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UK – International Women’s Day; and  
Japanese earthquake & tsunami – 11 March 2011.

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# Bryant’s Maritime News

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## **USCG – US vessel build determination**



The USCG National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) issued a **Determination Letter** stating that two container vessels being built by Keppel AMFELS, LLC for The Pasha Group qualify as being built in the United States and are eligible for operation in the US coastwise trade. (3/6/19)  
[<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/NVDC/Keppel%20AMFELS%20LLC%20%2003-06-2019.pdf?ver=2019-03-07-094852-370>].

## Lake Erie – 46 ice fishermen rescued



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that 46 ice fishermen have been rescued from an ice floe that broke loose in western Lake Erie. Another 100 fishermen were able to rescue themselves. (3/9/19) [<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/2356c1c>].

## USCG – Policy Letter re 2009 MODU Code



The US Coast Guard issued an updated policy letter establishing that the Coast Guard considers the design and equipment standards of the IMO Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009 (2009 MODU Code) and its amendments to be at least as effective as the design and equipment standards of 1979 and 1989 MODU Codes. [CG-ENG Policy Letter 02-12 CH-1](#) (3/4/19) [<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/5ps/Design%20and%20Engineering%20Standards/docs/CG-ENG%20PolicyLetter%2002-12%20CH-1.pdf?ver=2019-03-07-135127-247>]. *Note: This reissue corrects the date of signing.*

## USCG – Proceedings magazine



The US Coast Guard posted the Winter 2018 issue of the [Proceedings](#) of the Marine Safety & Security Council. The focus of this edition is Subchapter M. (3/8/19) [<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Proceedings-Magazine/>].

## FMC – Commissioner Khouri designated Chairman



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](#) stating that President Trump has designated Commissioner Michael A. Khouri as Chairman of the Commission. (3/8/19) [[https://www.fmc.gov/trump\\_designates\\_khouri\\_as\\_chairman/](https://www.fmc.gov/trump_designates_khouri_as_chairman/)].

## DOE – authorization to export LNG



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a notice of the opinion and order granting Venture Global Calcasieu Pass LLC authorization to export LNG.

84 Fed. Reg. 8700 (3/11/19) [<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-03-11/pdf/2019-04299.pdf>].

### Senate – bill introduced to repeal Jones Act



Senator Lee (R-UT) introduced a bill (S. 694) to repeal the Jones Act restrictions on coastwise trade, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Senator Lee issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (3/7/19) [<https://www.lee.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=A7A7FC67-4600-4765-95E5-5DEF3DC571FF>].

### Senate – hearing on American maritime industry



The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation conducted a [hearing](#) entitled “The State of the American Maritime Industry”. Testimony was received from: Mr. Thomas Allegretti, American Waterways Operators; Ms. Berit Eriksson, Sailors’ Union of the Pacific; Mr. Austin Golding, Golding Barge Line; Mr. Matthew Paxton, Shipbuilders Council of America; and Mr. Matthew Woodruff, American Maritime Partnership. (3/6/19) [<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=51F39152-C8C2-43D2-B3F1-E15DCDE880AD>]. *Note: The earlier version of the item misstated the name of the representative for the Sailors Union of the Pacific. Mea culpa!*

### House – bill introduced re North Atlantic seismic activities



Representative Beyer (D-VA) introduced a bill (H.R. 1606) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil-, gas-, and methane hydrate-related seismic activities in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas of the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (3/7/19).

### IMO – empowering women in the maritime community



The IMO issued a [news release](#) concerning empowering women in the maritime community, the theme for this year’s World Maritime Events. (3/8/19) [<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/WhatsNew/Pages/default.aspx>].

## EU – LNG imports from US up 181%



The European Union (EU) issued a **press release** stating that imports of LNG from the US have risen 181% in the past year. (3/8/19) [[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1531\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1531_en.htm)].

## UK – fire retardant treatment for large commercial yachts



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a Marine Guidance Notice (MGN) providing guidance regarding fire retardant treatment for large commercial yachts. **MGN 453 (M)** (3/8/19) [[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/441035/MGN\\_453.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/441035/MGN_453.pdf)].

## UK – International Women’s Day



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) issued a **news release** stating that, in support of international Women’s Day, it is providing funding for a national roadshow to encourage young women to enter into maritime careers. (3/8/19) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-support-young-women-into-maritime-careers>].

## Japanese earthquake & tsunami – 11 March 2011



On 11 March 2011, at 1446 JST, a magnitude 9.0 **earthquake** occurred beneath the seafloor in the Pacific Ocean 70 kilometers east of the Oshika Peninsula of Tohoku Prefecture on the main Japanese island of Honshu. It was the most powerful earthquake to hit Japan in modern times, moving the island 2.4 meters east and shifting the entire planet on its axis by about 15 centimeters. The earthquake triggered a tsunami that reached heights of up to 40 meters when it struck shore. The event resulted in over 15,000 deaths, numerous injuries, and massive property damage. Most dramatic, it set off a chain of events that resulted in a significant radiation leak at a nuclear

power plant. Much debris floated out to sea and has been gradually coming ashore at points throughout the North Pacific region.

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