

Headlines:

IMO – Day of the Seafarer;
USCG – ballast water reporting;
FMC – action on various regulatory matters;
NTSB – tank barge sinking;
House – bill introduced re whistleblower protection;
House – bill introduced to establish maritime heritage area;
Hong Kong – incentive scheme to reduce SOx emissions; and
UK – flooding due to lack of crew training.

June 25, 2015



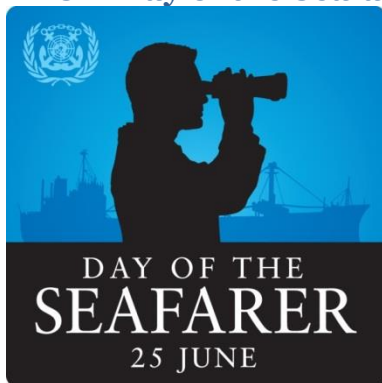
Bryant's Maritime News

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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. Those who don't study history may lose the opportunity to make original mistakes.

IMO – Day of the Seafarer



The IMO issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/22-DOTS-call-to-action.aspx>] reminding us that today, 25 June 2015, is celebrated as the Day of the Seafarer. This year's theme, "A Career at Sea", aims to help address the predicted shortage of seafarers in the future by promoting and highlighting the positive benefits of choosing a career at sea. (6/22/15).

USCG – ballast water reporting



The US Coast Guard issued a **notice** advising vessels required to submit ballast water reports that use of the current USCG Ballast Water Reporting Form should continue until a new form with a new expiration date is available. (6/24/15).

FMC – action on various regulatory matters



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.fmc.gov/NR15-09/>] announcing various actions approved by the Commissioners. Among other things, the Commissioners directed the release soon of the second staff report on US port congestion. It also directed the staff to prepare for consideration and approval an order to require the ocean carrier members of the Pacific Port Operational Improvement Agreement to submit certain data and information. (6/24/15).

NTSB – tank barge sinking



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) posted the report of its investigation of the sinking of the tank barge Nash on 8 June 2014 in the North Pacific Ocean off Point Conception, California. The tank barges Nash and Kenny were fully loaded with liquid magnesium chloride and being towed by the uninspected towing vessel Calvin from Mexico to British Columbia when the Nash began to list noticeably to its starboard side. Listing and trimming by the stern increased over the next 6 hours, and the US Coast Guard directed the master of the tug to tow the Nash to a nearby anchorage. Shortly thereafter, the Nash sank stern first in 240 feet of water, about 3 nautical miles west of Point Conception, California. About a week after the sinking, a salvage team partially refloated the barge and towed it to its disposal location about 17 nautical miles from shore. The probable cause of the sinking was flooding of the aft starboard side void tank. The mechanism for entry of flooding water to this void tank could not be determined because the barge was not salvaged and was not available for examination after it sank. **MAR-15-12** [located at <http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1512.pdf>] (6/24/15).

House – bill introduced re whistleblower protection



Representative DeSaulnier (D-CA) introduced the **Offshore Oil and Gas Worker Whistleblower Protection Act of 2015** (H.R. 2824) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114hr2824ih/pdf/BILLS-114hr2824ih.pdf>] to provide whistleblower protections to certain workers in the offshore oil and gas industry. (6/18/15).

House – bill introduced to establish maritime heritage area



Representative Kilmer (D-WA) introduced the **Maritime Washington National Heritage Area Act** (H.R. 2833) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114hr2833ih/pdf/BILLS-114hr2833ih.pdf>] to establish the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area in the State of Washington, and for other purposes. Representative Kilmer issued a **press release** [located at <http://kilmer.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/kilmer-cantwell-murray-and-heck-reintroduce-maritime-heritage>] explaining the measure. (6/18/15).

Hong Kong – incentive scheme to reduce SOx emissions



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a notice advising that registration of ocean-going vessels (OGVs) under the current incentive scheme will expire on 25 September 2015. To continue to enjoy the 50% reduction in port facility and light dues up to 31 March 2018, OGVs must be re-registered with the Environmental Protection Department under the Extended Incentive Scheme. To qualify for the incentive scheme, OGVs must while berthing in Hong Kong commit to taking measures to reduce emissions of sulphur dioxide (SOx) by such measures as utilizing marine fuel with sulphur content not more than 0.5%, utilizing liquefied natural gas (LNG), or utilizing an onshore power supply. **Notice 91-2015** [located at <http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/pdf/mdn15091.pdf>] (6/24/15)

UK – flooding due to lack of crew training



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) posted its report and annexes regarding the flooding and abandonment of the general cargo ship *Sea Breeze* on 9 March 2014 off Lizard Point. A ballast pump in the engine room was being maintained when water began to enter the space. The crew was unable to stem the flow and the engine room was evacuated. The crew did not deal effectively with the emergency because they had not been trained. Salvors

brought the flooding under control and the ship was brought into port. **Report 14-2015** [located at <https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/flooding-and-abandonment-of-general-cargo-ship-sea-breeze>] (6/24/15).

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

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