

Headlines:

USCG – towing & salvage risk assessments;
USCG – remarks at PVA convention;
USCG & NOAA – whale disentanglement training;
GAO – cybersecurity framework adoption;
India – certification of officers for polar operations; and
MREN – Strict liability criminal statutes.

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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** 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. Don't believe everything you think.*

USCG – towing & salvage risk assessments



The US Coast Guard issued a Safety Alert reminding commercial towing and salvage companies to assess operational risks at all times and continually reassess risks based on weather, equipment, experience, and evolving conditions on-scene. **Alert 2-18** (2/15/18)

[<http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/INV/Alerts/0218.pdf>].

USCG – remarks at PVA convention



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** summarizing service remarks at the 2018 Passenger Vessel Association (PVA) convention. A major priority is overhaul of the service's oversight and management of third party organizations. Other priorities include policies regarding emerging technologies and

implementation of Subchapter M and ballast water management. (2/16/18) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/02/16/2-16-2018-passenger-vessel-association-2018-convention-recap-of-remarks/>].

USCG & NOAA – whale disentanglement training



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that Station Honolulu crewmembers and personnel from the NOAA Fisheries telemetry team conducted whale disentanglement training off Oahu. (2/16/18) [<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1db8af6>].

GAO – cybersecurity framework adoption



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued its report on cybersecurity framework adoption. The report recommends further actions for determining framework adoption by the sector-specific agencies in consultation with their respective partners, such as the sector coordinating councils. **GAO-18-211** (2/15/18) [<https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/690112.pdf>].

India – certification of officers for polar operations



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) issued a **Draft Exam Circular** for certification of masters and deck officers on ships operating in polar waters. (2/16/18) [http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201802160500348764756draft_cir_nt_160218.pdf].

MREN – Strict liability criminal statutes



In the February 2018 edition of Maritime Reporter & Engineering News, you can find my article entitled “**Strict liability criminal statutes**”. The article discusses the omission from the Refuse Act of 1899 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of scienter provisions and how the courts over time have come to treat these statutes as creating strict criminal liability. Congress created the problem and Congress should fix it. (2/19/18) [<http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/MREN/MREN180200.pdf>].

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