

Headlines:

USCG – safety alert re immersion suits;
Port Angeles – USCG helicopter encounters drone;
USCG – NDGPS discontinuance;
CBP – eBond test;
House – bill introduced re NOAA unmanned maritime systems;
House – bill introduced re maritime technical corrections;
IMO – PPR 5 summary; and
Ireland – alcohol and/or drug consumption.

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Bryant's Maritime Blog

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USCG – safety alert re immersion suits



The US Coast Guard issued a safety alert strongly recommending that vessel operators inspect their immersion suits for a potential unsafe condition caused by failure of the glue used to attach the main zipper to the body of the suit. **Safety Alert 03-18** (3/20/18)
[<http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/INV/Alerts/0318.pdf>].

Port Angeles – USCG helicopter encounters drone



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that one of its helicopters in Port Angeles had to maneuver unexpectedly when it encountered a

drone flying in the vicinity of Fairchild International Airport in Port Angeles. The drone was not authorized to be in that airspace. (3/20/18)
[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1e3927a>].

USCG – NDGPS discontinuance



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that the Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System (NDGPS) is being discontinued through a phased reduction of the remaining 38 maritime sites commencing in September of 2018 and concluding in September of 2020. **83 Fed. Reg. 12402** (3/21/18)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-03-21/pdf/2018-05684.pdf>].

CBP – eBond test



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test of automation of CBP's bond program (eBond test) has been extended until further notice. **83 Fed. Reg. 12403** (3/21/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-03-21/pdf/2018-05694.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re NOAA unmanned maritime systems



Representative Palazzo (R-MS) introduced the **Commercial Engagement Through Ocean Technology Act of 2018** (H.R. 5196) 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-115hr5196ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr5196ih.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re maritime technical corrections



Representative Garamendi (D-CA) introduced the Maritime Technical Corrections Act of 2018 (H.R. 5326) to amend titles 14 and 46, United States Code, to make technical corrections with respect to Coast Guard and shipping authorities, and for other purposes. (3/19/18)

[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr5326ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr5326ih.pdf>].

IMO – PPR 5 summary



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** summarizing the outcome of the fifth session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 5). (3/20/18)

[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/03/20/3-20-2018-recap-of-the-5th-session-of-the-imo-sub-committee-on-pollution-prevention-and-response/>].

Ireland – alcohol and/or drug consumption



The Irish Department of Transport, Tourism, and Sport issued a notice reminding mariners of the prohibitions on the consumption of alcohol and/or drugs on vessels in Irish waters or Irish vessels anywhere. **Marine Notice 11-2018** (3/20/18)

[<http://www.dttas.ie/sites/default/files/MN%2011%20of%202018%20Alcohol%20and%20Drugs.pdf>].

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