

Headlines:

USCG – semi-submersible drug boat interdicted;
OFAC – settlement with marine insurer;
BSEE – overseeing Chukchi Sea drilling;
NTSB – launch capsizing of yacht;
Senate – bill introduced re oil spill response;
UK – passage planning & ECDIS failure; and
Lighthouse Act – 7 August 1789.

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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. The proposal is all very well in practice, but it'll never work in theory.

USCG – semi-submersible drug boat interdicted



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2575910/) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2575910/>] stating that a semi-submersible vessel carrying between six and eight TONS of cocaine was interdicted in waters of the eastern Pacific Ocean south of Mexico. Four suspected smugglers have been apprehended. There have been 25 interdictions of semi-submersible vessels in these waters since 2006. (8/5/15).

OFAC – settlement with marine insurer



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a [notice](http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20150806.aspx) [located at <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20150806.aspx>] stating that a \$271,815 settlement agreement has been reached with Navigators Insurance Company regarding

apparent violations of OFAC regulations. Among other things, it was alleged that the company provided insurance coverage for North Korean-flagged vessels and covered incidents that occurred in or involved Iran, Sudan, or Cuba. (8/6/15).

BSEE – overseeing Chukchi Sea drilling



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2015/BSEE-Inspectors-Stay-Vigilant-over-Shell-Arctic-Drilling-Operations/>] stating that its inspectors are overseeing the Shell drilling operations in the Chukchi Sea to ensure compliance with federal regulations and safety standards. (8/6/15).

NTSB – launch capsizing of yacht



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the report of its investigation of the launch capsizing of the yacht Baaden in Anacortes on May 18, 2014. The newly built yacht was being launched stern first when it capsized upon entering the water. There were no injuries and no pollution, but the yacht was a total constructive loss. Investigation revealed that the probable cause of the casualty was the yacht's low margin of stability due to the combined effects of a recording error during the final vessel design, which resulted in an incorrect assessment of the vessel's center of gravity, and an overestimation of the weight of installed ballast. **MAB 15-14** [located at <http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1514.pdf>] (8/6/15).

Senate – bill introduced re oil spill response



Senator Nelson (D-FL) introduced a bill (S. 1999) to authorize the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to act, without liability for certain damages, to prevent and respond to the threat of damage from pollution of the sea by crude oil, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (8/5/15).

UK – passage planning & ECDIS failure



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) issued the report of its investigation of the grounding and flooding of the ro-ro ferry Commodore Clipper in the approaches to St Peter Port, Guernsey on 14 July 2014. The vessel grounded on a charted rocky shoal while entering the port. There were no injuries and no pollution, but the vessel suffered significant raking

damage. The probable cause of the grounding was insufficient passage planning, coupled with failure to properly utilize the vessel's ECDIS. **Report 18-2015** [located at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/451374/MAIBInvReport-18_2015.pdf] (8/6/15).

Lighthouse Act – 7 August 1789



The **Lighthouse Act** was the ninth statute adopted by the First Congress of the United States. It provided for the voluntary cession by the various states of all lighthouses, beacons, buoys, and public piers to the federal government and tasked the Secretary of the Treasury with building and maintaining the aids to maritime navigation. The Lighthouse Establishment (later named the United States Light House Service) is the oldest of the various components of the present-day United States Coast Guard, joining in 1939.

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

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