

Headlines:

USCG – Subchapter M initial COI issuance under TSMS;
USN – tracking civilian certifications and competencies;
NASA – sea level rise accelerating;
NOAA – emergency preparedness and resilience;
Hong Kong – termination of Extended Incentive Scheme; and
Sea Empress grounding & salvage – 15-21 February 1996.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – Subchapter M initial COI issuance under TSMS



The USCG Sector Houston-Galveston issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin to address the issuance of an initial Certificate of Inspection (COI) for Subchapter M inspected towing vessels that utilize the Towing Safety Management System (TSMS) option. **MSIB 02-18** (2/13/18)
[<https://homeport.uscg.mil/Lists/Content/DispForm.aspx?ID=13190&Source=https://homeport.uscg.mil/port-directory/houston-galveston>].

USN – tracking civilian certifications and competencies



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that enlisted sailors can now track their civilian certifications, licenses, and United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) data, allowing them to track their experience and competencies to civilian credentials and occupations. (2/14/18)
[http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=104356].

NASA – sea level rise accelerating



The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) issued a **news release** stating that global sea level rise has been accelerating in recent decades, rather than increasing steadily, according to a new study based on 25 years of NASA and European satellite data. This acceleration is driven mainly by melting of icecaps in Greenland and Antarctica. (2/13/18)

[<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2018/new-study-finds-sea-level-rise-accelerating>].

NOAA – emergency preparedness and resilience



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) posted a **blog** reminding stakeholders that resilience after a disaster is not achievable without the capacity to absorb shocks, and it is this capacity that emergency preparedness helps to provide. (2/13/18)

[https://blog.response.restoration.noaa.gov/national-ocean-service-boosts-disaster-preparedness-efforts-new-program?utm_medium=email&utm_source=GovDelivery].

Hong Kong – termination of Extended Incentive Scheme



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a notice stating that the Extended Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme (Extended Incentive Scheme) launched by the Environmental Protection Department, will be terminated at midnight on 31 March. **Notice 22-2018** (2/14/18)

[<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/pdf/mdn18022.pdf>].

Sea Empress grounding & salvage – 15-21 February 1996



On 15 February 1996, the tanker **Sea Empress** grounded while entering the port of Milford Haven, spilling approximately 2,500 tons of its cargo of crude oil. The vessel was quickly refloated and anchored in deep water in preparation for lightening some of the remaining cargo. Gale force winds drove the tanker aground again, spilling an additional 69,300 tons of crude oil. The tanker was finally refloated again on 21 February and salvage was completed. Investigation revealed that the initial grounding was due to pilot error. The

subsequent grounding was the result, in part, of insufficient tugs of appropriate power and maneuverability, together with a lack of full understanding of local tidal currents.

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