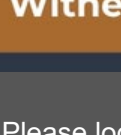


Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 43, 2026 – Friday 23rd October
View this email as a PDF [here](#)

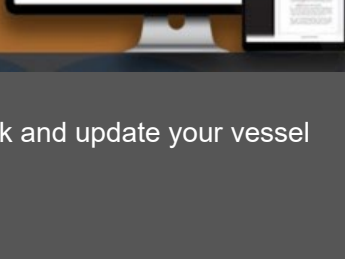
Forward this Email

Update your Witherby Connect Account



WITHERBY
CONNECT

You Need to Update Your Witherby Connect Account



Please log in to Witherby Connect and take 2 minutes to check and update your vessel and account details **by 31st October**.

- Log in using your existing username and password.
- On the left-hand panel go to the Vessel/Company Info section and update your vessel and account details.

If you have any trouble logging in, contact us and we'll help you straight away.

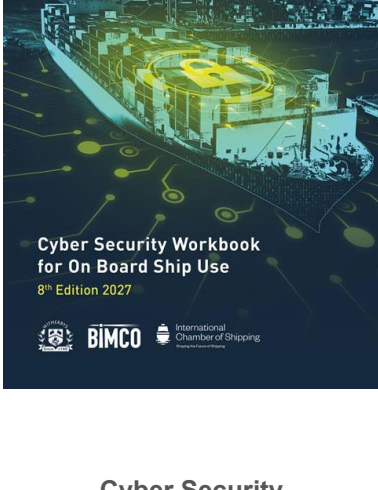
Login Now

Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- Hong Kong** – has released an update entitled '[MSIN 16/2026 United Nations Sanctions \(South Sudan\) Regulation 2019 \(Amendment\) Regulation 2026 \(Annex 1\)](#)'.
- Liberia** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Marine Security Bulletin: 40/2026 - Piracy Incident in the Singapore Straits’](#)
 - [‘Marine Security Bulletin: 41/2026 - Vessel attacks in the Strait of Hormuz’](#).
- Panama** – has released four updates:
 - [‘Marine Notice 05/2026 Vessel Transit Near Iranian Territorial Waters’](#)
 - [‘Marine Notice 03/2022 Ukrainian and Russian Waters in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov’](#)
 - [‘Marine Circular 359 Guidance for the implementation and certification of the ISPS Code’](#)
 - [‘Marine Circular 195 Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships \(LRIT\)’](#).
- UK** – has released three updates:
 - [‘MSN 1874 \(M+F\) Amendment 12 Marine Equipment – United Kingdom conformity assessment and type approval procedures for marine equipment’](#)
 - [‘MIN 739 \(F\) Acceptable standard of liferaft for less than 7m Fishing Vessels’](#)
 - [‘MIN 740 \(M+F\) List of MCA Recognised private nautical chart producers under MGN 293 \(M+F\)’](#).

New from Witherbys

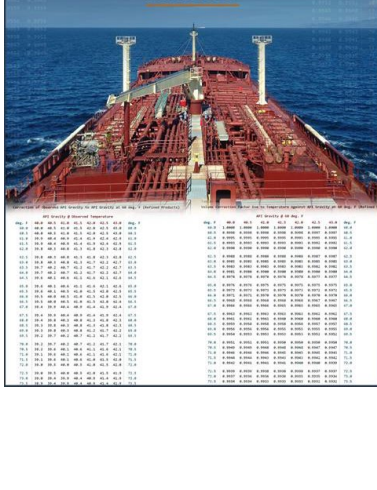
Out October 2026



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

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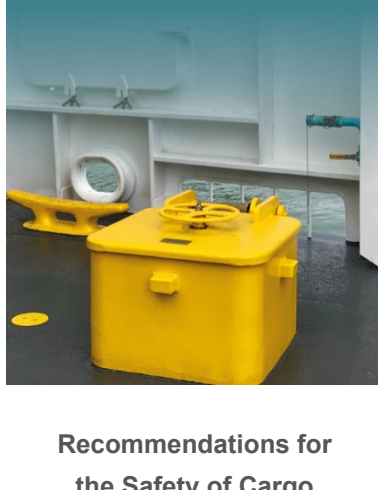
Out October 2026



Petroleum
Measurement Tables

Order Here

Due November 2026



Recommendations for
the Safety of Cargo
Ships of less than
Convention Size
(Rec.99)

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- [‘Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview’](#) (*UKMTO*)
- [‘Northern Sea Route smashes shipping records again’](#) (*Splash 24/7*)
- [‘Suez Canal tightens inspection requirements for older vessels’](#) (*Safety4Sea*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- ABS** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Independent Third-Party \(I3P\) Services’](#)
 - [‘Risk-based Inspection for Floating and Fixed Offshore Installations’](#)
 - [‘Wind Farm I3P Certification’](#).
- ClassNK** – has released an update entitled '[‘ClassNK releases “Guidelines for Advanced Safety Measures\(Edition 1.1\)”](#)'.
- Lloyd’s Register** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Research Report - Advanced nuclear technology use within port environments’](#)
 - [‘LR launches new guidance to help shipowners navigate the growing complexity of retrofit projects’](#).
- Polish Register of Shipping** – has released an update entitled '[‘Informative Publication 14/I Principles of Recognition of Testing Stations and Maintenance Shops’](#)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- Gard** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Loss of bridge control: Human failure is normal - context is key’](#)
 - [‘India introduces new requirements for ships in coastal waters’](#).
- Japan P&I Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘Frequently Asked Questions on Cargo Securing Manual \(CSM\)’](#)
 - [‘China - Mandatory Requirements and Recommendations for Transit of the Qiongzhou Strait’](#).
- Britannia** – has released an update entitled '[‘Risks and management of bulk liquid cargoes during prolonged storage’](#)'.
- North Standard** – has released an update entitled '[‘ALERT: Container Fires Involving UN 3378 Sodium Carbonate Peroxhydrate’](#)'.
- The Swedish Club** – has released two updates:
 - [‘US authorises Russian origin diesel transactions under General License 135’](#)
 - [‘IMSBC Code 8th Amendment’](#).
- Steamship Mutual** – has released two updates:
 - [‘The Taikoo Brilliance: Revisiting Deck Cargo Declarations’](#)
 - [‘Shore Excursions and Third-Party Liability’](#).
- UK P&I** – has released an update entitled '[‘Malaysia: New Marine Sensitive Area \(MSA\) Near the Eastern Approaches to the Singapore Strait’](#)'.
- New Fire Drill Guidelines for Vehicle Carrying Vessels**
 - [IG P&I](#)
 - [Gard](#)
 - [Britannia](#).

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- ReCAAP** – has issued its [weekly piracy report](#).
- BIMCO** – has released two updates:
 - [‘eBL adoption passes halfway mark’](#)
 - [‘BIMCO Energy Saving Device Retrofit Addendum available to support vessel efficiency investments’](#).
- IIMS** – has released three updates:
 - [‘Cargo handling and safety in the carriage of woodchips’](#)
 - [‘MLC 2026: What shipping needs to know about the latest amendments and obligations’](#)
 - [‘IMCA, IIMS, and the Workboat Association join forces to launch the International Workboat Code of Practice’](#).

Recent Accident Reports

- Australia** – The ATSB has released an [investigation report](#) into the accident on board the bulk carrier ‘*RTM Weipa*’ near Gove, Australia on 23rd June 2025. The crew were conducting maintenance in the engine room when the engine room overhead gentry crane's traversing motor fell and struck one of them, resulting in minor injury. The investigation found that the bolts attaching the motor to the gearbox had loosened over time until it fell. There were several contributing operational failures, as previous defects had not been flagged or addressed, and there was no guidance from the manufacturer regarding the motor's bolts.
- Cyprus** – The MAIC has released an [investigation report](#) into the fatal accident on board the ro-ro vessel ‘*Almariya*’ off Ghazaouet, Algeria on 18th October 2025. During transit from Spain to Algeria, a crew member became trapped in a sliding hydraulic watertight door and suffered fatal injuries. The investigation found several operational failures, and concluded that the main cause for the accident had been passing through the door without following safety procedures or waiting for it to be adequately secured.
- Singapore** – The TSIB has released an [investigation report](#) into the fatal accident on board the ro-ro vessel ‘*Viyada Naree*’ off the coast of China on 20th January 2026. Crew members were standing on a mast house top platform, freeing a jammed crane hook, when the vessel rolled and the hook which they had detached slid from the platform and hit two crew members, resulting in fatal injuries to one. The investigation found several operational failures, including inadequate risk assessment, safety barriers, SMS stop work policy, and lack of functional test of the crane following dry-dock works.

Recent IMO Circulars

- C 138/5(b)/1 – 22/10/2026** – Resource Management.
- MSC 112/INF.23 – 22/10/2026** – Development of a Safety Regulatory Framework to Support the Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships Using New Technologies and Alternative Fuels.
- MSC 112/INF.22 – 22/10/2026** – Development of a Goal-Based Instrument for Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS).
- C 138/3/3 – 21/10/2026** – Rules of Procedure.
- ISWG-GHG 23/2/9– 21/10/2026** – Further Consideration of the Draft Guidelines Supporting the Uniform and Effective Implementation of IMO's Mid-term Measures.
- MSC 112/INF.16 – 21/10/2026** – Goal-based New Ship Construction Standards.
- MSC 112/12 – 21/10/2026** – Carriage of Cargoes and Containers.
- MSC 112/16/16 – 20/10/2026** – Any Other Business.
- ISWG-GHG 23/INF.7 – 20/10/2026** – Consideration of Proposals, Including Documents Submitted to MEPC 84 and 85, previous Sessions of ISWG-GHG, as well as Documents Submitted to ISWG-GHG 23, 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.
- MSC 112/INF.17 – 20/10/2026** – Measures to Enhance Maritime Security.

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

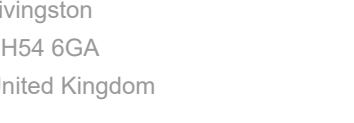
The IMO has released the programme for 2026-2027. Please see the IMO's '[Meeting Summaries](#)' webpage for more information.

- 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)
- 04 December – Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPS.ES/2) [subject to confirmation]
- 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
- 20-24 September – Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC)

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