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Australia – injuries during loading of heavy cargo; and
Singapore – towing safety.

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Bryant’s Maritime News

Bryant’s Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91st Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

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 – use of LNG as marine fuel



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that it has finalized two policy letters providing guidance for the use of liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a marine fuel. **80 Fed. Reg. 10131** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-25/pdf/2015-03852.pdf>] (2/25/15). **Policy Letter 01-15** [located at file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/GUIDELINES_FOR_LIQUEFIED_NATURAL_GAS_FUEL_TRANSFER_OPERATIONS_AND_TRAINING_OF_PERSONNEL_ON_VESSELS_USING_NATURAL_GAS_AS_FUEL.pdf] provides guidelines for transfer operations and training. **Policy Letter 02-15** [located at file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/GUIDANCE_RELATED_TO_VESSELS_AND_WATERFRONT_FACILITIES_CONDUCTING_LIQUEFIED_NATURAL_GAS

[_\(LNG\)_MARINE_FUEL_TRANSFER_\(BUNKERING\)_OPERATIONS.pdf](#) provides guidance for bunkering operations.

USCG – PARS: In the Chukchi Sea, Bering Strait & Bering Sea



The US Coast Guard issued a notice announcing that it will host public meetings to receive comments on the port access route study (PARS) In the Chukchi Sea, Bering Strait, and Bering Sea. The meetings will be held in Juneau (9 March); Anchorage (30 March); and Nome (2 April). **80 Fed. Reg. 10137** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-25/pdf/2015-03859.pdf>] (2/25/15).

USCG & BSEE – safety alert re DP system failures



The US Coast Guard and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **joint safety alert** [located at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg545/alerts/finaljointcgbsee.pdf>] regarding dynamic positioning system failures on offshore supply vessels (OSVs) engaged in oil and gas operations on the US outer continental shelf (OCS activity). Recently, an OSV suffered a loss of position while conducting a critical OCS activity. The OSV was attached to a wellhead, lost position, and severed a wellhead tree causing a lubricant release. Immediately prior to the loss of position, the OSV had multiple DP system alarms and failures, including loss to bow thruster and engine control. No attempt was made to identify or correct the causes of these failures and the operations continued. (2/24/15).

USCG – State of the Coast Guard Address



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2467842/>] announcing that the Commandant, Admiral Paul Zukunft, USCG, delivered the annual State of the Coast Guard Address in Washington, DC. The speech outlined how the service will meet today's challenges while preparing for complexities that lie ahead. (2/24/15).

USCG – International Ice Patrol



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2467694/>] stating that its International Ice Patrol (IIP) has opened the annual ice season to detect and track icebergs in the North Atlantic Ocean. The 2014 ice season was the sixth

most severe on record with more than 1,500 icebergs drifting into the transatlantic shipping lanes. (2/24/15).

USCG – beta-testing of new Area Maritime Security Assessments



The US Coast Guard issued a **notice** [located at <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2015/02/24/2242015-coast-guard-headquarters-beta-testing-new-area-maritime-security-assessments/>] stating that beta-testing of the new Area Maritime Security Assessments has commenced. The testing is being conducted by the National Guard Bureau via a memorandum of agreement. (2/24/15).

DOJ – chief engineer sentenced to prison



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.justice.gov/usao/md/news/2014/ChiefEngineerOfCar-CarrierVesselSentencedToPrisonForObstructionOfJusticeInMarineOilPol.html>] stating that the former chief engineer of the car carrier Selene Leader pleaded guilty in federal court to obstruction of justice and violating the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships. He admitted making fraudulent entries in the ship's oil record book (ORB), destroying records, instructing subordinates to lie, and dumping oily waste directly into the sea. He was sentenced to eight months in prison followed by one year of supervised release. (2/20/15).

FERC – Alaska natural gas pipeline project discontinued



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) posted its **Report to Congress** [located at <http://www.ferc.gov/legal/staff-reports/2015/angta-nineteenth.pdf>] on the progress made in licensing and constructing the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline. The report states that the TransCanada Alaska Company, LLC requested termination of its prefile review process. The FERC staff has now discontinued work on the Alaska natural gas pipeline project. (2/24/15).

FMC – Chairman's Earth Day Award



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) sponsors the **Chairman's Earth Day Award** [located at http://www.fmc.gov/news/chairmans_award.aspx], recognizing members of the maritime transportation industry for innovations and successes in developing environmentally sustainable shipping practices. The FMC is accepting submissions for interested parties. (2/24/15).

Senate – bill introduced re tsunami research



Senator Cantwell (D-WA) introduced a bill (S. 533) to authorize and strengthen the tsunami detection, forecast, warning, research, and mitigation program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (2/23/15).

Australia – injuries during loading of heavy cargo



The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) issued a **notice** [located at http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation_reports/2015/mair/318-mo-2015-001.aspx] stating that it has opened an investigation into the serious injuries incurred by two crew members of the general cargo ship Happy Buccaneer in Port Hedland on 23 February during the loading of heavy cargo. (2/24/15).

Singapore – towing safety



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular reminding stakeholders of the importance of minimizing the danger to navigation and the environment when engaged in the towing of ships and other floating objects. **Shipping Circular 3-2015** (2/13/15) [located at http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/circulars_and_notices/pdfs/shipping_circulars/sc_no_3_of_2015.pdf].

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

Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting
4845 SW 91st Way
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135
USA

1-352-692-5493
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

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