

Headlines:

Red Sea – defensive strikes to protect shipping;  
NTSB – USCG towing accident report;  
MARAD – shipboard climate best practices training material;  
USN – barnacle busting;  
FMC – meeting on 19 October;  
ILO – repatriation and injury compensation;  
EC – unproblematic support for ports;  
UK – repatriation and injury compensation; and  
USCG – internet issues?

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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** 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. Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.*

## Red Sea – defensive strikes to protect shipping



The Department of Defense (DOD) issued a **news release** stating that the US military struck three radar sites in Houthi-controlled territory on Yemen's Red Sea coast. The radar sites were involved in recent missile launches threatening vessels operating in international waters in the Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandeb. (10/13/16)

[<http://www.defense.gov/News/Article/Article/972322/strikes-target-radar-sites-in-yemen>].

## NTSB – USCG towing accident report



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the towing by the USCGC Kiska of the recreational sailing vessel Kolina south of Maui with loss of life. On the night of 5 November 2015, while towing the sailing vessel, the crew of the Coast Guard cutter lost radio contact with the master and sole occupant of the vessel. After an extensive search, the body of the master was found beneath the vessel, entangled in the mast rigging. The NTSB determined that the probable cause of the accident was the vessel master's decision to launch and operate a poorly maintained vessel and his failure to protect his personal safety during the subsequent tow. **MAB 16-19** (10/13/16)

[<http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1619.pdf>].

## MARAD – shipboard climate best practices training material



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a **news release** stating that it signed a \$198,000 cooperative agreement with the Ship Operations Cooperative Program (SOCP) to develop interactive Computer-Based Training Modules, a Best Practices Tool Kit, and other training materials concerning appropriate shipboard climate within the US Merchant Marine. The training material will help mariners better identify and prevent sexual harassment, bullying, retaliation, violence, and other coercive behaviors as well as assist industry efforts to aggressively promote a culture of zero tolerance for such behavior. (10/11/16)

[[https://www.marad.dot.gov/newsroom/news\\_release/2016/marad-announces-cooperative-agreement-to-develop-shipboard-climate-best-practices-training-material/](https://www.marad.dot.gov/newsroom/news_release/2016/marad-announces-cooperative-agreement-to-develop-shipboard-climate-best-practices-training-material/)].

## USN – barnacle busting



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that it is sponsoring research into the reduction of biofouling. (10/13/16) [[http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story\\_id=97157](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=97157)].

## FMC – meeting on 19 October



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a notice stating that the Commissioners will meet on 19 October in Washington, DC. During the open session, they will be briefed on the TOC 2016 Conference, the Consultative Shipping Group meetings; and the IMO and European Maritime Law Organization. During the closed session, they will receive briefings on the Hanjin Bankruptcy and shipping disruptions and on the pending third-party audit of PIERPass under the West Coast MTO Discussion Agreement. **81 Fed. Reg. 71095** (10/14/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-14/pdf/2016-24975.pdf>].

## ILO – repatriation and injury compensation



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular reminding owners, operators, and masters that the 2014 amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006 enter into force on 18 January 2017. These amendments provide for compulsory financial security relating to repatriation of abandoned seafarers and to work injury compensation. **Shipping Circular 22-2016** (10/13/16) [<http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/585e2c40-50c3-4db2-817d-d3bdcb23f6b1>].

## EC – unproblematic support for ports



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** stating that it is inviting comments on revised criteria for implementing unproblematic state support for ports and airports. Comments must be submitted by 8 December. (10/13/16) [[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-3398\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3398_en.htm)].

## UK – repatriation and injury compensation



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a **notice** stating that it has opened a consultation on proposed changes to legislation to implement the 2014 amendments to MLC 2006. The amendments would concern financial security relating to repatriation of abandoned seafarers and to work injury compensation. The consultation closes on 5 December. (10/13/16) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-legislation-to-implement-the-2014-amendments-to-the-maritime-labour-convention-2006-into-uk-law-and-some-additional-amendments>].

## USCG – internet issues?



On Thursday and Friday, 13-14 October, I experienced consistent issues in attempting to access many (but not all) USCG internet sites using either the Microsoft Edge or the Google Chrome browser, receiving error messages each time. The problems were not experienced when using the Mozilla Firefox browser. I don't pretend to understand computers or the internet, but I can say that these were the first such issues I have experienced in trying to access USCG sites. If you have experienced access problems, try an alternative browser.

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