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USCG – STCW issues;
DOJ – shipping executive indicted;
NOAA – Flower Garden Banks NMS;
NOAA – national coastal mapping strategy;
DOE – application to export LNG;
MARAD – Port of Providence TIGER project completed;
Court – spar analogous to buildings;
EMSA – alternative fuels;
Paris MOU – CIC to focus on MLC 2006;
Panama Canal – May operations; and
UK – shipping fleet statistics.

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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. Human beings are remarkable for their disinclination to learn from the experience of others.

USCG – STCW issues



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **notice** reminding mariners of various 2010 amendments to the STCW Convention that will enter into effect on 1 January 2017. These include STCW gap closing requirements; ECDIS limitations; renewal of certain STCW endorsements; and qualified assessor issues. (6/3/16)

[http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/010117_stcw_changes_notice.pdf].

DOJ – shipping executive indicted



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** stating that a former executive with Compañía Sudamericana de Vapores S.A. (CSAV) and a resident of Chile has been indicted for price fixing and bid rigging in connection with international ocean shipments of roll-on, roll-off cargo. He is the eighth executive to be charged in the investigation to date. (6/7/16)
[<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/fourth-ocean-shipping-executive-indicted-price-fixing-and-bid-rigging>].

NOAA – Flower Garden Banks NMS



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** stating that it proposes to expand the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) in the Gulf of Mexico. Five different scenarios or options are under consideration. Public meetings will be held in Galveston (12 July); Houston (13 July); New Orleans (19 July); Mobile (20 July); and Lafayette (21 July). Comments must be received by 19 August. (6/7/16)
[<http://www.noaa.gov/flower-garden-banks-national-marine-sanctuary-expansion-proposed>].

NOAA – national coastal mapping strategy



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that comments should be submitted within the next 60 days on the **draft National Coastal Mapping Strategy 1.0**, developed by the Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology's Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG-OCM). A webinar on the draft strategy will be held on 23 June. **81 Fed. Reg. 36892** (6/8/16)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-08/pdf/2016-13568.pdf>].

DOE – application to export LNG



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a notice stating that it received an application from Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC requesting authorization to export liquefied natural gas (LNG). Comments on the application must be received by 8 August. **81 Fed. Reg. 36903** (6/8/16)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-08/pdf/2016-13550.pdf>].

MARAD – Port of Providence TIGER project completed



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a **news release** stating that the Port of Providence TIGER Grant Project has been completed. (6/6/16) [http://www.marad.dot.gov/newsroom/news_release/2016/u-s-department-of-transportation-marks-completion-of-port-of-providence-tiger-project/].

Court – spars analogous to buildings



The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that a spar offshore drilling and production platform is a building, rather than a vessel. The plaintiff was injured while working on the spar. He brought suit against, among others, defendant company that had designed and constructed the spar. Defendant moved for summary judgment, contending the Louisiana law provides that no action arising out of deficiencies in the design or construction of immovable property can be brought five years after the date on which the property is accepted by the owner. The court held that spars are more similar to fixed offshore drilling platforms than they are to vessels. **Hefren v. McDermott, Inc.**, No. 15-30980 (5th Cir., April 25, 2016) [<http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/15/15-30980-CV0.pdf>].

EMSA – alternative fuels



The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) posted a **Study** on the use of ethyl and methyl alcohol as alternative fuels in shipping. (6/6/16) [<http://www.emsa.europa.eu/emsa-homepage/2-news-a-press-centre/news/2726-study-on-the-use-of-ethyl-and-methyl-alcohol-as-alternative-fuels-in-shipping.html>].

Paris MOU – CIC to focus on MLC 2006



The Paris MOU issued a **press release** stating that its Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) for the period 1 September through 30 November 2016 will address compliance with MLC 2006. (5/30/16) [<https://www.parismou.org/paris-mou-agrees-concentrated-inspection-campaign-marpol-annex-vi-2018>]. *Note: Yesterday's newsletter incorrectly stated that the 2016 CIC would focus on MARPOL Annex VI, which will actually be the focus of the 2018 CIC. Several eagle-eyed readers gently pointed out my error. Mea culpa.*

Panama Canal – May operations



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory summarizing Canal operations during May. It also includes the schedule of locks maintenance outages for the remainder of the fiscal year. **Advisory 32-2016** (6/6/16) [<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-32-2016.pdf>].

UK – shipping fleet statistics



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) issued **UK Shipping Fleet Statistics**. In 2015, the UK registered trading fleet measured 13.7 million deadweight tonnes; grew by 8%; remained the nineteenth largest trading fleet in the world; and accounted for 0.8% of the global trading fleet. (6/1/16) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/shipping-fleet-statistics-2015>].

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

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