

Headlines:

NTSB – loss of vessel control caused allision;
USCG – safety alert re fire extinguishers;
EPA – Advancing Sustainable Ports;
MARAD – National Maritime Strategy Symposium;
Senate – hearing re VADM Zukunft nomination;
Alaska – wastewater discharge permit proposed;
Australia – regulation of coastal shipping; and
Libya – peaceful unblocking of oil terminal.

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Bryant's Maritime Blog

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Note: This blog is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](#) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](#) 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 clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily blog entry is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Miscellaneous maritime topics are briefly discussed in my [Maritime Musings](#) blog. Life is short. Don't make the same mistake twice – be original.

NTSB – loss of vessel control caused allision



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a [press release](#) stating that the passenger ferry Seastreak Wall Street struck Pier 11 in Lower Manhattan on 9 January 2013 because the captain lost control of the vessel while attempting to dock. Additionally, the procedure used by the captain to reduce speed and transfer control from one bridge station to another while approaching the pier did not allow enough time to adequately respond to the loss of propulsion control. Among other things, the NTSB recommends that the Coast Guard require all US passenger vessels to implement a safety management system and utilize voyage data recorders (VDRs). (4/8/14).

USCG – safety alert re fire extinguishers



The US Coast Guard issued a [Safety Alert](#) stating that a hand portable fire extinguisher failed while the crew on a vessel was extinguishing a fire.

Subsequent examination revealed that, during a prior servicing, an improper discharge valve/assembly had been installed. The Coast Guard recommends that fire equipment service companies be aware of the potential problem and ensure that all replacement components for fire extinguishers are as specified by the original extinguisher manufacturer. (4/8/14).

EPA – Advancing Sustainable Ports



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a **news release** stating that it hosted the “Advancing Sustainable Ports” summit in Washington, DC on 8 April to kick off a new initiative to recognize ports that take action to improve environmental performance. Grants totaling \$4.2 million have been awarded to the Port of Seattle, the Port of Hueneme, the Port of Tacoma, the Maryland Port Administration, the Virginia Port Authority, and the Port of Los Angeles. (4/8/14).

MARAD – National Maritime Strategy Symposium



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a **news release** stating that the Second National Maritime Strategy Symposium will be held in Washington, DC on 6 May. (4/8/14).

Senate – hearing re VADM Zukunft nomination



The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation conducted a hearing to consider the nomination of **VADM Paul F. Zukunft** to be Commandant of the US Coast Guard. The Committee also posted the remarks of **Senator John Thune** (R-SD) delivered at the commencement of the hearing. (4/8/14).

Alaska – wastewater discharge permit proposed



The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) issued a **notice** stating that it is proposing to issue a 2014 Large Commercial Passenger Vessel Wastewater Discharge General Permit to satisfy state law requirements. Comments on the proposal should be submitted by 23 May. (4/8/14).

Australia – regulation of coastal shipping



The Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss issued a **media release** stating that the Government is inviting input on reforms to the regulation of coastal shipping. The number of Australian registered vessels with a deadweight tonnage of 2,000 tonnes or more has halved over the past decade to just sixteen. Comments on the **Regulation of Coastal Shipping Options Paper** must be submitted by 31 May. (4/8/14).

Libya – peaceful unblocking of oil terminal



The European Union (EU) issued a **statement** from EU High Representative Catherine Ashton welcoming the announcement of an agreement ending the stalemate in the Libyan oil sector and the unblocking of an oil terminal. (4/8/14).

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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