

## Headlines:

DOT – SLSDC Pacesetter Award winners;  
FMC – East Coast Port Gateway Terminal Agreement;  
House – bill introduced to ban drilling off Florida;  
California – biofouling management;  
IALA – digital data exchange;  
India – ships to avoid Somali coast;  
Panama Canal – online bank guarantees;  
Somalia – hijacking terminated; and  
South Atlantic – search for missing crew.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** 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. 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. Time passes because it consistently gets good marks.*

## **DOT – SLSDC Pacesetter Award winners**



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a **press release** announcing the 2016 winners of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) Pacesetter Award for the US ports registering increases in international cargo tonnage. (4/7/17) [<https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/slsdc0217>].

## **FMC – East Coast Port Gateway Terminal Agreement**



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that the Commissioners voted to allow the East Coast Port Gateway Terminal Agreement to enter into effect on 10 April. Under the agreement, port

authorities in Virginia and Georgia will be able to discuss matters related to such things as joint marketing; operating systems and equipment; and cargo handling practices. (4/7/17) [<http://www.fmc.gov/NR17-07/>].

### House – bill introduced to ban drilling off Florida



Representative Castor (D-FL) introduced a bill (H.R. 2002) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Florida, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (4/6/17).

### California – biofouling management



The California State Lands Commission (SLC) will meet on 20 April in Berkeley. Items on the **agenda** include proposed amendments to the California biofouling management regulations. (4/6/17) [<http://www.slc.ca.gov/Meetings/04-20-17/Agenda.htm>].

### IALA – digital data exchange



The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) issued a **news release** stating that the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) Committee on e-Navigation agreed on a proposed guideline for specifications for digital data exchange. The guideline was developed in DMA's EfficenSea2 project. (4/7/17) [<http://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/DMA-plays-central-role-in-developing-international-standards-for-e-Navigation.aspx>].

### India – ships to avoid Somali coast



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) issued a **circular** stating that an Indian mechanized sailing vessel has been hijacked by pirates off the coast of Somalia. Indian ships are advised to keep at least 200 nautical miles off the Somali coast. (4/6/17) [<http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201704071257263375054ISPS>]

circonSecurityAdvisorytoShips06042017at2230hrssendtostakeholderbyDGCOM.pdf].

### Panama Canal – online bank guarantees



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory announcing that its Maritime Service Portal has been updated to include functionalities that facilitate bank guarantee requests and approvals to provide the funds clearance necessary to schedule transit and marine services. **Advisory 13-2017** (4/5/17)

[<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2017/a-13-2017.pdf>].

### Somalia – hijacking terminated



The UK Maritime Trade Operations (MTO) issued a **notice** stating that a vessel off the coast of Somalia was approached by a skiff with pirates who then boarded the vessel. The master and crew stopped the engines and relocated to the ship's citadel, leaving the vessel drifting. Personnel from patrolling naval vessels boarded the vessel, returning it to control of the master. The pirates had fled. The vessel is now being escorted to port. (4/8/17)

[<https://www.ukmto.org/indian-ocean>].

### South Atlantic – search for missing crew



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that it deployed a P-8A Poseidon aircraft to search for crew members missing from the Korean ship Stella Daisy. The ship is believed to have sunk in the South Atlantic with 22 crew members unaccounted for. The international search effort is being led by the Uruguayan Navy. (4/7/17)

[[http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story\\_id=99796](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=99796)].

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