SR&G

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 46, 2026 – Friday 13th November
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- **Liberia –** has released three updates:
  - 'SAF-017 - Ships Using Low-Flashpoint and Other Gaseous Fuels'
  - 'Technical Letter 2026-01'
  - 'SAF-010 - Approval of Ship Structural Access Manuals (SSAM)'.
- **Cayman Islands –** has released an update entitled 'Guidance Note 10/2026 (Rev.1.2) Registration - Vessel Types'.
- **Marshall Islands –** has released two updates:
  - 'MN-7-038-2 Minimum Safe Manning Requirements for Vessels'
  - 'MG-1-11-2 Yacht Engaged in Trade'.
- **The Bahamas –** has released an update entitled 'TA 26-08 – SEEMP Part III Company Audits and Onboard Verifications'.
- **US –** has released an update entitled 'Safety Alert 17-26 Air Draft: Confirm Your Highest Point'.

New from Witherbys

Out November 2026

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

Order Here

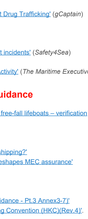
Due November 2026



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

Pre-order Here

Due January 2027



Bridge Procedures Guide, Seventh Edition

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- 'Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview' (*UKMTO*)
- 'G7 Launches Global Port Security Network to Combat Drug Trafficking' (*gCaptain*)
- 'Maersk hit by fresh cyber breach' (*Splash 24/7*)
- 'The limits of stowaway searches: Lessons from recent incidents' (*Safety4Sea*)
- 'Indian Navy Demonstrates its Skill in Curbing Pirate Activity' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- **DNV –** has released an update entitled 'Nishi-F FF-65 free-fall lifeboats – verification of aisle passage width'.
- **Lloyd's Register –** has released three updates:
  - 'Onboard carbon capture: a practical pathway for shipping?'
  - 'Right survey, right method: how remote delivery reshapes MEC assurance'
  - 'Rethinking Port Resilience'.
- **Korean Registry –** has released two updates:
  - 'Notice for amendment of KR Technical Rules (Guidance - Pt.3 Annex3-7)'
  - 'Considerations for Compliance with the Hong Kong Convention (HKC)(Rev.4)'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- **Gard –** has released an update entitled 'New Gard tool provides fleet insights into sensitive marine areas'.
- **Japan P&I –** has released an update entitled 'China - Administrative Penalties for Breach of Inland Waterway Traffic Rules in Ports along the Yangtze River'.
- **London P&I –** has released two updates:
  - 'Lithium-ion Cells - New CINS Guidelines for SP188 Shipments'
  - 'China: Yangtze River Penalties'.
- **North Standard –** has released an update entitled 'Amazon drought – updates'.
- **Skuld –** has released an update entitled 'Illegal anchoring in Malaysia under Marine Sensitive Area Notice 01/2026'.
- **The Swedish Club –** has released two updates:
  - 'Container fires involving UN 3378 sodium percarbonate'
  - 'CINS operational guidance November 2026'.
- **UK P&I –** has released an update entitled 'The Lindsey Graham Act: US Sanctions and Russian Energy Trades'.
- **West –** has released an update entitled 'Safer Ship-to-Ship Transfers: Practical Lessons for Bulk Carrier Operations'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- **ReCAAP –** has issued its weekly piracy report.
- **BIMCO –** has released three updates:
  - 'Making underwater radiated noise measurement practical for the world fleet'
  - 'New guidance on IMDG Code changes for vehicles and batteries'
  - 'BIMCO co-sponsors proposal to focus CII on fuel consumption while ships are under way'.
- **IIMS –** has released two updates:
  - 'New Zealand Builders Plate (NZBP) and Vessel Register (NZVR) launches'
  - 'IUMI Stats Report 2026 shows insurance premiums reached US$42.6 billion in 2025'.
- **IMO –** has released an update entitled 'IMO Secretary-General calls on States to enforce maritime rules in the Strait of Hormuz'.
- **UK CoS –** has released an update entitled 'Supporting Members through the Maritime Energy Transition'.

Recent Accident Reports

- **The Bahamas –** The BMA has released an investigation report into the fatal accident on board the bulk carrier *'Nightlife'* at anchor off Singapore on 17th January 2026. The ship's crew was conducting several operations at the same time when a bunker surveyor who was in the process of transferring to a service boat fell from the accommodation ladder, landing heavily on the edge of the service boat, before losing his grip and falling into the water. The crew were unable to recover the casualty, requiring assistance from a dive boat and the coastguard. The casualty was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital, having drowned. The investigation found that the time pressure on the crew and conflicting simultaneous operations had overstretched onboard resources, contributing to ineffective risk assessment and perception. There was also no recovery equipment, and the surveyor's lifejacket was not suitably secured.
- **Belgium –** The FEBIMA has released an investigation report into the engine problems on board the bulk carrier *'CL Contigo'* in the Atlantic Ocean near Brazil on 15th March 2026. The ship was under way when it lost propulsion. The crew was unable to fix the issue, and the ship was towed to nearby Brazil for repairs. The investigation found that the main engine lost hydraulic pressure due to the failure of at least one high-pressure hydraulic oil pipe. These could not be permanently repaired by the crew.

Recent IMO Circulars

- **PPR 14/10 – 11/11/2026 –** Revision of MARPOL Annex IV and Associated Guidelines.
- **PPR 14/8/2 – 11/11/2026 –** Review and Development of NOx Emission Requirements in MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code 2008.
- **PPR 14/14/3 – 11/11/2026 –** Assessment of the Implementation of the Hong Kong Convention Through an Experience-building Phase and Development of Amendments and Clarifications as Appropriate.
- **PPR 14/11/1 – 11/11/2026 –** Follow-up Work Emanating from the Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships.
- **MSC 112/16/20 – 11/11/2026 –** Any Other Business.
- **MSC 112/3/7 – 10/11/2026 –** Amendments to Mandatory Instruments.
- **MSC 112/10/2 – 10/11/2026 –** Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue.
- **MSC 112/14/21 – 10/11/2026 –** Work Programme.
- **Circular Letter No.5311 – 10/11/2026 –** Communication from the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- **PPR 14/12 – 09/11/2026 –** Revision of the Revised Guidelines and Specifications for Pollution Prevention Equipment for Machinery Space Bilges of Ships (Resolution MEPC.107(49)).

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.

- 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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