

Headlines:

Houston-Galveston – lightering;
USCG NMC – suspension of auto-generated e-mail responses;
Lower Mississippi River – temporary safety zone;
CBP – ACE Cargo Release test; and
IMO – training requirements re polar operations.

February 10, 2015



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.

Houston-Galveston – lightering



USCG Sector Houston-Galveston issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) establishing conditions under which advance notice of transfer for lighting operations will not be required for lightering oil and hazardous materials in port within the Captain of the Port (COTP) Zone. **MSIB 01-15** (2/9/15).

USCG NMC – suspension of auto-generated e-mail responses



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **notice** [located at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/temp_suspension_autogen_email_responses_re_app_receipt_notice.pdf] announcing that, due to new security protocols, the use of automated e-mail responses regarding receipt of Merchant Mariner Credential applications has been temporarily suspended. If you provided a valid e-mail address with your submission, you will begin to receive application status updates once the application is acknowledged and entered into the NMC database system. (2/9/15).

Lower Mississippi River – temporary safety zone



The US Coast Guard proposes to establish a temporary safety zone on 22 April on waters of the Lower Mississippi River from MM 745.0 to MM 736.0 during the Memphis Port Area Multiagency Mass Rescue Operations and Medical Surge Full-Scale Exercise. Comments on the proposal must be received by 25 February. **80 Fed. Reg. 7394** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-10/pdf/2015-02319.pdf>] (2/10/15).

CBP – ACE Cargo Release test



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice announcing modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test concerning Cargo Release in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) by modifying the name of one element and allowing certain authorized importers and licensed customs brokers to submit the ACE Cargo Release entry and the Importer Security Filing (ISF) in a combined transmission. The test will run until approximately 1 November. **80 Fed. Reg. 7487** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-10/pdf/2015-02719.pdf>] (2/10/15).

IMO – training requirements re polar operations



The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.dma.dk/news/Sider/NewtrainingrequirementsforseafarersintheArcticfinalisedbytheIMO.aspx>] stating that the IMO agreed on training requirements for masters and navigating officers on ships operating in Arctic and Antarctic waters. The requirements are to be incorporated into the STCW Convention and enter into force in 2018. (2/9/15).

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

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