

## Headlines:

USCG NMC – attachments to emails;  
USCG – Ship Structure Committee;  
Court – test for maritime contracts simplified;  
UK – Laser Misuse (Vehicles) Bill introduced;  
UK – marine oil spill response providers; and  
UK – safety harness tethers on sailing yachts.

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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. 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. Whatever hits the fan is not evenly distributed.*

## **USCG NMC – attachments to emails**



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **bulletin** stating that its email system will not accept attachments larger than 10MB. Attachments larger than 8MB should be split into multiple emails. In addition, the system will not accept compressed (ZIP) files regardless of size. (1/9/18) [[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2017/email\\_attachments\\_to\\_NMC\\_notice\\_0118.pdf](http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2017/email_attachments_to_NMC_notice_0118.pdf)].

## **USCG – Ship Structure Committee**



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** announcing that the Ship Structure Committee is soliciting research ideas for the 2018 project year. The four focus areas are: (1) structural lifetime extension; (2) Arctic construction,

operations, technologies, and effects; (3) composite materials; and (4) SSC Follow-up Report. (1/9/18)  
[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/01/09/1-9-2018-ship-structure-committee-soliciting-research-ideas-for-2018-project-year/>].

### Court – test for maritime contracts simplified



In an en banc opinion, the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit overturned prior Circuit precedent and adopted the simpler, more straightforward test of the US Supreme Court in determining whether a contract for performance of specialty services to facilitate the drilling or production of oil or gas on navigable waters is maritime in nature. That test is whether the contract provides or do the parties expect that a vessel will play a substantial role in completion of the contract. *In re Larry Doiron, Inc.*, No. 16-30217 (5th Cir., January 8, 2018) [<http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/16/16-30217-CV2.pdf>]. *Note: This item was first brought to my attention by my good friend Keith Heard of [Burke & Parsons](#).*

### UK – Laser Misuse (Vehicles) Bill introduced



The *Laser Misuse (Vehicles) Bill* has been introduced in the UK Parliament. If enacted into law, the bill will make a provision creating a new offence of shining or directing a laser beam towards a vehicle which is on a journey and the laser beam dazzles or distracts, or is likely to dazzle or distract, a person with control of the vehicle. The term ‘vehicle’ includes, among other things, a vessel. A person who commits such offence is punishable by fine or imprisonment. (1/8/18) [<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0075/18075.pdf>].

### UK – marine oil spill response providers



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) opened a *consultation* on a draft UK National Standard for Marine Oil Spill Response Providers. Comments are due by 9 March. (1/8/18) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/uk-national-standard-for-marine-oil-spill-response-providers>]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Alan Spackman of the [International Association of Drilling Contractors](#).*

## UK – safety harness tethers on sailing yachts



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) issued a safety bulletin regarding use of safety harness tethers on sailing yachts. **Safety Bulletin 1/2018** (1/9/18)  
[[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a535cfe40f0b648c72358ff/SB1\\_2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a535cfe40f0b648c72358ff/SB1_2018.pdf)].

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