

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 41, 2026 – Friday 9th October

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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Bermuda** – has released two updates:
 - ['Bermuda Guidance Notice 2026-10 - Validity of Radiocommunications Equipment Used on Ships'](#)
 - ['Bermuda Guidance Notice 2026-09 - Amendments to SOLAS Ch. II-1 - Lifting Appliances'](#).
- Cyprus** – has released an update entitled ['Circular 21/2026 The Protection of Cyprus Ships Against Acts of Piracy and other Unlawful Acts Law \(Law 77\(I\) of 2012\) Temporary alteration of the northern limit in the Red Sea of the East Africa and Northwest Indian Ocean High-risk area – Order issued pursuant to sections 71\(1\)\(e\) and \(f\) and 71\(2\)\(a\) – Circular issued pursuant to section 71\(2\)\(b\)'](#).
- Hong Kong** – has released three updates:
 - ['MSIN No. 13/2026 - Fatal accident on board while at anchor in heavy weather'](#)
 - ['MSIN No. 14/2026 - Amendments of 2025 to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended'](#)
 - ['MSIN No. 15/2026 - Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of Access by Stowaways and the Allocation of Responsibilities to Seek the Successful Resolution of Stowaway Cases'](#).
- Liberia** – has released two updates:
 - ['Marine Security Bulletin: 38/2026 - Multiple Vessel Attacks in the Black Sea'](#)
 - ['SAF-004 - Lifeboat and Emergency Drills'](#).
- UK** – has released an update entitled ['MGN 719 \(M+F\) Operating in GNSS denied and degraded environments'](#).

New from Witherbys

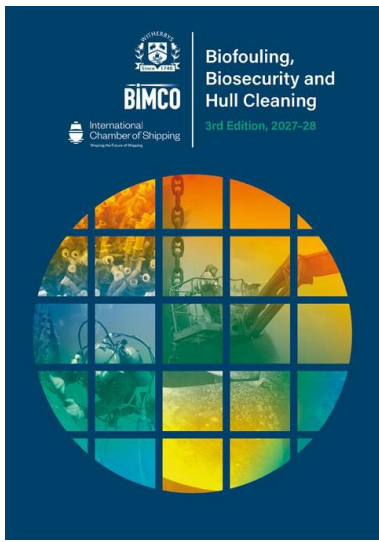
Due November 2026



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

Pre-order Here

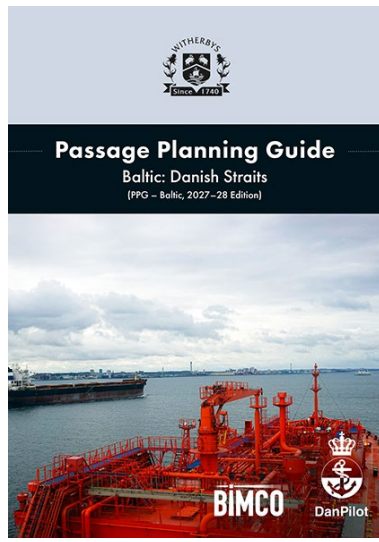
Due November 2026



Biofouling, Biosecurity
and Hull Cleaning - 3rd
Edition, 2027-28

Pre-Order Here

Due December 2026



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

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Navigation and Security News

- ['Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview'](#) (*UKMTO*)
- ['Panama Canal extends long-term slot system to panamax locks'](#) (*Splash 24/7*)
- ['Norwegian Authorities Investigating Collision of Three Ships'](#) (*The Maritime Executive*)
- ['Drugs and contraband: Preventing the vessel from being exploited'](#) (*Safety4Sea*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released six updates:
 - ['Lithium-ion Batteries in the Marine and Offshore Industries'](#)
 - ['Dynamic Positioning Systems'](#)
 - ['Data Centers for Marine and Offshore Applications'](#)
 - ['Data-Enabled Verification'](#)
 - ['Offshore Spaceports'](#)
 - ['Container Securing Systems'](#).
- Bureau Veritas** – has released three updates:
 - ['NR613 Bonded Assemblies'](#)
 - ['NR596 EU RO Mutual Recognition'](#)
 - ['European Affairs Report September 2026'](#).
- Indian Register of Shipping** – has released two updates:
 - ['Technical Circular No: 017/2026 Revised Procedure for Responding to DSC Distress Alerts by Ships'](#)
 - ['Technical Circular No: 018/2026 IMO Guidelines on Carriage and Use of Electronic Nautical Publications \(ENP\) System'](#).
- Korean Register** – has released two updates:
 - ['Notice for amendment of KR Technical Rules \(Guidance for Autonomous Ships\)'](#)
 - ['Notice for amendment of KR Technical Rules \(Rules and Guidance & Other Rules and Guidance\)'](#).

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - ['Malaysia introduces new regulated sea areas'](#)
 - ['Cyber security controls for existing ships'](#).
- Japan P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - ['Australia - Access to Shore Leave for Seafarers'](#)
 - ['USA - Vessel Gangway Inspection, Maintenance and Operational Safety'](#).
- London P&I Club** – has released an update entitled ['India – Salvage & Marine Pollution Response Requirements'](#).
- North Standard** – has released three updates:
 - ['ALERT: Container Fires Involving UN 3378 Sodium Carbonate Peroxhydrate'](#)
 - ['Togo Introduces Environmental Compensation Fee for Shipping'](#)
 - ['Amazon drought – updates'](#).
- UK P&I** – has released three updates:
 - ['S-100 and the Next Evolution of ECDIS'](#)
 - ['When the Cargo Declaration Does Not Tell the Whole Story'](#)
 - ['The 2010 HNS Convention: Closing a Major Gap in Maritime Liability and Compensation'](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- International Institute of Marine Surveying** – has released two updates:
 - ['Chemical interaction risks and anaerobic conditions in bilge systems'](#)
 - ['YSEC launches new guidance to support consistency in yacht load line compliance'](#).
- World Shipping Council** – has released an update entitled ['World Shipping Council launch digital global Whale Chart with HUB Ocean'](#).

Recent Accident Reports

- Singapore** – The TSIB has released an [investigation report](#) into the accident on board the bulk carrier 'KWK Legacy' in the East China Sea, on 10th December 2025. The ship was conducting pre-arrival work on the port-side gangway, when the wire rope supporting the gangway parted. The gangway detached from the ship and fell into the sea, taking with it the bosun whose safety harness had been attached to the handrail. The bosun could not be located in the water and was not recovered. The investigation found that the upper outer sheave of the port gangway had seized but had gone unnoticed, causing the rope passing through it to progressively deteriorate until it parted.
- UK** – The MAIB has released an [investigation report](#) into the fatal accident on board the cruise ship 'Arvia' north-west of Cape Finisterre, Spain, on 26th October 2025. The transport team was testing a passenger lift following repair works when an engineer became trapped between the lift car and side of the lift shaft. The crushing injuries he sustained were fatal. The investigation concluded that crew communication had been ineffective, safety barriers had been insufficient and that the task at hand had exceeded the scope of the permit to work that had been issued.

Recent IMO Circulars

- MEPC 85/7/19 – 07/10/2026** – Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships.
- ESPH 32/5/1 – 07/10/2026** – Review of MEPC.2/Circular - Provisional Classification of Liquid Substances Transported in Bulk and Other Related Matters.
- Circular Letter No.5272 – 07/10/2026** – Election of Members of the Council.
- MEPC 85/6/15 – 07/10/2026** – Energy Efficiency of Ships.
- MSC 112/INF.4 – 07/10/2026** – Development of a Goal-Based Instrument for Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS).
- MEPC 85/15/3 – 07/10/2026** – Any Other Business.
- MSC 112/INF.7 – 07/10/2026** – Implementation of IMO Instruments.
- FAL 51/18 – 07/10/2026** – Any Other Business.
- MEPC 85/INF.17 – 07/10/2026** – Reports of Other Sub-Committees.
- MEPC 85/INF.37 – 07/10/2026** – Experience-building Phase for the Reduction of Underwater Radiated Noise from Shipping.

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



New Information Module

RISQ 3.2 Bulk Carrier Vetting Inspection Readiness

Learn what RightShip inspectors check and prepare your ship for vetting.

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