

## Headlines:

USCG – fishing vessel survival craft requirements;  
New Orleans – interim security zone;  
DOJ – tanker captain pleads guilty;  
House – hearing on CG & MT budget request;  
New Zealand – safety bulletin;  
Panama Canal – possible draft restrictions;  
Singapore – deck officer COC amendments;  
UK – offshore renewable energy developments; and  
MREN – Maritime cybersecurity.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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 – fishing vessel survival craft requirements**



The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin clarifying the survival craft requirements applicable to uninspected commercial fishing industry vessels. **MSIB 04-16** [located at [http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/004\\_16\\_2-18-2016.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/004_16_2-18-2016.pdf)] (2/18/16).

## **New Orleans – interim security zone**



The US Coast Guard established an interim security zone around escorted vessels between mile markers 90.0 and 106.0 of the Lower Mississippi River at New Orleans. Comments on the rulemaking must be received by 22

February. **81 Fed. Reg. 8646** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-02-22/pdf/2016-02282.pdf>] (2/22/16).

### DOJ – tanker captain pleads guilty



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/ship-captain-pleads-guilty-felony-obstruction-related-pollution-tanker-ship-traveling>] stating that the master of the tanker Green Sky pleaded guilty to one felony count of obstructing a US Coast Guard investigation into suspected pollution crimes on the vessel. (2/18/16).

### House – hearing on CG & MT budget request



The Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will conduct a **hearing** regarding the President's FY2017 Budget Request for Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Programs on March 15. (2/19/16).

### New Zealand – safety bulletin



Maritime New Zealand issued a **Safety Bulletin** [located at <http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/Publications-and-forms/Commercial-operations/Shipping-safety/Safety-updates/Issue33-mnz-safety-bulletin-February-2016.pdf>] concerning **crane block failures** on IHI and IHI-WMMP deck cranes on log ships. (2/19/16).

### Panama Canal – possible draft restrictions



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory stating that, due to an unusually dry rainy season caused by the El Nino phenomenon, water levels in the Gatun and Alajuela Lakes are below normal. Transiting vessels should anticipate the possibility of draft restrictions being imposed during April 2016. **Advisory 05-2016** [located at <https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-05-2016.pdf>] (2/17/16).

## Singapore – deck officer COC amendments



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular advising that amendments have been made with regard to deck officer Certificates of Competency (COC) to conform to requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention. **Shipping Circular 5-2016** [located at <http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/3a0094da-e192-4790-bb80-b2a6833e227a>] (2/18/16).

## UK – offshore renewable energy developments



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a **Marine Guidance Note** [located at [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/502021/MGN\\_543.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/502021/MGN_543.pdf)] highlighting issues to be considered when assessing the impact on navigational safety and emergency response caused by offshore renewable energy installation developments. (2/19/16).

## MREN – Maritime cybersecurity



In the February 2016 edition of **Maritime Reporter and Engineering News**, you can find my article entitled “**Maritime cybersecurity**”. In the article, I discuss the challenges posed by cyber threats and the advantages that may accrue to marine entities that adopt robust cybersecurity programs and plans adapted to their individual circumstances. (2/20/16).

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

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