

Headlines:

White House – Consolidated Appropriations Act signed;
USCG – SMSs on US flag vessels;
NSIDC – Arctic sea ice at second lowest maximum; and
UK – hours of work & entitlement to leave.

March 26, 2018



Bryant's Maritime News

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White House – Consolidated Appropriations Act signed



The White House issued a news release stating that President Trump signed into law the **Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018** (H.R. 1625). Among other things, the bill appropriates \$150 million to commence construction of new polar icebreakers. (3/23/18)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr1625eah/pdf/BILLS-115hr1625eah.pdf>].

USCG – SMSs on US flag vessels



The US Coast Guard posted a Work Instruction providing guidance concerning its oversight of safety management systems (SMSs) on US flag vessels. **CG-CVC-MMS-WI-003(1)** (3/23/18)
[[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/CVC_MMS/CVC-WI-003\(1\).pdf](http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/CVC_MMS/CVC-WI-003(1).pdf)].

NSIDC – Arctic sea ice at second lowest maximum



The National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) issued a **news release** stating that Arctic sea ice appears to have reached its annual maximum extent on March 17. This is the second lowest Arctic maximum in the 39-year satellite record. The four lowest maximum extents in the satellite record have all occurred in the past four years. (3/23/18)

[<http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/2018/03/arctic-sea-ice-maximum-second-lowest/>].

UK – hours of work & entitlement to leave



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued an amended version of its Merchant Shipping Notice concerning hours of work and entitlement to leave for seafarers. **MSN 1877 (M) Amendment 1** (3/22/18)
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/692993/MSN1877_Combined.pdf].

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