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USCG – IMO and environmental standards;  
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House – bill introduced re offshore wind career training;  
GAO – ACE interagency management approach needed;  
Court – dismissal of salvage claim for failure to prosecute;  
Canada – potential places of refuge;  
Denmark – medicines and medical supplies; and  
Amoco Cadiz oil spill – 16 March 1978.

March 16, 2018



# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **Chicago – temporary safety zone**



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that it will enforce the safety zone on waters of the Main Branch of the Chicago River on the morning of 17 March during the annual dying of the river for St. Patrick's Day. **83 Fed. Reg. 11646** (3/16/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-03-16/pdf/2018-05390.pdf>].

## Ohio River – temporary safety zone



The US Coast Guard promulgated a temporary final rule establishing a safety zone on the Ohio River from mile marker 236 to 239 due to severe out draft from high water. The safety zone enters into effect immediately and will remain in effect until 30 March. **83 Fed. Reg. 11644** (3/16/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-03-16/pdf/2018-05385.pdf>].

## Northern California – proposed RNA



The US Coast Guard has reopened, until 30 March, the period within which to submit comments on its proposed regulated navigation area (RNA) at harbor entrances along the coast of northern California. **83 Fed. Reg. 11649** (3/16/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-03-16/pdf/2018-05342.pdf>].

## USCG – Subchapter M and marine firefighting



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** discussing the Subchapter M regulations and marine firefighting requirements with the towing vessel owner/operator in mind and with the vessel response plan (VRP) holder in mind. Enforcement of Subchapter M commences on 20 July. (3/15/18) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/03/15/3-15-2018-subchapter-m-regulations-and-marine-firefighting-requirements-a-discussion-from-two-perspectives/>].

## USCG – IMO and environmental standards



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** summarizing the remarks of Mr. Jeffrey Lantz, Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards, at the Connecticut Maritime Association conference concerning the leading environmental issues the IMO is facing. (3/15/18) [[http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/03/15/3-15-2018-cma-shipping-2018-imo-and-environmental-standards/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+MaritimeCommons+%28Maritime+Commons%29](http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/03/15/3-15-2018-cma-shipping-2018-imo-and-environmental-standards/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+MaritimeCommons+%28Maritime+Commons%29)].

## NTSB – fire on ro-ro vessel



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 24 February 2017 fire in the upper vehicle deck of the US-flagged roll-on/roll-off (ro-ro) vehicle carrier *Honor* which was en route from Southampton, England, to Baltimore, Maryland. The fire was extinguished by the crew using the vessel's CO2 fixed firefighting system. One injury was attributed to the firefighting efforts. The accident resulted in extensive damage, amounting to more than \$700,000, to the *Honor's* hold as well its cargo of about 5,000 vehicles. No pollution resulted from the accident. The probable cause of the fire was a fault in the starter motor solenoid in one of the personally owned vehicles being transported in the vessel's cargo space. **MAB 18-07** (3/15/18) [<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1807.pdf>].

## Senate – bill introduced re NOAA unmanned maritime systems



Senator Wicker (R-MS) introduced the **Commercial Engagement Through Ocean Technology Act of 2018** (S. 2511) to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to carry out a program on coordinating the assessment and acquisition by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of unmanned maritime systems, to make available to the public data collected by the Administration using such systems, and for other purposes. (3/7/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115s2511is/pdf/BILLS-115s2511is.pdf>].

## House – bill introduced re offshore wind career training



Representative Tsongas (D-MA) introduced a bill (H.R. 5291) to establish an offshore wind career training grant program, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Tsongas issued a **press release** explaining the measure. (3/14/18) [<https://tsongas.house.gov/press-releases/tsongas-keating-and-grijalva-introduce-legislation-supporting-american-energy-jobs/>].

## GAO – ACE interagency management approach needed



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report on the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) import processing system. While use of ACE has improved efficiencies for CBP and the trade community, its use by other federal agencies is uneven. [GAO-18-271](https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/690666.pdf) (3/14/18) [<https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/690666.pdf>].

## Court – dismissal of salvage claim for failure to prosecute



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit affirmed the dismissal of an in rem salvage claim for failure to prosecute. [Black Water Marine Explorer v. Unidentified Shipwrecked Vessel](http://www.ca4.uscourts.gov/opinions/172077.U.pdf), No. 17-2077 (4th Cir., March 15, 2018) [<http://www.ca4.uscourts.gov/opinions/172077.U.pdf>].

## Canada – potential places of refuge



Transport Canada issued a [news release](https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2018/03/haida-nation-and-transport-canada-identify-new-potential-places-of-refuge-for-ships-in-haida-gwaii.html) stating that potential places of refuge have been designated in Haida Gwaii. (3/14/18) [<https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2018/03/haida-nation-and-transport-canada-identify-new-potential-places-of-refuge-for-ships-in-haida-gwaii.html>].

## Denmark – medicine and medical supplies



The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) issued a [news release](https://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/Medicine_on_ships_made_easy.a.spx) stating that regulations have been amended simplifying the handling of medicine and medical supplies on Danish ships. (3/15/18) [[https://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/Medicine\\_on\\_ships\\_made\\_easy.a.spx](https://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/Medicine_on_ships_made_easy.a.spx)].

## AMOCO CADIZ oil spill – 16 March 1978



On 16 March 1978, the very large crude carrier (VLCC) **AMOCO CADIZ** lost steering in a Force 10 storm and grounded on Portsall Rocks off the coast of Brittany, France. As it broke up, the tanker lost its entire cargo of 1.6 million barrels of crude oil. The coastal areas in the vicinity were heavily impacted by the spill. After receiving limited compensation under the Civil Liability Compensation (CLC) and Funds Conventions, the Government of France brought suit in the United States against Amoco Oil Company, the parent company (twice removed) of the ship owner. The federal court awarded damages in favor of France, holding that the liability allocation and channeling provisions in the conventions were not applicable since the US was not party thereto. The CLC compensation limits were subsequently raised.

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