

## Headlines:

US & Russia – Bering Strait routing measures proposed;  
Vicksburg – towing vessel fire;  
USCG – audit scheme for TSMS vessels;  
USCG – mariner testing guidance;  
DOJ – former MSC contractor pleads guilty;  
OFAC – North Korean sanctions;  
ITC – patent infringement allegation;  
Senate – bill introduced re incidental discharges; and  
Hong Kong – fairways and anchorages.

January 26, 2018



# Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: [dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

**Contact me to help you reach your target audience**

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

## **US & Russia – Bering Strait routing measures proposed**



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that Russia and the United States have submitted to the IMO a **joint proposal** for a system of two-way routing measures in the Bering Strait and in the Bering Sea. (1/25/18) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/01/25/1-25-2018-u-s-russia-jointly-propose-bering-strait-routing-measures/>].

## **Vicksburg – towing vessel fire**



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that navigation has been halted on the Lower Mississippi River near Vicksburg due to a fire on the

towing vessel George King. The crew safely abandoned the vessel. Coast Guard and local agencies are responding. (1/25/18)  
[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1d5ce97>].

### USCG – audit scheme for TSMS vessels



The US Coast Guard issued a policy letter providing guidance on vessel audit schemes during the phase-in and post phase-in periods for vessels covered by Subchapter M whose owners have chosen to use the Towing Safety Management System (TSMS) option. **CG-CVC Policy Letter 18-01** (1/25/18)  
[[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/Policy%20Letters/2018/CG-CVC\\_pol18-01.pdf](http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/Policy%20Letters/2018/CG-CVC_pol18-01.pdf)].

### USCG – mariner testing guidance



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **notice** advising mariners how to determine they will be testing under the previous or current regulations. (1/25/18)  
[[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2018/att\\_and\\_grandfathering\\_012518.pdf](http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2018/att_and_grandfathering_012518.pdf)].

### DOJ – former MSC contractor pleads guilty



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** stating that a former contractor at the Military Sealift Command (MSC) pleaded guilty for accepting bribes totaling approximately \$2.8 million for steering contracts for telecommunications services as directed by his co-conspirator. (1/24/18)  
[<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/former-contractor-military-sealift-command-pleads-guilty-conspiracy-bribery-and-honest>].

### OFAC – North Korean sanctions



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a **notice** announcing changes to its list of specially designated nationals, including the addition of six vessels, regarding economic sanctions against North Korea. (1/24/18) [<https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20180124.aspx>].

## ITC – patent infringement allegation



The International Trade Commission (ITC) issued a notice stating that Neptune Subsea Acquisitions Ltd has filed a complaint alleging violations of the Tariff Act by importation into the United States of certain subsea telecommunications systems and components thereof by reason of infringement of one or more US patents. **83 Fed. Reg. 3770** (1/26/18)  
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-01-26/pdf/2018-01379.pdf>].

## Senate – bill introduced re incidental discharges



Senator Sullivan (R-AK) introduced a bill (**S. 2331**) to extend for nine weeks the period during which vessels that are shorter than 79 feet in length and fishing vessels are not required to have a permit for discharges incidental to the normal operation of the vessel. (1/23/18)  
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115s2331is/pdf/BILLS-115s2331is.pdf>].

## Hong Kong – fairways and anchorages



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a notice advising that, effective 1 February, three principal fairways and one prohibited fishing area will be established north of Lantau Island and the boundaries of four existing principal fairways and adjacent anchorages in the western part of Victoria Harbour will be re-aligned. **Marine Notice 10-2018** (1/25/18)  
[<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/pdf/mdn18010.pdf>].

## Join my mailing list



If you are not receiving my almost daily electronic newsletter and would like to have it sent directly to your email inbox, please send me an email, or see below:

Join Our Mailing List!



If you have questions regarding the above items or are interested in advertising in this newsletter, please contact the editor:

## **Dennis L. Bryant**

Bryant's Maritime Consulting  
4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way  
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135  
USA

1-352-692-5493  
[dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com)  
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

© **Dennis L. Bryant – January 2018**

 **Redistribution permitted with attribution**