Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 45, 2026 – Friday 6th November
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- **Singapore –** has released an update entitled 'Port Marine Circular No.11 of 2026 - Maritime Declaration of Health'.

- **Liberia –** has released six updates:
  - 'Marine Advisory: 25/2026 - Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Shipboard Safety Items'
  - 'Marine Security Bulletin: 45/2026 - Vessel attacks in the Strait of Hormuz'
  - 'Marine Security Bulletin: 44/2026 - Multiple Vessel Attacks in the Black Sea'
  - 'Marine Advisory: 24/2026 - Prevention of Fatalities and Serious Injuries During Weather Deck Operations in Heavy Weather – Risk Assessment, Voyage Planning, Work Authorization, and Safe Access Controls'
  - 'Marine Advisory: 23/2026 - Enclosed Space Entry Procedures and Risk Assessments'
  - 'POL-009 - Implementation of the 2021 Revised MARPOL Annex VI, Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships'

- **Canada –** has released an update entitled 'SSB No.- 13/2026 Certificates of Proficiency for service on ships subject to the IGF Code'.

- **Panama –** has released five updates:
  - 'Marine Notice 17/2026 Invalid Extensions of Statutory Certification'
  - 'Marine Circular 217 Ship to Ship (STS) transfer operations and flag notification'
  - 'Marine Circular 150 MOU Annual Safety Inspection Program'
  - 'Marine Circular 87 Panama Policy on MODU Code and Offshore Drilling Units'
  - 'Marine Circular 171 Flag Safety Inspection Program'.

- **UK –** has released three updates:
  - 'MGN 168 (M+F) Amendment 1 The marking of seismic streamers'
  - 'MGN 199 (M) Amendment 1 Danger of interaction'
  - 'MGN 586 (F) Amendment 3 ILO work in fishing convention, 2007 - medical care'.

New from Witherbys

Out November 2026



Ballast Water Management, Understanding BWM for Regulatory Compliance, 17th Edition

Order Here

Due November 2026



Passage Planning Guidelines, 2026-27 Edition (Incorporating Radar and ARPA, Safe Nav Watch and Teamwork on the Nav Bridge)

Pre-order Here

Due December 2026



Dr. Verwey's Tank Cleaning Guide, Thirteenth Edition

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- 'Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview' (*UKMTO*)

- 'Hormuz attacks spread deeper into the Gulf' (*Splash 24/7*)

- 'Panama Canal revises transit booking rules and NetZero eligibility' (*Safety4Sea*)

- 'Australian Authorities Bust Shipment of Meth Dissolved in Coconut Water' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- **ABS –** has released two updates:
  - 'Regulatory News 18/2026 IMSBC Code Amendments 08-25 - New & Revised Cargo Schedules'
  - 'Fuel Cell Power Systems for Marine and Offshore Applications'.

- **Bureau Veritas –** has released four updates:
  - 'NR547 Ships using fuel cells'
  - 'NR483 Rules for the classification of naval ships'
  - 'NI525 Risk-based qualification of new technology'
  - 'European Affairs Report - October 2026 Edition'.

- **ClassNK –** has released an update entitled 'TEC-1381 Ship Structure Access Manual for Liberian Flagged Ships'.

- **Lloyd's Register –** has released an update entitled 'Fuel for thought: Ports report'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- **Britannia –** has released an update entitled 'Risk Watch – October 2026'.

- **Gard –** has released two updates:
  - 'New CINS Operational Guidelines for Lithium-Ion Batteries Shipped Under SP188'
  - 'Electric shock: a hidden danger in everyday shipboard work'.

- **Japan P&I –** has released two updates:
  - 'Vehicle Carrier Safety Forum - Fire Drill Guidelines for Vehicle Carrying Vessels'
  - 'IMB piracy and armed robbery report for January - September 2026'.

- **London P&I –** has released an update entitled 'Falkland Islands Calls or River Plate transits - Argentine Prior Authorisation'.

- **North Standard –** has released three updates:
  - 'China: Correspondents' advice on maritime-related risks'
  - 'Pollution fines and Traffic regulations in Turkiye for 2026'
  - 'Requirements and potential sanctions for vessels sailing to/from Falkland Islands (Malvinas)'.

- **Skuld –** has released an update entitled 'Stowaway prevention: best practice'.

- **UK P&I –** has released two updates:
  - 'India: New Requirements for Ships Operating In or Transiting Coastal Waters'
  - 'HNS Convention: Shipowner/Insurer Liability Limits'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- **ReCAAP –** has issued its weekly piracy report.

- **ICS –** has released an update entitled 'ICS in Action – October 2026'.

- **UK CoS –** has released an update entitled 'MNTB Sets out Ambition for the Future of Seafarer Training'.

- **BIMCO –** has released three updates:
  - 'Preventing engine room fires before small defects become emergencies'
  - 'Tripartite 2026 focuses on practical steps towards the next generation of ships'
  - 'IMO launches survey on Maritime Single Windows'.

- **IIMS –** has released two updates:
  - 'Battery hazards do not disappear when equipment is idle'
  - 'A Practical Approach to Managing Stress'.

- **Marine Traffic –** has released an update entitled 'Port State Control Monthly Update - September 2026'.

Recent Accident Reports

- **New Zealand –** The TAIC has released an investigation report into the accident on board the bulk carrier 'Oliva' in Bluff, New Zealand on 24th May 2025. Three engineers were working on the ship's compressible boiler which had suffered a burner failure when unburnt fuel inside the boiler exploded, injuring all of them. The investigation concluded that heated soot inside the boiler likely ignited the residual fuel. The crew was also likely fatigued, and SMS procedures were not followed.

Recent IMO Circulars

- **PPR 14/8 – 04/11/2026 –** Review and Development of NOx Emission Requirements in MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code 2008.
- **PPR 14/14 – 04/11/2026 –** Assessment of the Implementation of the Hong Kong Convention Through an Experience-building Phase and Development of Amendments and Clarifications as Appropriate.
- **PPR 14/6 – 04/11/2026 –** Reduction of the Impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon Emissions from International Shipping.
- **IMO.7/Circ.25 – 04/11/2026 –** Amendments Adopted in December 2021 to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization.
- **PPR 14/5/2 – 04/11/2026 –** Development of a Legally Binding Framework for the Control and Management of Ships' Biofouling to Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species.
- **PPR 14/3/1 – 04/11/2026 –** Safety and Pollution Hazards of Chemicals and Preparation of Consequential Amendments to the IBC Code.
- **LC/SG 90/1 – 04/11/2026 –** Provisional Agenda.
- **Circular Letter No.5298 – 04/11/2026 –** Fiftieth meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the twenty-first meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol (LC/SG 50).
- **Circular Letter No.5305 – 03/11/2026 –** Communication from the Government of Mexico.
- **BWM.1/Circ.87 – 02/11/2026 –** International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004.

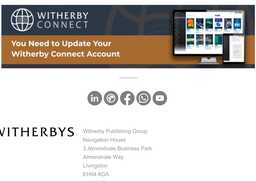
List of Amendments Expected to Enter into Force This Year and in the Coming Years

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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.

- 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 by MEPC 85]
- 14-18 December – Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)
- 25-29 January – Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR)
- 08-12 February – Legal Committee (LEG)
- 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)
- 11-15 October – Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)
- 25-29 October – Consultative Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Convention 1972) and Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996)



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