

Headlines:

Coast Guard – cybersecurity;
FMC – OTI notices;
House – bill introduced re incidental discharges;
GAO – LNG export approval process;
Court – time charterer not liable for crew member injuries;
Texas – The Responder; and
UK – Safety Digest.

October 2, 2014



Bryant's Maritime News

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Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://www.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. Drink coffee – make mistakes faster and with more energy.

USCG – cybersecurity



The US Coast Guard posted an [article](http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Cybersecurity_141001.pdf) [found at http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Cybersecurity_141001.pdf] on the importance of cybersecurity and why senior management should embrace the concept and implement throughout their organization. (10/1/14).

FMC – OTI notices



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](http://www.fmc.gov/new-oti-page/) [found at <http://www.fmc.gov/new-oti-page/>] stating that notices concerning ocean transportation intermediaries (OTIs) (i.e., license applications, revocations, suspensions, reissuances, and rescissions of revocations) will be published on the FMC website rather than in the Federal Register effective 20 October. (10/1/14).

House – bill introduced re incidental discharges



Representative Hunter (R-CA) introduced the **Vessel Incidental Discharge Act** (H.R. 5609) [found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-113hr5609ih/pdf/BILLS-113hr5609ih.pdf>] to provide for the establishment of nationally uniform and environmentally sound standards governing discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel. (9/18/14).

GAO – LNG export approval process



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) posted its report on the federal approval process for liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports. The report describes both: (1) the status of applications to export LNG and the Department of Energy (DOE) process to review them; and (2) the status of applications to build LNG export facilities and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) process to review them. **GAO-14-762** [found at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/670/666177.pdf>] (10/1/14).

Court – time charterer not liable for crew member injuries



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that the non-demise time charterer of a vessel is not liable for the negligence of the crew. In the instant case, defendant company entered into a clearly labeled non-demise charter of a work boat with the vessel's owner. Plaintiff was injured while employed on the vessel as a crew member when the vessel encountered heavy weather while returning from a project for defendant company. Plaintiff alleged that he was injured when thrown from his seat due to the vessel's excessive speed. The court affirmed the dismissal of plaintiff's claims against defendant company under the Jones Act and general maritime law for unseaworthiness and negligence. **Barron v. BP America Production Company** [found at <http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/unpub/14/14-60066.o.pdf>], No. 14-60066 (5th Cir., October 1, 2014).

Texas – The Responder



The Texas Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) program posted the October issue of **The Responder** newsletter [found at http://www.glo.texas.gov/what-we-do/caring-for-the-coast/_publications/responder-october-2014.pdf?utm_source=The+Responder+-+October+2014+Newsletter&utm_campaign=Responder+-

[+October+2014&utm_medium=email](#)]. The edition discusses, among other things, expansion of the Texas Automated Buoy System (TABS) and the importance of contingency plans. (10/1/14).

UK – Safety Digest



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) posted the [Safety Digest 2/2014](#) [found at http://www.maib.gov.uk/publications/safety_digests/2014/safety_digest_2_2014.cfm] containing anonymous articles involving recent marine casualties from the merchant, fishing, and small craft sectors. (10/1/14).

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

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