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Puerto Rico – hurricane contingency plans;
MARAD – training ships to support first responders;
USN – Hurricane Harvey response;
GPS PICWG – meeting on 6-7 September;
MARAD – GPS disruption reminder;
DOE – small-scale natural gas export proposal;
Denmark – interaction between risk factors;
Singapore – pollution prevention regulations; and
UK – safety alert re fire doors.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Puerto Rico – hurricane contingency plans



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** advising mariners in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands that it has set Port Condition X-ray. Vessels and facilities should implement heavy weather contingency plans as Hurricane Irma approaches. (9/4/17)
[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1b4e8ed>].
Note should also be taken of the relevant US Coast Guard **hurricane contingency plans**. (9/4/17) [http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/HCP/HCP_170602.pdf].

MARAD – training ships to support first responders



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a **news release** stating that the Maritime Administration (MARAD) has activated the State University of New York (SUNY) Maritime College training ship Empire State VI and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy training ship Kennedy to sail within ten days to Texas. In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has notified MARAD to activate the Texas Maritime Academy training ship General Rudder. These vessels will support Texas recovery efforts by providing power, housing, food, and water to first responders. (9/1/17) [<https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/marado517>].

USN – Hurricane Harvey response



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that it is providing personnel and assets to rescue people in distress and to support FEMA response efforts in Texas. (9/1/17) [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=102242].

GPS PICWG – meeting on 6-7 September



The USCG Navigation Center (NAVCEN) issued an **announcement** stating that the annual GPS Public Interface Control Working Group (PICWG) will be meeting in El Segundo, California on 6-7 September. The GPS Program Office is considering the modification or removal of the Operational Advisories in RFC-351 for both current and future ground control systems. (9/1/17) [https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/gps/CGSIC_PICWGAnnouncement2017.pdf].

MARAD – GPS disruption reminder



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued an advisory stating that multiple instances of GPS interference were reported by ships in the Black Sea during the week of 19 June. Mariners should be alert to any future instances and should report such interference to the USCG Navigation Center. **Maritime Advisory 2017-006** (9/1/17) [<https://www.marad.dot.gov/environment-and-safety/office-of-security/msci/advisory/>]. Your attention is also invited to USCG **Marine Safety Alert 01-16**. (1/19/16)

[https://navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/gps/USCGMarineSafetyAlert01_16_GPSDisruptions.pdf].

DOE – small-scale natural gas export proposal



The Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to revise its regulations to allow for expedited approval of small-scale natural gas export applications where an environmental impact statement (EIS) or environmental assessment (EA) is not required. Comments on the proposal must be received by 16 October. **82 Fed. Reg. 41570** (9/1/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-09-01/pdf/2017-18580.pdf>].

Denmark – interaction between risk factors



The Danish Maritime Accident Investigation Board (DMAIB) issued a **media release** concerning the foundering of the offshore supply vessels Maersk Searcher and Maersk Shipper while under tow by Maersk Battler in the Bay of Biscay on 21-22 December 2016. The report concluded that the risk analysis focused on various risks in isolation and failed to adequately consider the impact of interaction between risk factors. (8/30/17) [<http://www.dmaib.com/News/Sider/MarineaccidentreportonM%C3%86RSKBATTLER%27slossoftowardthefounderingofM%C3%86RSKSEARCHERandM%C3%86RSKSHIPPR.aspx>].

Singapore – pollution prevention regulations



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular reminding stakeholders that IMO resolutions regarding prevention of pollution of the sea have been given effect on 1 September by Singapore regulations: Res. MEPC.270(69) re noxious liquid substances in bulk; Res. MEPC.271(69) re air emissions; and Res. MEPC.274(69) re sewage. **Shipping Circular 14-2017** (8/31/17) [<http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/773d7105-ecd9-4b5e-a711-cf6a52747bae>].

UK – safety alert re fire doors



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a bulletin warning that certain fire doors manufactured by COSCO Co. Ltd may have

missing insulation. The bulletin advises how to determine if a fire door on your vessel has this defect and what steps should then be taken. **Safety Bulletin 10-2017** (8/30/17)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/641021/Safety_Bulletin_10_Cosmo_Fire_Doors.pdf].

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