

Headlines:

USCG – relief valve testing on pneumatic systems;
DOE – Oleo Sponge soaks up oil; and
Senate – bill introduced to lift Cuban trade embargo.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – relief valve testing on pneumatic systems



The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) reminding stakeholders of the risks and best practices in conducting or witnessing the testing of vapor pressure relief valves on pneumatic systems. [MSIB 04-2017](https://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/004_17_3-7-2017.pdf) (3/7/17) [https://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/004_17_3-7-2017.pdf]

DOE – Oleo Sponge soaks up oil



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a [news release](#) stating that scientists at Argonne National Laboratory have invented a new foam, called Oleo Sponge, which easily absorbs oil from water, is reusable, and can pull disbursed oil from the entire water column – not just the surface. In tests at a giant sweater tank at the National Oil Spill Response, Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility, the Oleo Sponge successfully collected diesel and crude oil from both below and on the water surface. The research was funded by the US Coast Guard

and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. (3/7/17)
[<https://www.energy.gov/articles/soaking-oil-spill>].

Senate – bill introduced to lift Cuban trade embargo



Senator Moran (R-KS) introduced the **Cuba Trade Act of 2017** (S. 472) to lift the trade embargo on Cuba, and for other purposes. (2/28/17)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115s472is/pdf/BILLS-115s472is.pdf>].

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