

Headlines:

Oakland – fuel tank leak;
FMC – Decisions of the FMC published;
St. Lawrence Seaway – 2019 navigation season;
DOE – LNG export terminals;
FERC – LNG export terminals;
USN – Union Jack returns;
Senate – funding for heavy polar icebreaker;
CRS – Polar Security Cutter Program;
Suez Canal – new cargo transit record;
UK – GPS week number rollover reminder; and
MREN – Legislative update.

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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](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) 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. Due to the current economic conditions, the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off.

Oakland – fuel tank leak



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that it is investigating a fuel leak from a container ship in Oakland. An oil sheen was observed around the vessel. Examination revealed a hull crack about 15 feet below the surface. A containment boom was placed around the vessel and the leaking fuel tank was emptied. The vessel will be inspected and repaired. (2/22/19)
[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/231b697>].

FMC – Decisions of the FMC published



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** announcing that it has published on its website the first volume of Decisions of the Federal Maritime Commission, Second Series. This publication provides a compendium of Initial and Final Decisions of the Commission and selected other orders that may be significant or establish new legal precedent. (2/21/19) [https://www.fmc.gov/commission_publishes_official_case_law_reporter/].

St. Lawrence Seaway – 2019 navigation season



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System issued a notice stating that the Welland Canal is scheduled to open to navigation on 22 March and the Montreal-Lake Ontario section is scheduled for 26 March. **Seaway Notice 1-2019** (2/21/19) [<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/pdf/navigation/notice20190221.pdf>].

DOE – LNG export terminals



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a **news release** applauding the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) agreement to provide a path forward for consideration of LNG export terminals pending before the Commission. (2/22/19) [<https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-applauds-ferc-new-lng-facility-authorization-and-procedures>].

FERC – LNG export terminals



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a **news release** stating that it has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to improve the cooperation between the two agencies in processing applications for LNG export terminals. (2/21/19) [<https://www.ferc.gov/media/news-releases/2019/2019-1/02-21-19-CP15.asp?csrt=17607290083012834033#.XHBUbNRKjq8>].

USN – Union Jack returns



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that, with limited exceptions, it is returning to the tradition of flying the Union Jack from the bow of moored ships, replacing the First Navy Jack. (2/21/19)
[https://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=108663].

Senate – funding for heavy polar icebreaker



Senator Sullivan (R-AK) **press release** applauding passage of the funding bill with \$655 million for design and construction of a new heavy polar icebreaker, as well as monies for other new Coast Guard cutters. (2/20/19)
[<https://www.sullivan.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/icymi-congress-funds-first-polar-icebreaker-in-four-decades>].

CRS – Polar Security Cutter Program



The Congressional Research Service (CRS) issued its report updating information concerning the US Coast Guard Polar Security Cutter (Polar Icebreaker) Program. **RL34391** (2/15/19)
[<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL34391.pdf>].

Suez Canal – new cargo transit record



The Suez Canal Authority issued a **news release** announcing the transit on 6 February of 75 ships carrying a total of 5.8 million tons of cargo, the largest volume in the 150 year history of the Canal. (2/22/19)
[https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/Navigation_22-2-2019.aspx].

UK – GPS week number rollover reminder



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a safety bulletin reminding stakeholders that the GPS week number rollover will occur on 6 April. If the GPS or GPS-related equipment was manufactured after August 1999, or has had regular firmware updates, it should not be impacted. **Safety Bulletin 13** (2/19/19)
[<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/>

attachment_data/file/780743/MSF5029_R0516_GPS_Week_Number_Rollover.pdf].

MREN – Legislative update



In the February 2019 edition of Maritime Reporter and Engineering News, you can find my article entitled **Legislative update**. The article discusses the most significant changes to maritime legislation, other than BWM reform, included in the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018. The Act charges the Secretary of Transportation with responsibility to provide for establishment of a land-based alternative timing system to GPS, effectively requiring the restarting of the eLORAN system. The vessel documentation system is to be made more transparent. A review is to be conducted of the vessel response plan (VRP) program. In addition, Title 14 of the US Code has been reorganized. (2/22/19) [<http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/MREN/MREN190200.pdf>].

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