

Headlines:

USCG – declaration of Sea Area A1;
USCG – cellular trials at sea;
USCG – Western Hemisphere Strategy;
USCG – LMRWSAC;
EPA – ECA penalty policy;
Washington – seeking Legislative/Strategic Policy Analyst;
India – Anti-Fouling Convention; and
UK – Maritime Growth Study.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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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. Soon after a new safety device is invented, innovative mariners develop a work-around.

USCG – declaration of Sea Area A1



The US Coast Guard issued a notice announcing the declaration of Sea Area A1 in certain areas off the coast of the United States based upon the performance of the Coast Guard Rescue 21 System and in accordance with the SOLAS Convention. The areas included in this designation are: the East, West, and Gulf coasts of the United States, excluding Alaska; and including Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. These areas are where more than 90% of the area within 20 nautical miles seaward of the territorial baseline is within coverage of the Coast Guard very high frequency (VHF) Coast Stations that provide both a continuous watch for Digital Selective Calling (DSC) distress alerts on Channel 70 and a capability to respond to distress alerts. **80 Fed. Reg. 2722** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-20/pdf/2015-00798.pdf>] (1/20/15).

USCG – cellular trials at sea



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2446914/>] stating that it and Palm Beach County, Florida completed the second of three trials to determine if mariners in distress are able to contact emergency dispatch agencies utilizing smart phones equipped with Next Generation 911. The USCG Research and Development Center (RDC) is examining technologies with state and county NG 911 public safety answering point centers to securely share two-way maritime distress calls with the Coast Guard's information technology system. Tests evaluated integrating these calls into the Rescue 21 Coastal System for search and rescue response. (1/16/15).

USCG – Western Hemisphere Strategy



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2447050/>] stating that Admiral Paul Zukunft, Commandant, spoke at the Maritime Security Dialogue in Washington, DC about the Coast Guard's evolving role in the 21st century. The agency has developed a Western Hemisphere Strategy with three main priorities: combating criminal networks, securing borders, and safeguarding commerce. (1/16/15).

USCG – LMRWSAC



The US Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee (LMRWSAC). Applications should be received by 23 March. **80 Fed. Reg. 2723** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-20/pdf/2015-00797.pdf>] (1/20/15).

EPA – ECA penalty policy



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its **Penalty Policy** [located at <http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-01/documents/marinepenaltypolicy.pdf>] for violations of Emissions Control Area (ECA) regulations applicable to the North American and US Caribbean Sea. The regulations require covered ships operating in these waters to utilize low sulfur fuel or adopt alternative measures (such as use of scrubbers or LNG fuel) and adopt related measures in order to reduce harmful air emissions. Under the policy, the EPA calculates the penalty based on two components: (1) the

economic benefit derived from the violation; and (2) the gravity component based on the seriousness of the violation. (1/15/15).

Washington – seeking Legislative/Strategic Policy Analyst



The Washington Department of Ecology posted a **notice** [located at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/washington/default.cfm?action=viewjob&JobID=1041173>] stating that it seeks qualified applicants for the position of Legislative/Strategic Policy Analyst (EP5). To be considered for the initial screening, applications must be received by 26 January. (1/15/15).

India – Anti-Fouling Convention



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) posted a **notice** [located at http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201501161100176309269msact_160115.pdf] consisting of an extract from the 1 December 2014 edition of the Gazette of India documenting adoption of the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 2014 whereby India implemented the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001. (1/16/15).

UK – Maritime Growth Study



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) issued a **notice** [located at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/maritime-growth-study-call-for-evidence>] stating that it is calling for contributions to the evidence gathering that will inform its Maritime Growth Study. This consultation closes on 27 February. (1/16/15).

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

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