

Headlines:

NTSB – El Faro meeting on 12 December;
USCG – design standard verification for towing vessels;
Canada – offshore fisheries science vessel launched;
Panama Canal – November report; and
Singapore – cashless payments.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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NTSB – El Faro meeting on 12 December



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a **news release** stating that it will meet on 12 December in Washington, DC to determine the probable cause of the 1 October 2015 sinking of the US cargo ship El Faro with the loss of 33 lives. (12/8/17) [<https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/pr20171208.aspx>].

USCG – design standard verification for towing vessels



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that guidance has been disseminated on verification of design standards for Subchapter M towing vessels. (12/8/17) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/12/08/1282017-new-marine-technical-note-guidance-on-verification-for-subchapter-m-towing-vessels/>].

Canada – offshore fisheries science vessel launched



The Government of Canada issued a [news release](#) concerning the launch of the Offshore Fisheries Science Vessel CCGS Sir John Franklin. This ship, scheduled to join the Canadian Coast Guard fleet, is the first large vessel to be completed under the National Shipbuilding Strategy. (12/8/17) [https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2017/12/launch_of_the_firstoffshorefisheriessciencevessel.html]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Dave Shirlaw of [SeaWaves Magazine](#).*

Panama Canal – November report



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued its Canal operations summary for November. It includes the schedule of locks maintenance outages for the remainder of the fiscal year. [Advisory 40-2017](#) (12/7/17) [<https://www.pan Canal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2017/a-40-2017.pdf>].

Singapore – cashless payments



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular announcing that, with effect from 1 January 2018, it will cease accepting cash payments at most of its MPA counters. [Port Marine Circular 22-1017](#) (12/8/17) [<http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/3b838246-ed8f-41e9-97f5-0930953e22d7>].

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