

Headlines:

USCG – Great Lakes pilotage rates proposal;
USCG – marine vapor control systems;
ITC – certain marine sonar imaging devices;
Court – LHWCA injury;
EU NAVFOR – pirate attack threat;
Panama Canal – Expansion Program testing;
UK – importance of UK Ship Register; and
UK – Code of Safe Working Practices.

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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. Unattended children will be given a cup of espresso and a free kitten.

USCG – Great Lakes pilotage rates proposal



The US Coast Guard proposes revisions to the annual ratemaking methodology and to several Great Lakes pilotage regulations and proposes new base pilotage rates and surcharges using the proposed revised methodology. A public meeting will be held on 17 September in Detroit. Written comments on the proposals must be received by 9 November. **80 Fed. Reg. 54484** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-10/pdf/2015-22895.pdf>] (9/10/15).

USCG – marine vapor control systems



The US Coast Guard announced that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the amendment of an existing collection of information related to the 16 July 2013 final rule regarding marine vapor control

systems. [80 Fed. Reg. 54418](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-10/pdf/2015-22779.pdf>] (9/10/15).

ITC – certain marine sonar imaging devices



The International Trade Commission (ITC) issued a notice stating that it has determined to review-in-part the final initial determination issued by the presiding administrative law judge on 2 July 2015 in the investigation of certain marine sonar imaging devices. [80 Fed. Reg. 54592](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-10/pdf/2015-22735.pdf>] (9/10/15).

Court – LHWCA injury



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit denied the employer's petition for review of a Benefits Review Board ruling requiring employer to pay for thoracic surgery for the employee under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA). The employee had incurred a work-related thoracic-level spine injury aboard an inland barge while lifting a briefcase containing satellite equipment. [Petron Industries v. Courville](#), No. 14-60707 (5th Cir., September 9, 2015) [located at <http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/unpub/14/14-60707.o.pdf>].

EU NAVFOR – pirate attack threat



The EU Naval Force Somalia issued a [press release](#) [located at <http://eunavfor.eu/collective-effort-by-maritime-industry-and-naval-forces-keep-pirate-attacks-suppressed-eu-naval-force-operation-commander-major-general-martin-smith-mbe/>] stating that Major General Martin Smith MBE delivered a speech at a meeting with senior shipping industry representatives stating that there is no room for complacency regarding the on-going threat of Somali piracy. He credited the significant reduction in pirate attacks to the collective efforts of shipping companies and dedicated naval forces. (9/9/15).

Panama Canal – Expansion Program testing



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a [press release](#) [located at <http://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2015/09/07/pr558.html>] stating that it is awaiting a formal report from the Expansion Project contractor regarding the root cause of seepage noted in one of the new Pacific locks during stress testing. Two independent external structural engineers have been retained to conduct an objective evaluation of the reasons for this localized issue and

assess the contractor's proposed solution. The overall project is now 93% complete. (9/7/15).

UK – importance of UK Ship Register



The UK Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport, Robert Goodwill MP, delivered a [speech](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/importance-of-the-uk-ship-register) [located at <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/importance-of-the-uk-ship-register>] during London International Shipping Week on the Importance of the UK Ship Register. (9/9/15).

UK – Code of Safe Working Practices



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) posted the updated [Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/459523/Code_of_Safe_Working_Practices_for_Merchant_Seafarers_2015.pdf) [located at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/459523/Code_of_Safe_Working_Practices_for_Merchant_Seafarers_2015.pdf]. This 512-page document provides guidance for improving health and safety on board ship and is intended primarily for merchant seafarers on UK-registered ships. (9/9/15).

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

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