

## Headlines:

CBP – reconstitution of COAC;  
USN – ICEX 2016;  
Court – warships are not “products”;  
IMO – R&D Forum on BWM; and  
India – container weight verification.

April 1, 2016



# 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. Be the person that your dog thinks you are.*

## CBP – reconstitution of COAC



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice announcing the termination of the Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the establishment of the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC). **81 Fed. Reg. 18865** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-04-01/pdf/2016-07388.pdf>] (4/1/16).

## USN – ICEX 2016



The US Navy issued a **news release** explaining the scientific research conducted during ICEX 2016 on the ice floe in the Arctic Ocean approximately 200 miles north of Barrow, Alaska. (3/31/16) [located at [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story\\_id=93918](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=93918)].

## Court – warships are not “products”



In a case of first impression, the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit held that warships are not “products” for the purpose of strict products liability. Plaintiff’s decedent died of mesothelioma. Plaintiff alleged that decedent contracted that condition from exposure to asbestos installed by defendants during the original construction of the US Navy warships on which he served. Plaintiff sued defendant ship builders asserting strict products liability and general negligence. In addition to dismissing plaintiff’s strict products liability claim, the court found that plaintiff had failed to present any evidence as to whether decedent’s possible exposure to asbestos on the warships was a substantial contributing factor to his injuries. **McIndoe v. Bath Iron Works**, No. 13-56762 (9th Cir., March 31, 2016) [located at <http://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/opinions/2016/03/31/13-56762.pdf>].

## IMO – R&D Forum on BWM



The IMO posted a **briefing** summarizing the recent IMO-GloBallast R&D Forum on Ballast Water Management held in Montreal, Canada. (3/31/16) [located at <http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/07-R-and-D-forum.aspx>].

## India – container weight verification



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) posted the **final draft** of its guidelines for container weight verification. Comments must be received by 10 April. The amendments enter into force from 1 July 2016. (3/31/16) [located at [http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201603310459517483416draft\\_ms\\_notice\\_2016\\_nt\\_iopc.pdf](http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201603310459517483416draft_ms_notice_2016_nt_iopc.pdf)].

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