SR&G

Shipping Regulations and Guidance

Week 48, 2026 – Friday 27th November
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Flag State Regulations and Guidance Update

- **Bahamas –** has released seven updates:
  - 'MN003 – Safe Return to Port'
  - 'MN005 – Permanent Exemptions and Equivalents'
  - 'MN047 – ISPS Code'
  - 'MN075 – Passenger Ship Bottom Inspections'
  - 'MN089 – Competent Persons'
  - 'MN111 – Entry into Enclosed Spaces, Opening of Spaces and Management of Hazardous Atmospheres'
  - 'IMA Safety Alert 26-05 – Storage and Handling of Sheet Materials'.
- **Canada –** has released an update entitled 'SSB No.: 15/2026 Seafarers from Belize, Finland, Ghana, Netherlands and Sweden can now seek Canadian recognition of their STCW certificates'.
- **Cayman Islands –** has released an update entitled 'IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)111 Convention and Code Amendments'.
- **Malta –** has released two updates:
  - 'MS Notice 199 Rev.1- Mandatory IMO reporting requirements for lost containers at sea'
  - 'Information Notice 65 - New VHF GMDSS channel requirements'.
- **Marshall Islands –** has released six updates:
  - 'Marine Notice 2-011-52 International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code)'
  - 'Marine Notice 2-011-50 Use and Maintenance of Non-Steel Wires/Falls on Yachts for Lifeboat/Rescue Boat(Life Raft Davits'
  - 'Marine Notice 2-011-14 Maintenance and Inspection of Fire Protection Systems and Appliances'
  - 'Marine Notice 2-011-37 Life-saving Appliances and Systems'
  - 'Marine Notice 2-011-48 Requirements for Yachts Taking Part in Races'
  - 'Marine Notice 2-011-49 Yacht "Mini-ISM"'.
- **Norway –** has released an update entitled 'Maintenance and repair of work equipment with pressurised systems'.
- **UK –** has released an update entitled 'MIN 743 (M+F) Changes to NAVTEX and Maritime Safety Information (MSI) arrangements in the English Channel from 1 January 2027'.

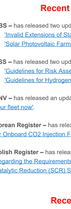
New from Witherbys

Out November 2026 | *Due January 2027* | *Due January 2027*



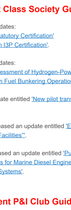
Passage Planning Guidelines, 2026-27 Edition (Incorporating Radar and ARPA, Safe Nav Watch and Teamwork on the Nav Bridge)

Order Here



General Rules for Tankers Owned or Operating in the USA - 2027 Edition

Pre-order Here



BIMCO Holiday Calendar 2027

Pre-order Here

Navigation and Security News

- 'Weekly Voluntary Reporting Area Overview' *(UKMTO)*
- 'India introduces stricter requirements for enclosed space entry onboard ships' *(SafetyAtSea)*
- 'COP31 ends without climate pact: What the outcome means for shipping' *(SafetyAtSea)*
- 'When the Hacker Comes Aboard' (*The Maritime Executive*)

Recent Class Society Guidance

- **ABS –** has released two updates:
  - 'Invalid Extensions of Statutory Certification'
  - 'Solar Photovoltaic Farm 13P Certification'.
- **CSS –** has released two updates:
  - 'Guidelines for Risk Assessment of Hydrogen-Powered Ships 2026'
  - 'Guidelines for Hydrogen Fuel Bunkering Operations on Ships 2026'.
- **DNV –** has released an update entitled 'New pilot transfer requirements – prepare your fleet now'.
- **Korean Register –** has released an update entitled 'Establishment of the "Guidelines for Onboard CO2 Injection Facilities"'.
- **Polish Register –** has released an update entitled 'Publication 98/P Guidelines Regarding the Requirements for Marine Diesel Engines Fitted with NOx Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) Systems'.

Recent P&I Club Guidance

- **Gard –** has released two updates:
  - 'Fatigue at sea: Looking beyond rest hours'
  - 'War-related pollution: who pays?'.
- **Japan P&I –** has released an update entitled 'Philippines Legal Update] Philippine Supreme Court Declares Key Provisions of the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers Unconstitutional'.
- **London P&I –** has released three updates:
  - 'Türkiye - Increased Risks Arising from Bunker Quantity Misdeclarations'
  - 'Carrying battery energy storage systems'
  - 'Algeria - Bulk Grain Cargoes & Loss Prevention Measures'.
- **North Standard –** has released three updates:
  - 'No Scrubs: Countries and Ports where Restrictions on EGCS Discharges apply'
  - 'Port of Durban S.A. updates'
  - 'Port of Ceuta returns to ISPS Security Level 1'.
- **The American Club –** has released an update entitled 'USCG TAC Plus - Health Spotlight Q2'.
- **UK P&I –** has released five updates:
  - 'Increased Vigilance When Carrying UN 3378 Sodium Percarbonate'
  - 'Changes to PEME Examinations in India'
  - 'IMO Regulatory Update 2027'
  - 'Risk Focus: Ethanol as a Marine Fuel'
  - 'Philippines: Supreme Court Ruling on the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers'.

Other Regulations and Guidance in the News

- **ReCAAP –** has issued its weekly piracy report.
- **BIMCO –** has released three updates:
  - 'New clause available for tanker ship-to-ship transfers and special operations'
  - 'EU Tanker Sale and Resale Restrictions Clause 2026 available to support compliance in tanker sales'
  - 'Tanker safety experts share lessons on engine room fires'.
- **IACS –** has released an update entitled 'IACS Statement Ahead Of The Upcoming Carbon Reduction Discussions At MEPC'.
- **IMO –** has released an update entitled 'Tackling fraudulent registries together'.
- **Marine Traffic –** has released an update entitled 'Port State Control Monthly Update - October 2026'.
- **United Nations –** has released an update entitled 'Review of Maritime Transport 2026'.

Recent Accident Reports

- **US –** The NTSB has released an investigation report into the contact of the ro-ro carrier *'Morning Meriad'* with the dock at Dundalk Marine Terminal in Baltimore, Maryland on 5th December 2024. The ship was manoeuvring into its berthing position when it was blown sideways by strong winds, causing it to contact the dock before grounding across the terminal channel. There were no injuries or pollution, but damage amounted to $1.4 million. The investigation concluded that the pilots' reluctance to alter the mooring plan in the deteriorating wind conditions likely contributed to the accident.

Recent IMO Circulars

- **HTW 13/6/3/Add.1 – 25/11/2026 –** Comprehensive Review of the 1978 STCW Convention and Code.
- **PPR 14/7/1 – 25/11/2026 –** Evaluation and Harmonization of Rules and Guidance on the Discharge of Discharge Water from EGCS into the Aquatic Environment, Including Conditions and Areas.
- **PPR 14/5/5 – 25/11/2026 –** Development of a Legally Binding Framework for the Control and Management of Ships' Biofouling to Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species.
- **PPR 14/1/1 – 25/11/2026 –** Any Other Business.
- **HTW 13/3/1/Add.1 – 25/11/2026 –** Validated Model Training Courses.
- **C 138/INF.1 – 25/11/2026 –** List of Participants.
- **LC 48/INF.1 – 25/11/2026 –** List of Participants.
- **Circular *Letter* No.5307 – 25/11/2026 –** Appointment of the External Auditor.
- **CLC.6/Circ.92 – 24/11/2026 –** Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969.
- **FAL.1/Circ.127 – 24/11/2026 –** Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, as Amended.

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.

- 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 (MEPC/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)

Check that you have all the publications listed in *'FAL.6/Circ.14/Rev.3 List of Publications Relevant to the Ship/port Interface'* now.

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