirements for safety management, crewing and navigation
- ☐ environmental updates, including CII, SEEMP Part III, EGCS and ballast water systems

☐ the evidence inspectors expect onboard

- ☐ a practical two-phase approach to inspection preparation.

Designed for Masters, officers, engineers, safety officers, superintendents and fleet managers, the module helps crews prepare for RISQ 3.2 and demonstrate compliance through complete records, practical knowledge and familiarity with their responsibilities.

To learn more about Witherby Connect, sign up for an account or make an enquiry, please contact our team.

Learn More

Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Australia** – has released an update entitled '[Access to shore leave for seafarers](#)'.
- The Bahamas** – has released an update entitled '[Safety Alert 26-04 – Working on energised systems](#)'.
- Malta** – has released an update entitled '[Technical Notice SLS.27 Rev.2 – Reporting Obligations and Detentions](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released five updates:
 - '[Marine Operations Note: 06/2026 Pre-Arrival Deficiency Checklist for Vessels arriving to Australia, China, Europe and USA](#)'
 - '[Marine Operations Note: 07/2026 Advance Notice of Arrival and Pre-Arrival Preparation Requirements and Preemptive Inspections for Vessels Calling on Ports in Australia, China, Europe and the USA](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin 36/2026 Vessel attacks in the Strait of Hormuz](#)'
 - '[Marine Security Bulletin 37/2026 Multiple Vessel Attacks in the Black Sea](#)'
 - '[Marine Notice YHT-001 - Design, Construction, Safety, Survey and Certification of Yachts- Adoption of the Red Ensign Group \(REG\) Yacht Code 2024 Edition](#)'.
- UK** – has released four updates:
 - '[MGN 35 \(M+F\) Amendment 3 accidents when using power operated watertight doors](#)'
 - '[MIN 688 \(M\) Amendment 5 code of safe working practices: 2026 edition](#)'
 - '[MIN 720 \(M\) Amendment 1 - Transforming seafarer training: the UK's modernised officer qualifications syllabus](#)'
 - '[MIN 734 \(M+F\) Amendment 2 welfare support for seafarers and fishers](#)'.

New from Witherbys

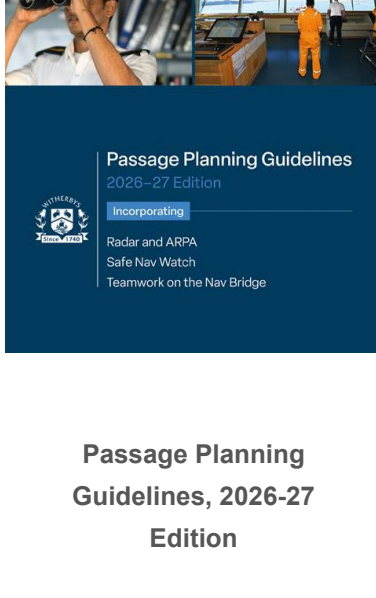
Out September 2026



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

Pre-order Here

Out November 2026



Passage Planning
Guidelines, 2026-27
Edition

Pre-Order Here

Out December 2026



Passage Planning
Guide, Baltic: Danish
Straits - (PPG - Baltic,
2027-28 Edition)

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- '[Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview](#)' (*UKMTO*)
- '[First Somali piracy crew deaths in over a decade](#)' (*Splash 24/7*)
- '[Panama Canal Eases Restrictions Adding Transit Slot and Maximum Draft](#)' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released four updates:
 - '[Safety Alert: Hidden Hazards Created by Systemic Failures in Gas Detection Practices](#)'
 - '[Safety Alert: Vessel Gangway Inspection, Maintenance and Operational Safety](#)'
 - '[ABS Regulatory News 16/2026 AMSA Highlights Invalid Extensions of Statutory Certification](#)'
 - '[Fit for 55](#)'.
- Bureau Veritas** – has released an update entitled '[NI465 Condition Assessment Programme \(CAP\)](#)'.
- CCS** – has released an update entitled '[Guidelines for Ships Using Integrated DC Power System 2026](#)'.
- ClassNK** – has released an update entitled '[Summary of the Outcomes of IMO MSC 111](#)'.
- Indian Register of Shipping** – has released an update entitled '[Technical Circular No:015/2026: India - Additional requirements regarding P&I/insurance coverage for engagement and deployment of Indian seafarers on foreign flag vessels](#)'.
- Korean Register** – has released two updates:
 - '[Guidance on required actions in anticipation of the entry into force of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement \(Rev.1\)](#)'
 - '[Briefings of IMO - CCC 12 News Flash](#)'.
- Lloyd's Register** – has released two updates:
 - '[16/2026: Statutory Alert - New channel requirements for VHF GMDSS radiocommunications equipment](#)'
 - '[New cargo securing guidance prioritises personnel safety and reduces damage risks](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Britannia** – has released an update entitled '[Bunker report August 2026: Off-spec trends across major ports](#)'.
- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - '[Loss of bridge control in functioning systems](#)'
 - '[Fish farm claims in China: lessons from a recent court judgement](#)'.
- Japan P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - '[France - Stricter Controls and Heavy Fines for Seabed Damage in the Mediterranean](#)'
 - '[USA - Hidden Hazards Created by Systemic Failures in Gas Detection Practices](#)'.
- Shipowners' Club** – has released an update entitled '[Posters: Pollution Prevention - Bunkering Operations](#)'.
- The American Club** – has released an update entitled '[Good Catch Update: Shipping into a New Career - Inland Towing Falls Overboard](#)'.
- West** – has released an update entitled '[Pollution Risk from Overboard Pipes Routed Through Fuel Oil Tanks](#)'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has released an update entitled '[Unlocking the full value of vessel data: BIMCO's Energy Efficiency Data Sharing Clause 2025](#)'.
- ICS** – has released two updates:
 - '[Powering the long haul: battery at sea](#)'
 - '[International Chamber of Shipping announces collection of free practical resources for seafarers and shipping companies worldwide](#)'.
- Marine Traffic** – has released an update entitled '[Port State Control Monthly Update - August 2026](#)'.

Recent Accident Reports

- Canada** – The TSBC has released an [investigation report](#) into the collision between the barge '*BSG Lubricator*', pushed by the tug '*Haisla Northwind*', and the workboat '*Triton 1*' in the marine safety zone of the Woodfibre LNG Project site, Squamish, British Columbia, on 18th December 2024. The tug was pushing the barge to moor at the nearby floating hotel when it struck the workboat, which sunk. The operator was quickly rescued, and pollution was contained. The investigation found several operational hazards and failings that contributed to the accident, such as reduced visibility, inadequate lookout, and assuming that one's vessel was visible to others.

Recent IMO Circulars

- MEPC 85/INF.28 – 30/09/2026** – Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ballast Water.
- MEPC 85/INF.18 – 30/09/2026** – Energy Efficiency of Ships.
- MEPC 85/1/1 – 30/09/2026** – Adoption of the Agenda.
- MEPC 85/INF.26 – 30/09/2026** – Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships.
- Circular Letter No.5285 – 30/09/2026** – Communication from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
- Circular Letter No.5284 – 30/09/2026** – Communication from the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.
- C 138/3 – 30/09/2026** – Rules of Procedure.
- MSC 112/14/8 – 29/09/2026** – Rules of Procedure.
- MSC 112/5/2 – 29/09/2026** – Development of a Goal-Based Instrument for Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS).
- MEPC 85/15/2 – 29/09/2026** – Any Other Business.

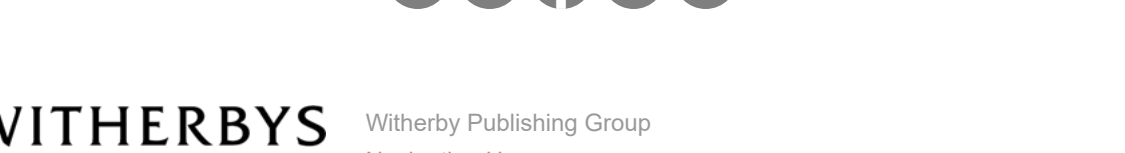
List of Amendments Expected to Enter into Force This Year and in the Coming Years

PDF Download

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



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