

Headlines:

USCG – ballast water management reports;
USCG – voluntary bunker sampling program;
FMC – rulemakings;
FMC - \$520,000 in penalty payments collected;
NOAA – DWH PEIS;
COSPAS-SARSAT – 250 lives saved in 2015;
Singapore – mass flow metering of bunkers; and
USCG Reserve established – 19 February 1941.

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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. Planck's Constant isn't.

USCG – ballast water management reports



The US Coast Guard issued a **notice** reminding owners, operators, and masters that the final rule amending the ballast water management reporting and recordkeeping requirements comes into effect on 22 February. From that date, vessels with ballast water tanks operating exclusively on voyages within a single Captain of the Port (COTP) zone are required to submit an annual report of their ballast water management practices. The amendments also simplify and streamline the ballast water report form. Finally, the amendments provide that ballast water management reports are to be submitted after arrival at a port or place of destination, rather than requiring submission prior to arrival. (2/18/16).

USCG – voluntary bunker sampling program



The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin announcing a voluntary vessel fuel oil (bunkers) sampling program. Beginning 29 February, Coast Guard port state control officers (PSCOs) may request fuel oil samples from vessels. Provision of the sample is voluntary and the vessel will not be sanctioned if the voluntarily-provided sample is non-compliant with the low sulfur requirement. **MSIB 03-16** [located at http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/003_16_2-17-2016.pdf] (2/17/16).

FMC – rulemakings



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.fmc.gov/NR16-03/>] stating that the Commissioners voted to issue three advance notices of proposed rulemaking (ANPRMs) and to issue a final rule implementing Commissioner term limits and attorney's fees. The ANPRMs address OCC and MTO agreements; service contracts and NVOCC service arrangements; and FMC user fees. (2/18/16).

FMC – \$520,000 in penalty payments collected



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.fmc.gov/NR16-02/>] stating that it collected \$520,000 in penalty payments from four ocean transportation intermediaries (OTIs) and one vessel-operating common carrier (VOCC) in settlement of alleged violations of the Shipping Act. (2/18/16).

NOAA – DWH PEIS



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that the damage assessment and restoration plan and final programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) regarding the Deepwater Horizon oil spill has been completed. **81 Fed. Reg. 8483** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-02-19/pdf/2016-03299.pdf>] (2/19/16).

COSPAS-SARSAT – 250 lives saved in 2015



The National oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.noaa.gov/stories/noaa-satellites-helped-save-250-lives-2015>] stating that the COSPAS-SARSAT system assisted in the saving of 250 lives during 2015. The satellite system works by detecting distress signals for EPIRBs and other similar devices and transmitting to appropriate ground stations the distress signal and its position. (2/18/16).

Singapore – mass flow metering of bunkers



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/ddoafe59-9681-4b4e-82f3-6f59946230f9>] announcing launch of its Technical Reference for Bunker Mass Flow Metering (TR48 : 2015) to use the mass flow metering (MFM) system for marine fuel oil deliveries in Singapore with effect from 1 January 2017. This system will provide both bunker buyers and bunker suppliers with better assurance of the quantity of bunker delivered. (2/16/16).

USCG Reserve established – 19 February 1941



On 19 February 1941, the **Coast Guard Auxiliary and Reserve Act of 1941** was signed into law, establishing the United States Coast Guard Reserve as a trained force of military officers and enlisted personnel to augment regular Coast Guard military personnel when needed. For 75 years, the USCG Reserve has been available to provide critical competencies in boat operations, contingency planning and response, expeditionary warfare, marine safety, port security, law enforcement, and mission support. Semper Paratus!

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

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