

## Headlines:

USCG – issuance of medical certificates;  
USCG – grandfathering & transitional provisions for MMCs;  
USCG – approval of training courses & programs;  
USCG – STCW endorsements in Basic Training;  
CTAC – standards for vessels using natural gas as fuel;  
USCG – cessation of temporary CODs;  
DOT – maritime strategy roundup;  
New Jersey – bill to eliminate cargo facility fee; and  
MREN – Sonar and the US Coast Guard.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: [dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

*Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Every new beginning begins with a tenuous first step.*

## USCG – issuance of medical certificates



The US Coast Guard issued a Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) providing guidance on the issuance of medical certificates under its recently-promulgated **regulations**, which come into effect on 24 March 2014. **NVIC 01-14** (1/17/14). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my friend Sean Stokes of [Oceanering International](http://oceanering.com).*

## USCG – grandfathering & transitional provisions for MMCs



The US Coast Guard issued a 61-page Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) providing grandfathering and transitional information for merchant mariner credential (MMC) endorsements and training. **NVIC 02-14**

(1/17/14). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my friend Sean Stokes of [Oceaneering International](#).*

### **USCG – approval of training courses & programs**



The US Coast Guard issued an 86-page Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) providing guidelines for approval of courses and programs for training of US merchant mariners. **NVIC 03-14** (1/22/14). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my friend Sean Stokes of [Oceaneering International](#).*

### **USCG – STCW endorsements in Basic Training**



The US Coast Guard issued a 63-page Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) providing guidelines for qualification for STCW endorsements in Basic Training (BT) [formerly called Basic Safety Training]. Basic Training standards were established in the Coast Guard's recently-promulgated **regulations**, which come into effect on 24 March 2014. **NVIC 08-14** (1/17/14). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my friend Sean Stokes of [Oceaneering International](#).*

### **CTAC – standards for vessels using natural gas as fuel**



The LNG-CNG as Fuel Subcommittee of the Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet in Houston on 11-12 February to work on the **task** of recommendations on safety standards for the design of vessel carrying natural gas or using natural gas as fuel. (1/23/14).

### **USCG – cessation of temporary CODs**



The US Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) issued a **notice** stating that it has suspended issuance of Temporary Certificates of Documentation (DOCs) for recreational vessels based on any application received after 31 October 2013. As the busy summer boating season approaches, the NVDC will reevaluate the need to reinstitute the issuance of Temporary CODs. (1/22/14).

## DOT – maritime strategy roundup



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a [news release](#) marking completion of the first National Maritime Strategy Symposium. More than 250 people representing shippers, operators, labor, academics, and government agencies participated in roundtable discussions, panel sessions, and presentations during the three-day event. (1/17/14).

## New Jersey – bill to eliminate cargo facility fee



The New Jersey Legislature adopted and Governor Christie signed into law legislation (S2747/A4170) which will require the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to eliminate its current cargo facility fee. The requirement will come into effect only after New York adopts similar legislation. A similar bill pends in the New York legislature. [N.J.P.L. 2013, c. 216](#) (1/21/14).

## MREN – Sonar and the US Coast Guard



The January edition of [Maritime Reporter and Engineering News](#) (MREN) includes my article entitled “[Sonar and the US Coast Guard](#)”. The Coast Guard proposes to utilize commercially-available sonar equipment to broaden its capability to locate, image, and classify submerged and underwater targets of interest.

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## Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting  
4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way  
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135  
USA

1-352-692-5493  
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com  
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

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