Headlines:

Mississippi – towboat fire; USCG – Auxiliary UPV Examiner augmentation; IMO – SDC 5 summary; EC – car carriers fined €395 million; Gulf of Guinea – protection against piracy; and UK – Maritime and shipping statistics.

February 22, 2018



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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. Don't believe everything you think.

Mississippi – towboat fire

The US Coast Guard issued a news release stating that the towboat Leland Spears caught fire on the Mississippi River near Greenville, Mississippi. Other towboats pushed it aground at mile marker 509, safely evacuating the eight people onboard. There are no reports of injury or pollution. A waterway restriction has been issued between mile markers 500 and 520. The incident is under investigation. (2/21/18)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1dc99e9].

USCG – Auxiliary UPV Examiner augmentation

The US Coast Guard issued a policy letter providing guidance concerning USCG Auxiliary UPV Examiner training, qualification, documentation, funding, and support regarding the uninspected passenger vessel

(UPV) safety program. CG-CVC Policy Letter 18-03 (2/21/18) [http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/Policy%20Letters/2018/CG-CVC_pol18-03.pdf].

IMO – SDC 5 summary

The US Coast Guard issued a bulletin summarizing the recent session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Design & Construction (SDC 5). (2/21/18) [http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/02/21/2-21-2018-fifth-session-of-the-sub-committee-on-ship-design-and-construction-sdc-5/].

EC – car carriers fined €395 million

The European Commission (EC) issued a press release stating that four maritime car carriers have been fined €395 million for participating in a cartel concerning intercontinental maritime transport of vehicles. (2/21/18) [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-962_en.htm].

Gulf of Guinea – protection against piracy

The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) issued a circular providing guidance on protection against piracy in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) region. NT Wing Piracy Circular 01-2018 (2/21/18) [http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201802210603328037038nt_pircey_cir_010f2018.pdf].

<u>UK – Maritime & shipping statistics</u>

The UK Department for Transport (DfT) posted its annual Maritime & shipping statistics. (2/21/18)
[https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maritime-and-shipping-statistics].

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