

Headlines:

NOSAC – meeting on 1-2 November;  
DHS – PNT study;  
Panama Canal – booking cancellations;  
MREN – silence your ships; and  
Autumnal equinox – 22 September 2016.

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## Bryant's Maritime News



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### **NOSAC – meeting on 1-2 November**



The National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (NOSAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet on 1-2 November in Houston. Topics on the agenda include well intervention activities, cyber security, and the

risk-based inspection program. [81 Fed. Reg. 65367](#) (9/22/16)  
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-22/pdf/2016-22839.pdf>].

### DHS – PNT study



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is engaging critical infrastructure sector owners and operators in a study to define and validate current and future positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) requirements for critical infrastructure. Interested organizations or individuals should contact DHS by 28 February 2017. [81 Fed. Reg. 65390](#) (9/22/16)  
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-22/pdf/2016-22884.pdf>].

### Panama Canal – booking cancellations



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory stating that, through 1530 hours local time, 23 September, it will accept, at no cost, booking cancellations. Booking slots that become available will be awarded to interested customers. This action is being taken due to the adverse effects of the Hanjin Shipping Company situation. [Advisory 49-2016](#) (9/21/16)  
[<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-49-2016-Rev.pdf>].

### MREN – Silence your ships



In the September 2016 edition of [Maritime Reporter and Engineering News](#), you can find my article entitled "[Silence your ships](#)". In the article, I discuss the steps being taken both at the IMO and in the United States to reduce the volume of noise generated by ships and other maritime activity. This anthropogenic sound increasingly is causing significant disturbances to marine mammals and other aquatic life. Such noise generation also needlessly expends energy.

### Autumnal equinox – 22 September 2016



The autumnal equinox for 2016 is (or was) at 1421 UTC, Thursday, 22 September 2016. This is calculated as the moment that the sun crosses the equator headed south. As I recall, in my youth (also known as the Dark Ages), the first day of autumn was traditionally on 21 September. The delay of a day is disturbing and another insidious impact of global warming and the gradual expansion of the planet's waistline.

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