

Headlines:

USCG – safety alert;
GAO – USACE hopper dredging program; and
EU – Arctic region policy.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – safety alert



The US Coast Guard posted a Safety Alert regarding an incident where the overheating of a parasail vessel's hydraulic oil system left the parasailers aloft for three hours. The hydraulic oil system relied for cooling on the vessel's forward movement through the water. When wind and waves, combined with the drag of parasail stopped the vessel's forward movement, the system overheated and the parasail could not be winched in. After three hours, the wind subsided and the parasailers were retrieved. [Alert 05-14](#) (5/12/14).

GAO – USACE hopper dredging program



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report stating that the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) needs to take action to further improve its management of the hopper dredging program. Among other things, the report recommends that the USACE provide written direction to its district offices on data management and develop a written plan for a study to obtain hopper dredging cost data to support its cost estimates. [GAO-14-290](#) (5/12/14).

EU – Arctic region policy



The Council of the European Union issued **conclusions** on developing a European Union (EU) policy towards the Arctic region. Among other things, the Council supports swift agreement within the IMO on a mandatory Polar Code. (5/12/14).

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