

## Headlines:

PHMSA – hazmat regulations;  
Gulf of Mexico – restricted areas;  
NOAA – 1,347-day research voyage;  
GAO – abandoned and derelict vessels;  
EU – cooperation on coast guard functions;  
Ireland – alcohol and drug consumption; and  
Singapore – port dues rebate extended.

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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. Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.*

## **PHMSA – hazmat regulations**



The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) promulgated a final rule, effective immediately, amending the hazardous materials regulations (HMR) to maintain consistency with international regulations and standards. **82 Fed. Reg. 15796** (3/30/17)  
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-30/pdf/2017-04565.pdf>].

## **Gulf of Mexico – restricted areas**



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) promulgated a final rule amending the restricted area regulations applicable to waters of the Gulf of Mexico and adjacent waterways abutting Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. The amendments enter into effect on 1 May. **82 Fed. Reg. 15637** (3/30/17)  
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-30/pdf/2017-06296.pdf>].

## NOAA – 1,347-day research voyage



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** stating that the research vessel Ronald H. Brown returned to its homeport of Charleston as it completed a three-and-a half-year (1,347 day) deployment covering nearly 130,000 miles as it conducted scientific research in the Arctic, Antarctic, Atlantic, and Pacific. (3/27/17) [<http://www.noaa.gov/media-release/noaa-research-ship-returns-to-charleston-home-port-after-worldwide-deployment>].

## GAO – abandoned and derelict vessels



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report on abandoned and derelict vessels. The report notes that the ability of the federal government to respond to such incidents is largely limited to those vessels that create a hazard to navigation, the threat of a spill of oil or hazardous substance, or present a public health threat. **GAO-17-202** (3/28/17) [<http://www.gao.gov/assets/690/683713.pdf>].

## EU – cooperation on coast guard functions



The European Union (EU) issued a **press release** stating that a Tripartite Working Arrangement has been signed by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) to structure their cooperation on coast guard functions. (3/23/17) [<http://frontex.europa.eu/news/frontex-emsa-and-efca-strengthen-cooperation-on-coast-guard-functions-jmhNco>].

## Ireland – alcohol and drug consumption



The Irish Department of Transport, Tourism, and Sport issued a notice reminding mariners of the risks associated with the consumption of alcohol and/or drugs when operating or being on board a vessel. **Marine Notice 15-2017** (3/29/17) [<http://www.dttas.ie/sites/default/files/MN%2015%20of%202017%20Consumption%20of%20Alcohol%20and%20Drugs.pdf>].

## Singapore – port dues rebate extended



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular announcing that the port dues rebate for vessels handling transshipment vehicles in Singapore has been extended until 31 December 2019. **Port Marine Circular 2017-05** (3/29/17) [<http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notice/detail/3odd8b44-23a0-4de5-9974-d100b3d6d6ae>].

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