

## Headlines:

NTSB – tug-USCG cutter collision;  
NTSB – cargo hold fire;  
Columbia River – tanker aground;  
USCG – regulatory reform;  
USCG – OCS production facilities;  
Senate – bill introduced re natural gas import/export;  
IMO – life safety criteria;  
Paris MOU – electronic certificates;  
Panama Canal – tolls structure modifications;  
UK – port facility security plans; and  
UK – economic impact of a disruption to GNSS.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **NTSB – tug-USCG cutter collision**



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 2 June 2016 collision of the dump scow barge 123 being pushed by the Panama-flagged towing vessel *Matachin* with the US Coast Guard cutter *Thetis* in Las Cascadas Reach, Panama Canal. Although the *Matachin* and its tow were not damaged, the *Thetis* sustained an estimated \$1.2 million in damage to the hull and deck plate aft, as well as to various systems in the steering gear room. There were no injuries, nor was there any report of pollution. The probable cause of the collision was the failure of the master of the *Matachin* to maintain a proper lookout and use radar to detect the vessel traffic ahead to avoid a collision. Contributing to the collision was the failure of the pilot and the navigational crew on board the *Thetis* to maintain a proper lookout. **MAB 17-22**

(7/6/17)

[<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1722.pdf>].

### NTSB – cargo hold fire



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 2 June 2015 cargo hold fire on board the US-flagged roll-on roll-off (ro-ro) vehicle carrier *Courage* while transiting from Bremerhaven, Germany, to Southampton, United Kingdom. The accident resulted in extensive damage to the vessel's hold as well its cargo of vehicles and household goods. As a result of the damage, estimated at \$100 million total, the vessel's owners scrapped the vessel. The probable cause of the fire was electrical arcing in the automatic breaking system (ABS) module of a vehicle carried on board. **MAB 17-24** (7/6/17)

[<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1724.pdf>].

### Columbia River – tanker aground



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that a tanker loaded with 1.63 million gallons of ethanol and 6.65 million gallons of monoethylene glycol grounded in the Columbia River near Skamokawa, Washington. There have been no reports of injury or pollution. Two tugs are on scene. (7/6/17)

[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1a81813>].

### USCG – regulatory reform



The US Coast Guard has extended, until 11 September, the period within which to submit comments on existing Coast Guard regulations, guidance documents, interpretive documents, and collections of information that may be obsolete or unnecessary. **82 Fed. Reg. 31545** (7/7/17)

[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-07/pdf/2017-14254.pdf>].

### USCG – OCS production facilities



The USCG Outer Continental Shelf National Center of Expertize (OCS NCOE) issued its occasional **newsletter**, this one providing an introduction to the various production facilities that can be found operating on the US OCS. (7/6/17)

[<https://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/ocsncoe/docs/Drill%20Down/DRILL%20DOWN%20-%20What%20is%20a%20Production%20Facility%2007.06.2017.pdf>].

### Senate – bill introduced re natural gas import/export



Senator Cassidy (R-LA) introduced the **License Natural Gas Now Act of 2017** (S. 1415) to terminate the prohibitions on the exportation and importation of natural gas, and for other purposes. Senator Cassidy issued a **press release** explaining the measure. (6/22/17)

[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115s1415is/pdf/BILLS-115s1415is.pdf>].

### IMO – life safety criteria



The IMO approved amendments to the guidelines on alternative design and arrangements for fire safety (MSC/Circ.1002). **MSC.1/Circ.1552** (11/25/16) [[https://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg5214/docs/MSC.1-Circ.1552-LIFE\\_SAFETY\\_CRITERIA.pdf](https://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg5214/docs/MSC.1-Circ.1552-LIFE_SAFETY_CRITERIA.pdf)].

### Paris MOU – electronic certificates



The Paris MOU issued **Guidelines** for the use of electronic certificates in an effort to regularize the use of such certificates by ships and the recognition of such certificates by port state control officers. (7/6/17) [<https://www.parismou.org/guidelines-use-electronic-certificates>].

### Panama Canal – tolls structure modifications



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a **press release** concerning industry feedback on proposed tolls structure modifications. (7/5/17) [<https://www.pan canal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2017/07/05/pr629.html>].

### UK – port facility security plans



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) posted **templates** for port facility security plans (one for facilities handling cargo vessels and one for facilities handling passenger vessels). (7/6/17)

[<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/port-facility-security-plan-template>].

## UK – economic impact of a disruption to GNSS



The UK Government posted a report titled ‘**The economic impact on the UK of a disruption to GNSS**’. The report was commissioned by three entities: Innovate UK, the UK Space Agency, and the Royal Institute of Navigation. The report notes that all critical national infrastructures (CNIs) rely on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS), such as GPS, to some extent and that there is currently no good alternative system in widespread operation. The report concludes that the economic impact within the UK alone of a loss of GNSS is estimated at £5.2 billion over a five-day period, comprised of £1.7 billion in lost gross value added benefits (e.g., positioning, timing, and navigation) and £3.5 billion in lost utility benefits (e.g., efficiency and safety). The report further notes that eLoran is one of the few available mitigation strategies. (6/17/17)

[[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/619544/17.3254\\_Economic\\_impact\\_to\\_UK\\_of\\_a\\_disruption\\_to\\_GNSS\\_-\\_Full\\_Report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/619544/17.3254_Economic_impact_to_UK_of_a_disruption_to_GNSS_-_Full_Report.pdf)].

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