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FOR A  
SUSTAINABLE PLANET

**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION**

**MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)**

*“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”*

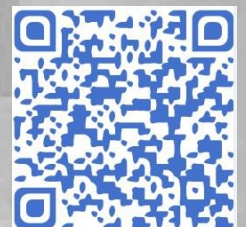
**CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN**

**DECEMBER 2019**

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## About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

The aim of the **MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)** is to provide a digest of news and publications focusing on key subjects and themes related to the work of IMO. Each CAB issue presents headlines from the previous month. For copyright reasons, the *Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)* contains brief excerpts only. Links to the complete articles or abstracts on publishers' sites are included, although access may require payment or subscription.

The MKC *Current Awareness Bulletin* is disseminated monthly and issues from the current and the past years are free to download from this [page](#).

[Email us](#) if you would like to receive email notification when the most recent Current Awareness Bulletin is available to be downloaded.

The *Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)* is published by the Maritime Knowledge Centre and is not an official IMO publication. Inclusion does not imply any endorsement by IMO.

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## IMO NEWS & EVENTS

### WHAT'S NEW

#### **IMO 2020 - cleaner shipping for cleaner air**

*Global limit on sulphur in ships' fuel oil reduced from 01 January 2020*

A global regulation that will substantially reduce harmful sulphur oxide (SO<sub>x</sub>) emissions from ships comes into effect from 1 January 2020, bringing significant benefits for both human health and the environment.

From 1 January 2020 the global upper limit on the sulphur content of ships' fuel oil will be reduced to 0.50% (from 3.50%). Known as "IMO 2020", the reduced limit is mandatory for all ships operating outside certain designated Emission Control Areas\*, where the limit is already 0.10%.

The new limit will mean a 77% drop in overall SO<sub>x</sub> emissions from ships, equivalent to an annual reduction of approximately 8.5 million metric tonnes of SO<sub>x</sub>. Particulate matter - tiny harmful particles which form when fuel is burnt – will also be reduced. [More...](#)

#### **SOLAS amendments entering into force 1 January 2020**

A set of important amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and various codes mandatory under the Convention enter into force on 1 January 2020.

They include:

##### **Addressing lifeboat maintenance - preventing accidents with lifeboats**

Amendments to SOLAS regulations III/3 and III/20 make mandatory the *Requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear.*

This package of provisions aims to prevent accidents with survival craft and addresses longstanding issues such as the need for a uniform, safe and documented standard related to the servicing of these appliances, as well as the authorization, qualification and certification requirements to ensure that a reliable service is provided.

The intention is to ensure that seafarers are confident that they can fully rely on the survival craft at their disposal, which should comply with applicable SOLAS requirements. [More...](#)

**IMO MEETINGS FOR 2019**

[IMO COUNCIL](#), 123<sup>rd</sup> session (4/12/2019)

[IMO Assembly](#), 31<sup>st</sup> session (25/11/2019 – 4/12/2019)

**LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS**

[Global project launched to tackle plastic litter from ships and fisheries](#)

Briefing: 34, December 5, 2019

[UN maritime agency commits to further action on gender equality](#)

Briefing: 33, December 5, 2019

**RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM**

**IMO NEWS MAGAZINE**    [Winter 2019](#)



**IMO PUBLISHING**

[Just Published 2020](#)



[December 2019 Newsletter](#)

## UNITED NATIONS

### **COP25: 'Signals of hope' multiplying in face of global climate crisis, insists UN's Guterres.**

*UN News*. 1 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1052491>   The UN Secretary-General has outlined the “increased ambition and commitment” that the world needs from governments during the coming days of the COP25 UN climate change conference which opens in Madrid on Monday, calling for “accountability, responsibility and leadership” to end the global climate crisis.

### **Green economy 'not to be feared, but an opportunity to be embraced' says UN chief as COP25 gets underway.**

*UN News*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1052511>  and  A green economy is “not one to be feared but an opportunity to be embraced”, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said on Monday, in a keynote speech to delegates at the opening of the COP25 UN climate conference in Madrid on Monday.

### **Deliver 'significant results now', UN General Assembly President tells COP25 climate conference.**

*UN News*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1053141> “Science is unequivocal on the urgency to act, both at global and national levels”, he told the conference to address the climate crisis - officially known as the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

### **An important opportunity lost as COP25 ends in compromise, but Guterres declares 'we must not give up'.**

*UN News*. 15 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1053561?123> UN chief António Guterres expressed his feelings on Twitter, but refused to see the conference as a defeat, and wrote that he is “more determined than ever to work for 2020 to be the year in which all countries commit to do what science tells us is necessary to reach carbon neutrality in 2050 and a no more than 1.5 degree temperature rise”.

### **General Assembly approves \$3 billion UN budget for 2020.**

*UN News*. 27 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1054431> This is an increase of approximately \$8 million on what was initially requested by Secretary-General António Guterres.

## CASUALTIES

**Captain dies after getting crew off sinking cargoship.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/captain-dies-after-getting-crew-off-sinking-cargoship/2-1-716134> The master of a Vietnamese cargoship has died after making sure his crew were evacuated safely from his sinking vessel.

**Ray Car Carriers ship hit by engine room fire off France** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/ray-car-carriers-ship-hit-by-engine-room-fire-off-france/2-1-716115> The blaze broke out on Sunday on the 3,877-ceu vehicle carrier *RCC Passion* (built 2011), French authorities said, according to Le Telegramme.

**Accident Investigation Report 15/2019: Fall while boarding tug *Millgarth* with loss of 1 life**

*UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)*. 5 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/fall-while-boarding-tug-millgarth-with-loss-of-1-life> At 1749 on 27 January 2019, the chief engineer on board the tug *Millgarth*, fell into the River Mersey from the north oil stage at the Tranmere Oil Terminal at Birkenhead, England. [Report](#) [Annexes](#)

**TAIC reports on April 2018 trawler fire in Timaru.** *New Zealand Transport Accident Investigation Commission (TAIC)*. 5 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.taic.org.nz/news/taic-reports-april-2018-trawler-fire-timaru> The Transport Accident Investigation Commission has published its Final Report on the fire on the fishing trawler *Dong Won* in Port of Timaru in 2018.

**Fears ease over fire on car carrier off France.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 10 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/fears-ease-over-fire-on-car-carrier-off-france/2-1-720500> There were concerns that the 3,877-ceu *RCC Passion* (built 2011) would be the latest in a series of serious car-carrier fires this year after emergency services were called to assist it 74 km (46 miles) west of Ushant Island last week.

**Car ferry battery fire probably caused by coolant leakage.** Paul Bartlett. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 16 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/casualty/car-ferry-battery-fire-probably-caused-coolant-leakage> A fire on the newly converted hybrid car ferry *MF Ytterøyningen* on 10 October was probably caused by a leak in the battery system's liquid cooling circuit, according to an investigation of the incident.

**Stolt *Groenland* interim report published.** *UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)*.

16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/stolt-groenland-interim-report-published> On 28 September 2019 the Maritime Authority of the Cayman Islands requested, in accordance with the IMO Casualty Investigation Code, that the MAIB investigate an explosion and fire on board the chemical tanker *Stolt Groenland* which occurred that day in Ulsan, Republic of Korea. [Interim report on the investigation of the explosion and fire on board the \*Stolt Groenland\*](#)

**After *Conception* Fire, Lawmakers Seek to Tighten Safety on "T-Boats".** *Maritime Executive*.

16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/after-conception-fire-lawmakers-seek-to-tighten-safety-on-t-boats> In the wake of the deadly fire aboard the dive boat *Conception* off the coast of Santa Cruz Island, two congressmen and one senator from California have introduced legislation that would impose new fire safety and safety management system requirements on Subchapter T passenger vessels.

**Crew Evacuated from Bulker after Engine Room Fire.** *World Maritime News*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://worldmaritimeneews.com/archives/288146/crew-evacuated-from-bulker-after-engine-room-fire/> An engine room fire broke out on board the Canadian-flagged Handy bulker *Tecumseh* on Sunday, December 15 while the ship was underway near Zug Island on the United States' side of the Detroit River.

**Biggest ever Roman shipwreck found in the eastern Mediterranean.** Julia Buckley. *CNN*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/roman-shipwreck-kefalonias-fiskardo/index.html> Two thousand years ago, this ship was crossing the Mediterranean Sea full of its cargo of amphorae - large terracotta pots that were used in the Roman Empire for transporting wine and olive oil.

***Sanchi* families challenge official account of explosion and sinking in US lawsuit.** Matt Coyne and Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/sanchi-families-challenge-official-account-of-explosion-and-sinking-in-us-lawsuit/2-1-722610> The families of seafarers onboard the sunken *Sanchi* have claimed some are still alive and were taken hostage after the tanker suffered a collision and sank, according to a US federal lawsuit.

**Officials fear stranded oil tanker off Yemen's coast could explode.** *Xinhuanet (China)*. 17 December 2019. Available from: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-12/17/c\\_138638603.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-12/17/c_138638603.htm) Yemen's officials on Tuesday reiterated their fears that a stranded oil tanker could explode and cause serious pollution off the country's Red Sea coast.

**The *Erika* heavy fuel oil spill — 20 years on.** Dr Sian Prior. *Lloyd's List*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130430/The-Erika-heavy-fuel-oil-spill--20-years-on> 'The anniversary of the *Erika* HFO spill serves as a stark reminder of the need for urgent action to protect the Arctic from HFO spills, while the recent evidence from fuel oil spills demonstrates that only a few hundred tonnes of HFO could easily lead to an ecological disaster in the Arctic.'

**Ecuador concerned about recovery of sunken barge in Galapagos: minister.** Alexandra Valencia. *Reuters*. 23 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ecuador-galapagos-spill-idUSKBN1YR230> Ecuador's environment minister, Raul Ledesma, said on Monday that a situation involving a sunken barge in the Galapagos Islands which was carrying 600 gallons of diesel is under control but added that authorities are "very concerned" about the vessel's recovery.

**Video: Cargo Ship Crashes Into Cliff off Sardinia, Crew Evacuated.** *World Maritime News*. 24 December 2019. Available from: <https://worldmaritimeneews.com/archives/288501/video-cargo-ship-crashes-into-cliff-off-sardinia-crew-evacuated/> An Italy-flagged cargo ship ran aground off the coast of south-western Sardinia after encountering rough weather on December 21, 2019, the Italian Coast Guard said.

**Container Ship Runs Aground in Bosphorus.** *Maritime Executive*. 27 December 2019. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/container-ship-runs-aground-in-bosphorus> The Liberian-flagged container ship *Songa Iridium* suffered engine failure while sailing south in the Bosphorus and ran aground ashore in Istanbul, Turkey, on Friday.

**New MSC Cruise Ship Strikes Dock in Palermo.** *Maritime Executive*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/new-msc-cruise-ship-strikes-dock-in-palermo> On Monday morning, the brand new cruise ship *MSC Grandiosa* allided with a pier during docking at Palermo, Sicily.



**Boxship Fully Operational After Allision with Shore Pier in Bosphorus.** *World Maritime News*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://worldmaritimeneeds.com/archives/288697/boxship-fully-operational-after-allision-with-shore-pier-in-bosphorus/> *Songa Iridium*, a containership that ran aground in the Bosphorus Strait in Istanbul on December 27, is now fully operational following engine repairs and a damage assessment.

## ENVIRONMENT

**Controlling underwater noise.** *Seatrade Maritime News*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/environmental/controlling-underwater-noise> Reduced environmental footprint, improved profit and better data quality are just some of the benefits of controlling unwanted underwater noise.

**Climate change: COP25 island nation in 'fight to death'.** Matt McGrath. *BBC News*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-50614518> 🇳🇵 The president of an island nation on the frontline of climate change says it is in a "fight to the death" after freak waves inundated the capital.

**Climate Conference to Spur Action on the Ocean.** *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://unfccc.int/news/climate-conference-to-spur-action-on-the-ocean> The ocean is increasingly affected by the global rise in temperatures, and as a result is significantly impacting marine ecosystems, coastal areas and human societies.

**35-year data record charts sea temperature change.** *European Space Agency (ESA)*. 5 December 2019. Available from: [https://www.esa.int/Applications/Observing\\_the\\_Earth/Space\\_for\\_our\\_climate/35-year\\_data\\_record\\_charts\\_sea\\_temperature\\_change](https://www.esa.int/Applications/Observing_the_Earth/Space_for_our_climate/35-year_data_record_charts_sea_temperature_change) Four trillion satellite measurements, taken over four decades from 1981 to 2018, have been merged to create a continuous global record that will help to understand the science behind Earth's climate.

**Chile Launches Platform for Science-based Ocean Solutions at COP 25.** Catherine Benson Wahlén. *International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/chile-launches-platform-for-science-based-ocean-solutions-at-cop-25/> Chile, in its role as the Presidency of the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 25) to the UNFCCC, launched the Platform for Science-Based Ocean Solutions (PSBOS).

**Sea level rise washing over maritime boundaries in the Pacific.** *South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.sprep.org/news/sea-level-rise-washing-over-maritime-boundaries-in-the-pacific> According to the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change it is forecast the extreme sea level events that now happen every 100 years will happen on an annual basis by 2100.

**The European environment — state and outlook 2020: knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe.** *European Environment Agency (EEA)*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/soer-2020/> 🇪🇺 Europe will not achieve its 2030 goals without urgent action during the next 10 years to address the alarming rate of biodiversity loss, increasing impacts of climate change and the overconsumption of natural resources.  
[Full Report: The European environment: state and outlook 2020](https://www.eea.europa.eu/soer-2020/)



**Marine life, fisheries increasingly threatened as the ocean loses oxygen – IUCN report.**

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). 7 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.iucn.org/news/marine-and-polar/201912/marine-life-fisheries-increasingly-threatened-ocean-loses-oxygen-iucn-report> The loss of oxygen from the world's ocean is increasingly threatening fish species and disrupting ecosystems, a new IUCN report warns. [Ocean deoxygenation: Everyone's problem](#)

**Ocean based solutions for climate action.** Anne-Sophie Garrigou. *Medium*. 8 December 2019.

Available from: <https://medium.com/thebeammagazine/ocean-based-solutions-for-climate-action-30b899205918> The world's ocean and cryosphere have been taking the heat from climate change for decades and the consequences for nature and humanity are sweeping and severe" says Hans-Otto Pörtner, Co-Chair of the IPCC.

**New report focuses on building a resilient blue economy in the face of climate change.**

South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP). 8 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.sprep.org/news/new-report-focuses-on-building-a-resilient-blue-economy-in-the-face-of-climate-change> A new scientific paper commissioned by the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy was launched during the Building the Resilience of the Ocean Economy side event at the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion.

**The Expected Impacts of Climate Change on the Ocean Economy.** Steve Gaines, et al.

World Resources Institute. December 2019. Available from: <https://www.oceanpanel.org/expected-impacts-climate-change-ocean-economy> Collectively, it is estimated that ocean-based industries and activities contribute hundreds of millions of jobs and approximately US\$2.5 trillion to the global economy each year, making it the world's seventh-largest economy when compared with national gross domestic products. [Summary for Decision Makers](#)  
[Report: The Expected Impacts of Climate Change on the Ocean Economy](#)

**Carbon offsets have patchy human rights record. Now UN talks erode safeguards.**

Jocelyn Timperley. *Climate Home News*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/12/09/carbon-offsets-patchy-human-rights-record-now-un-talks-erode-safeguards/> Rules proposed to protect communities from carbon-cutting projects have been eroded at UN climate talks, raising fears human rights abuses under the previous system will be repeated.

**Hopes dim as COP25 delegates dicker over Article 6 and world burns: critics.** Justin Catanoso.

*Mongabay*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.mongabay.com/2019/12/hopes-dim-as-cop25-delegates-dicker-over-article-6-and-world-burns-critics/> Climate sensation Greta Thunberg drew 500,000 people to a boisterous rally in central Madrid on Friday evening, near the end of the first week of negotiations at the 25<sup>th</sup> United Nations climate summit (COP25).

**Arctic Report Card: Record territory for warm temperatures, loss of snow and ice.**

US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/arctic-report-card-record-territory-for-warm-temperatures-loss-of-snow-and-ice> NOAA's 14<sup>th</sup> Arctic Report Card recounts the numerous geophysical and biological changes that occurred in the northern polar region during 2019, with near-record high air and ocean temperatures and melting of the Greenland ice sheet, low sea-ice extents, and shifts in the distribution of commercially valuable marine species. [Arctic Report Card 2019](#) [Executive Summary](#)

**8 Experts On The Top Corporate Sustainability Issue Right Now.** *Medium*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://medium.com/ksapa/8-experts-on-the-top-corporate-sustainability-issue-right-now-44ead64d67e> In his Harvard Business Review article last year Matt Gitsham discussed a growing trend of corporate leaders being remarkably proactive about sustainability: “If global temperatures rise more than 1.5 °C, the risks of draught, floods, forest fires, heat-related deaths and loss of agricultural productivity all worsen significantly.

**Cop25 Bulletin: 2:30am** Chloé Farand and Karl Mathiesen. *Climate Home News*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/12/10/cop25-bulletin-230am/> It was nearing 2:30am on Tuesday morning when the gavel came down on the UN climate change plenary.

**COP25 news and views: What’s happening in Madrid (part 2).** Claire Stam. *EurActiv*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/climate-environment/news/cop25-news-and-views-whats-happening-in-madrid-part-2/> As UN climate negotiations enter their second and decisive week, EURACTIV gives you a glimpse into the goings on of the 25<sup>th</sup> climate conference in Madrid (COP25) and what is driving the conversation there.

**European Green Deal can be a defining moment in the fight against pollution and climate change, says green transport NGO.** *Transport & Environment*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/european-green-deal-can-be-defining-moment-fight-against-pollution-and-climate-change-says> As the centrepiece of her political mandate, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen today presented her European Green Deal, a comprehensive climate and nature package of measures to make Europe climate neutral by 2050.

**Click, Click, Emit - The Carbon Cost of Online Shopping.** Maxine Joselow. *Scientific American*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/click-click-emit-the-carbon-cost-of-online-shopping/> Thinking of ordering a holiday gift online? You might pause to consider the environmental impact of getting that product to your doorstep.

**Blue Charter ramps up momentum with new action group at COP25.** *The Commonwealth*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/blue-charter-ramps-momentum-new-action-group-cop25> The Pacific Island nation of Kiribati has stepped forward to lead an action group on sustainable coastal fisheries, as part of the Commonwealth Blue Charter.

**“Let us remember this as a Blue COP”.** *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/let-us-remember-blue-cop> COP 25 President Carolina Schmidt, Minister of Environment, Chile, and HRH Albert, Prince of Monaco, jointly launched the Platform for Science-Based Ocean Solutions, which stresses the need to address ocean and climate issues synergistically and to factor in potential marine nature-based solutions in national climate commitments and strategies to implement the Paris Agreement.

**How extreme can our climate become? Expert analysis at COP25.** Jeremy Wilks. *Euronews*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2019/12/16/how-extreme-can-our-climate-become> This year is likely to be one of the warmest on record.

**How Cop25 turned its back on climate action.** Karl Mathiesen. *Climate Home News*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/12/16/madrid-talks-turned-back-climate-action/> A globally-agreed commitment, delivered after the longest climate conference in history, looked ahead to 2020 and raised “serious concern” about “the significant gap” between what countries have pledged and what scientists say will stop the planet warming.

**5 Charts That Help Explain the State of the Environment in 2019.** C.K. Hickey. *Foreign Policy*. 23 December 2019. Available from: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/23/5-charts-that-help-explain-the-state-of-the-environment-in-2019/> Twenty-five years after the United Nations' first climate change conference, the future of the planet remains unsettled.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**

**PSA investigates hydrocarbon leak at Statfjord.** *Petroleum Safety Authority (Norway)*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.ptil.no/en/supervision/important-messages/equinor--statfjord-a--investigation-of-an-oil-leak/> This discharge was detected by the observation of oil on the sea surface alongside the North Sea platform.

**Hundreds of fisherman, others blame shipping companies for Houston oil spill.** Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/hundreds-of-fisherman-others-blame-shipping-companies-for-houston-oil-spill/2-1-717650> More than 700 commercial fishermen and seafood companies are looking to hold Kirby Corp, K Line and BW Group accountable after a May oil spill in the Houston Ship Channel.

**Norway to strengthen cooperation with the UN on marine plastic litter from shipping and fisheries.** *Government of Norway*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/388HI75> 'In the fight against marine litter, it is vital to strengthen the capacity to prevent pollution from shipping and fisheries in developing countries.

**Shipping company carrying your Christmas presents joins the EU's top 10 polluters.** Pierre Dornier. *Transport & Environment*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/shipping-company-carrying-your-christmas-presents-joins-eu's-top-10-polluters> Ships sailing to and from Europe emitted more than 139 million tonnes of CO2 last year – meaning that if shipping were a country it would be the EU's 8<sup>th</sup> biggest emitter after the Netherlands.

**Ships dumped 35 million tonnes of contaminated water off BC coast in 2017: Study.** *WWF Canada*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.wwf.ca/newsroom/?31161/scrubber-killer-whales> Turning air pollution into marine pollution, 30 scrubber-equipped ships dumped nearly 35 million tonnes of washwater effluent off the BC coast in 2017, according to a new study commissioned by WWF-Canada. [A whale of a problem? Heavy fuel oil, exhaust gas cleaning systems, and British Columbia's resident killer whales](#) 📄

**The Ocean Cleanup chooses DNV GL to verify the origin of their ocean plastic.** *DNV GL*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/news/the-ocean-cleanup-chooses-dnv-gl-to-verify-the-origin-of-their-ocean-plastic-164046> The Ocean Cleanup, the Dutch non-profit organization developing advanced technologies to rid the world's oceans of plastic, has brought the first batch of ocean plastic to shore following their first mission to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, the world's largest accumulation of plastic waste in the world, spanning an area of 1.6 million square kilometers.

**250,000 tons of plastic pellets known as nurdles pollute our oceans every year.** *CBS News (US)*. 14 December 2019. Available from: <https://cbsn.ws/2QXCkxO> 📄 Trillions of small plastic pellets known as nurdles have been escaping from petrochemical plants into waterways and oceans for decades.

**'Floating bomb' FSO starts to leak oil in Red Sea.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/floating-bomb-fso-starts-to-leak-oil-in-red-sea/2-1-725545> An ageing floating storage and offloading unit (FSO) laid-up off Yemen has started leaking oil.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

**Hefty disability pay-outs to Filipino seafarers highlighted by P&I Clubs.** Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/hefty-disability-pay-outs-filipino-seafarers-highlighted-pi-clubs> Concerns over hefty disability pay outs to Filipino seafarers with pre-existing medical conditions were flagged up by P&I clubs this week.

**Industry-Leading Study of 246M USD in Injury Claims Offers New Shipping Safety Insight.** *ABS (American Bureau of Shipping)*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://ww2.eagle.org/en/news/press-room/study-of-246m-usd-in-injury-claims-offers-shipping-safety-insight.html> ABS, the American Club, and Lamar University (Lamar) are calling on industry to advance the cause of safety at sea with more comprehensive reporting requirements for injury and near miss reporting. [Summary of the Report: Maritime slips, trips, falls and lifting injuries](#)

**E.U. Council Documents Concerns About Live Export.** *Maritime Executive*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/e-u-council-documents-concerns-about-live-export> The E.U. Council adopted a set of conclusions on animal welfare on Monday that stress the need to improve the welfare of animals during transport over long distances.

**Council conclusions on animal welfare - an integral part of sustainable animal production.** *Council of the European Union*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/41863/st14975-en19.pdf> The welfare of animals is an issue of high importance to European citizens and has been recognised as such by Union law, in particular, Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

**A Happy Ship is a Safe Ship.** Dimitrios Lyrakos. *Maritime Executive*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/features/a-happy-ship-is-a-safe-ship> This is a concept that it is argued on all training and support actions for seafarers by companies and organizations worldwide.

## **IMO**

**IMO-DCS – The First Reporting Period is ending. What is next?** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/imo-dcs-the-first-reporting-period-is-ending-what-is-next/> In the latest October 2016, MEPC 282 reunited and adopted mandatory MARPOL Annex VI requirements for ships to record and report their fuel oil consumption.

**BIMCO submits biofouling survey results to the IMO.** Aron Soerensen. *BIMCO*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/environment-protection/20191203-bimco-submits-biofouling-survey-results> As biofouling is attracting an increasing amount of attention from states, shipowners, and port authorities around the world, BIMCO is continually working on biofouling management and ways to improve access to in-water cleaning.

**Now is not the time to leave slow steaming out of the IMO's toolkit.** Eric Martin. *TradeWinds*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/now-is-not-the-time-to-leave-slow-steaming-out-of-the-imo-s-toolkit/2-1-717093> Shipowners and environmentalists agree on one thing: the IMO should impose a global speed limit on ships to cut the industry's carbon emissions.

**Are we ready for IMO 2020?** Ambassador Carlos Salina. *Manila Times*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2019/12/04/business/maritime-business/are-we-ready-for-imo-2020/661323/> In October 2016, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) issued a landmark regulation, dubbed "IMO 2020," which called for a reduction of sulfur, an ozone-depleting substance, from 3.5 percent to 0.5 percent.

**Alexander Saverys on climate: "Let's be honest. We are not prepared".** Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Tanker/article11802216.ece> Alexander Saverys, part of the Belgian shipping family Saverys and CEO of the more than 200-year-old group Compagnie Maritime Belge, CMB, says that the world's push to decarbonize may pose an existential threat to shipping.

**Industry roundtable meeting feeling more positive on IMO 2020.** *International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA)*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://ibia.net/industry-roundtable-meeting-feeling-more-positive-on-imo-2020/> A second roundtable industry meeting hosted by IMO at its London Headquarters in November saw more optimism about the general readiness to meet the sulphur 2020 requirement than the first such meeting, which was held in June this year.

**Improving regional cooperation and compliance with IMO conventions.** Laura Pillay. *Seychelles Nation*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.nation.sc/articles/2733/improving-regional-cooperation-and-compliance-with-imo-conventions> Senior port officials from numerous member states of the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMOU) on Port State Control are participating in the seventh seminar for Port State Control Officers (PSCOs), at the Berjaya Beau Vallon Bay Resort.

**Shipping to face the sulphur shakeup.** Warren Patterson and Wenyu Yao. *ING Bank N.V.* 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://think.ing.com/articles/sulphur-shake-up-imo-shipping-in-2020/> The implementation of the International Maritime Organization's new sulphur regulations will lead to significant shifts in the demand outlook for refined products.

**As deadline looms, Greek shipowners decry IMO 2020.** Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/as-deadline-looms-greek-shipowners-decry-imo-2020/2-1-721635> Greek shipowners cannot do anything about it now, but they are still not happy with the way the IMO 2020 sulphur emissions cap is coming into play.

**'PH domestic sector may not be ready for IMO regulation on sulphur cap'.** Genivi Factao. *Manila Times*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2019/12/11/business/maritime-business/ph-domestic-sector-may-not-be-ready-for-imo-regulation-on-sulphur-cap/663271/> The Filipino Shipowners Association (FSA) said that the Philippines' domestic sector may not be ready to comply with the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) regulations governing sulphur cap beginning Jan. 2020.



**Takoradi hosts 3<sup>rd</sup> Stakeholder Sensitisation on IMO 2020 Sulphur Cap** *Ghana Maritime Authority*. 11 December 2019. Available from: [https://www.ghanamaritime.org/news\\_page.php?id=79](https://www.ghanamaritime.org/news_page.php?id=79) Shippers and stakeholders in the maritime industry in the Western Region have been sensitised on the implementation of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) 2020 Sulphur Cap Regulation which comes into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020.

**World Coatings Council Submits Paper on Cybutryne to IMO Subcommittee.** *American Coatings Association*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.paint.org/cybutryne/> Last month, the World Coatings Council submitted a paper to the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Marine Environmental Protection Committee's Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) Subcommittee for discussion at the group's next meeting, to be held Feb. 17–21, 2020 in London.

**IMO warns against 'trouble' and 'confusion' for global decarbonisation efforts amid EU emissions push.** Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2uRCPRG> The IMO secretary general says he intends to travel to Brussels, while industry lobbies express concerns over Commission and Parliament intention to regulate shipping emissions.

**IMO 2020 Impact Projection Skepticism.** Emily Ricks. *Freight Waves*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/imo-2020-impact-projection-skepticism> While IMO 2020 is certain to impact the industry, some are doubting the intensity of the year-old predicted impacts.

**New clean shipping fuel rules, but who polices the polluters?** Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-shipping-imo-enforcement/new-clean-shipping-fuel-rules-but-who-polices-the-polluters-idUSKBN1YN1UD> Sweeping new fuel rules aiming to cut pollution belching from ships and save lives are now just a couple of weeks away but with no central policing agency and several countries still not signed up to them, compliance is a major concern.

## **LAW & POLICY**

**Maritime strategy completed ahead of international audit.** Olivia Rose. *Turks and Caicos Weekly News*. 1 December 2019. Available from: <https://tcweeklynews.com/maritime-strategy-completed-ahead-of-international-audit-p10176-127.htm> The Department of Maritime and Shipping has completed a draft National Maritime Strategy and Policy to help direct its responsibilities for maintaining safety at sea.

**Bird lovers, green groups push for Mediterranean ECA.** Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/bird-lovers-green-groups-push-for-mediterranean-eca/2-1-715954> Conservation groups have urged Europe's three biggest flag states to fall into line with calls to introduce an emissions control area (ECA) in the Mediterranean Sea that would impose tighter sulphur limits.

**NZ to Join IMO Convention to Reduce Ship Emissions.** Julie Anne Genter. *Government of New Zealand*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/nz-join-imo-convention-reduce-ship-emissions> Subject to completion of the Parliamentary treaty examination process, New Zealand will sign up to Annex VI of MARPOL, an International Maritime convention for the prevention of pollution from ships.

**Saadé gets Macron to lead shipping's new fuel quest.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/saade-gets-macron-to-lead-shippings-new-fuel-quest/> Prior to locking horns with Donald Trump over NATO matters in London, Emmanuel Macron was in Montpellier where he was asked to lead the world towards a greener form of maritime transport.

**Interview: Greece is to further enhance cooperation with China - Greek shipping minister.** Yu Shuaishuai and Maria Spiliopoulou. *Xinhuanet (China)*. 4 December 2019. Available from: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-12/04/c\\_138605680.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-12/04/c_138605680.htm) Greece will enhance bilateral cooperation with China in many sectors, including shipping, with the Piraeus Port a pillar and example under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Greek Minister of Shipping and Island Policy Ioannis Plakiotakis has said.

**Iran, Russia, China to hold joint naval drills on Dec. 27: Iran Navy chief.** *Press TV (Iran)*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2019/12/03/612778/Iran-Russia-China> Khazadi made the announcement in a meeting with visiting deputy chief of Chinese Joint Staff Department, Major General Shao Yuanming, on Tuesday, saying the joint drills, code-named Maritime Security Belt, would be launched in the Indian Ocean on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Aviation and shipping set to face differing fortunes under EU Green Deal.** Sam Morgan. *EurActiv*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/transport/news/aviation-and-shipping-set-to-face-differing-fortunes-under-eu-green-deal/> While planes, trains, and automobiles can expect particular attention under the EU's upcoming Green Deal, the new Commission has already set its sights on cleaning up the transport industry – the only sector of the European economy where emissions are still growing.

**Seychelles signs 4 more legal acts designed to prevent maritime pollution by ships.** *Seychelles News Agency*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/12070/Seychelles+signs++more+legal+acts+designed+to+prevent+maritime+pollution+by+ships> Seychelles has shown its commitment to protecting the island nation's marine environment after signing for four more legal acts of an international convention for the prevention of maritime pollution (MARPOL), a top government official said Thursday.

**Turkey: Parliament ratifies maritime pact with Libya.** Emin Avundukluoglu. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-parliament-ratifies-maritime-pact-with-libya/1665108> The Turkish parliament on Thursday ratified a recently signed pact between Turkey and Libya laying out the two countries' maritime boundaries in the eastern Mediterranean.

**Oceans finally take center stage at COP25.** Atsushi Sunami. *Japan Times*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2019/12/06/commentary/japan-commentary/oceans-finally-take-center-stage-cop25/> World leaders are gathered in Madrid through Dec. 13 to negotiate global actions in combating climate change at the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the United Nations Climate Change Framework Convention (UNFCCC COP25).

**Kuwait latest country to ban single-use plastics onboard ships.** Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/kuwait-latest-country-to-ban-single-use-plastics-onboard-ships/2-1-719360> The Kuwaiti Ministry of Communications announced the new policy in a circular issued late last month, according to the Gard P&I club.



**Bill would give Alaskans an advisory role in Arctic shipping.** Liz Ruskin. *Alaska Public Media*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.alaskapublic.org/2019/12/11/bill-would-give-alaskans-an-advisory-role-in-arctic-shipping/> For ship travel, the Arctic is a new frontier, with an ocean of possibilities and few rules. A bill advancing in the U.S. Senate aims to allow new maritime opportunities while designing a framework that ensures safety.

**S.2786 - Arctic Shipping Federal Advisory Committee Act.** *United States Congress*. 5 November 2019. Available from: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2786/text> To establish a Federal advisory committee to provide policy recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on positioning the United States to take advantage of emerging opportunities for Arctic maritime transportation.

**Commission notifies the Republic of Panama over the need to step up action to fight against illegal fishing.** *European Commission*. 12 December 2019. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_19\\_6755](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_19_6755) The European Commission has notified the Republic of Panama about the risk of being identified as a non-cooperating country in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

**International cooperation enhanced to enforce UNCLOS.** *Voice of Vietnam (VoV)*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://english.vov.vn/politics/international-cooperation-enhanced-to-enforce-unclos-407508.vov> At a recent plenary meeting on oceans and the law of the sea during the 74<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly in New York, a Vietnamese representative to the United Nations highlighted the important role of the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

**Newly elected government must commit to maritime boost.** *Nautilus International*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/newly-elected-government-must-commit-to-maritime-boost/> Nautilus International has called on the newly-elected UK government to commit to ensuring a strong and prosperous British maritime sector post-Brexit by supporting the core objectives set out in its manifesto.

**State aid: Commission approves maritime transport support schemes in Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Poland and Sweden.** *European Commission*. 16 December 2019. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_19\\_6780](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6780) The European Commission has approved under EU State aid rules five schemes to support maritime transport in Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Poland and Sweden.

**Time's Up: EU Misses Deadline to End Overfishing.** Andrew Clayton. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2019/12/18/times-up-eu-misses-deadline-to-end-overfishing> The conclusion of the December meeting of the European Union's Agriculture and Fisheries Council meeting should have been monumental, with catch limits set that would end overfishing in 2020, fulfilling the aims of the 2013 reform of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy.

**Oil Tanker Owner, Operator, and Chief Engineer Convicted for Obstruction of Justice and Concealing Deliberate Pollution.** *US Department of Justice*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/oil-tanker-owner-operator-and-chief-engineer-convicted-obstruction-justice-and-concealing> Nikolaos Vastardis, Evridiki Navigation Inc., and Liquimar Tankers Management Services Inc., were convicted by a federal jury in Wilmington, Delaware, of violating the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, falsifying ship's documents, obstructing a U.S. Coast Guard inspection, and making false statements to U.S. Coast Guard inspectors.

**For the global ocean: A new Global Ocean Treaty is under discussion at the United Nations, but will it deliver the protection our oceans need?** Louisa Casson. *Oceanographic*.

22 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.oceanographicmagazine.com/features/greenpeace-global-oceans/> These blue expanses act as highways for whales, turtles and tuna travelling thousands of miles. They are the home of enigmatic creatures and wildlife that can live for hundreds of years.

**Dispute Settlement in the New Treaty on Marine Biodiversity in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction.** Joanna Mossop. *Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea (NCLoS) Arctic University of Norway (UiT)*. 23 December 2019. Available from: <http://site.uit.no/jclos/2019/12/23/dispute-settlement-in-the-new-treaty-on-marine-biodiversity-in-areas-beyond-national-jurisdiction>

In December 2017, the United Nations General Assembly authorised the commencement of negotiations for a new treaty on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ Treaty).

## MARINE TECHNOLOGY

**By land or sea? Massterly sees autonomous vessels competing with trucks.** Kim Link-Wills. *Freight Waves*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/by-land-or-sea-massterly-sees-autonomous-vessels-competing-with-trucks> Massterly Vice President Pia Meling said the company jointly owned by Kongsberg Maritime and Wilhelmsen was not launched to eliminate human jobs.

**10 Tech Trends to Impact Shipping Industry.** Laxman Pai. *Marine Link*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/tech-trends-impact-shipping-industry-473501> A new report has identified the ten technology trends, and their associated risks, that will shape industry and society in the coming decade.

**Why Will So Many Ships Not Have Scrubbers On Time For IMO 2020?** *Pacific Green Technologies Group*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/30I7YIW> On 1 January the IMO's new emissions regulations come into effect, limiting the sulphur content of marine fuels.

**China's first autonomous cargo ship completes trial voyage.** Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/chinas-first-autonomous-cargo-ship-completes-trial-voyage/> China's autonomous ship development has reached a major milestone with the country's first autonomous cargo ship, *Jin Dou Yun 0 Hao*, completing its first ever trial voyage in Zhuhai yesterday.

**Shipowners Share Scrubber Installation Experience.** *Maritime Executive*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/shipowners-share-scrubber-installation-experience> Members of the Clean Shipping Alliance (CSA) 2020 are advising those shipowners looking to install marine exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS or scrubbers) to ensure that manufacturers, shipyards and installers are using quality, high-end materials.

**Scrubbers and IMO 2020 - payback looking good for now.** Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/scrubbers-and-imo-2020-payback-looking-good-now> It's been one of the most hotly debated questions of the last 18 – 24 months in shipping – whether or not to invest in scrubbers to comply with the IMO 2020 global low sulphur cap for marine fuel.

## MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

**MMD analyzing digital disruption before revamping curriculum.** Shenoy Karun. *Times of India*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/mmd-analyzing-digital-disruption-before-revamping-curriculum/articleshow/72327555.cms> A top Union shipping ministry official said that the mercantile marine department (MMD) is keenly watching the latest trends in the industry before making urgent modifications to the current curriculum.

**Carriers must train their crews for IMO 2020 or risk criminality, warns seafarer union.** Gavin van Marle. *The Loadstar*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/carriers-must-train-their-crews-for-imo-2020-or-risk-criminality-warns-seafarer-union/> Seafarer representatives are increasingly worried that the forthcoming IMO 2020 low-sulphur regulations could result in a spate of criminal convictions.

**Maritime Training Trust to provide scholarships to encourage women seafarers.** P Manoj. *Hindu BusinessLine (India)*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3aaE7Y5> Maritime Training Trust, jointly run by the government and the local shipping industry, has decided to provide scholarships up to ₹1,00,000 to women seafarers undergoing pre-sea courses at training institutes approved by the Directorate General of Shipping.

**MCA launches STCW surveys for engineering and deck officers.** *Nautilus International*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/mca-launches-stcw-surveys-for-engineering-and-deck-officers2/> The Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) is keen to hear the views of serving seafarers on certification training as part of its modernisation efforts.

**Unleash the Kraken : As regulations multiply, seamanship declines.** Erik Kravets. *Maritime Executive*. 7 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/unleash-the-kraken> As morals declined, however, legislation could be introduced to help, as it were, right the ship.

**KR signs MoU with National Technical University of Athens to share specialist software.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/kr-signs-mou-with-national-technical-university-of-athens-to-share-specialist-software/> The Korean Register has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the National Technical University of Athens, agreeing to share specialist technology and software with the students of the School Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering.

## MARITIME SAFETY

**ICS Launches New ISM Guidelines.** *Maritime Executive*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/ics-launches-new-ism-guidelines> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has launched a new edition of its Guidelines on the Application of the IMO International Safety Management (ISM) Code, originally published in 1993 with over 50,000 copies sold worldwide.

**Global ban on exporting hazardous waste to developing countries becomes law.** Jim Puckett. *NGO Shipbreaking Platform*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.shipbreakingplatform.org/ban-amendment/> The Basel Ban Amendment, adopted by the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous and Their Disposal in 1995, became international law on December 5 last week.

**Collaboration the key to stopping misdeclared cargo.** *Lloyd's List*. 15 December 2019.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130329/Collaboration-the-key-to-stopping-misdeclared-cargo> When industry and regulatory leaders were brought together by Lloyd's List, Lloyd's List Containers, Lloyd's Loading List and the TT Club to try to expedite an end to cargo misdeclarations, a consensus emerged among presenters that shippers must take more responsibility in mitigating the malpractice of cargo misdeclaration.

**More confusion ahead for lithium battery shippers.** Nicholas Mohr. *The Loadstar*.

16 December 2019. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/more-confusion-ahead-for-lithium-battery-shippers/> The United Nations' Committee of Experts, which creates the framework for dangerous goods regulations, has introduced a requirement which obliges manufacturers, and distributors of cells or batteries, to make available the test summary for their products.

**Japan's Cabinet adopts plan to send SDF to Mideast amid Iran tensions.** Reiji Yoshida.

*Japan Times*. 27 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/12/27/national/japan-sdf-dispatch-middle-east/> The Cabinet on Friday formally adopted a plan to deploy a Self-Defense Forces unit for an intelligence-gathering mission in the sea off Yemen and Oman amid strained tensions over Iran's controversial nuclear program.

## **MARITIME SECURITY**

**Prince William on patrol in the world's key shipping lane just miles from Iran.** Chris Ship.

*ITV News*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.itv.com/news/2019-12-03/prince-william-on-patrol-in-the-world-s-key-shipping-lane-just-miles-from-iran/> It was not without a lot of discussion at the highest levels of government that it was agreed Prince William should get into a patrol boat during his official Royal Tour of the Gulf and sail into the world's most important shipping lane, just a couple of dozen miles from Iran.

**Ghana remains open to new ideas in pursuing maritime security.** Joyce Danso. *Ghana News Agency*.

5 December 2019. Available from: <https://ghananewsagency.org/social/ghana-remains-open-to-new-ideas-in-pursuing-maritime-security-160735> Naval Forces of countries along the Gulf of Guinea cannot maintain maritime security alone without cooperation and collaboration from relevant stakeholders, Rear Admiral Seth Amoama, Chief of the Naval Staff has said.

**Indo-Pacific island states face increasing maritime security threats.** Anthony Bergin, David Brewster and Aakriti Bachhawat. *Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)*. 5 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/indo-pacific-island-states-face-increasing-maritime-security-threats/> In a new ASPI report, titled Ocean horizons, we examine how Pacific island countries and Indian Ocean island states are managing and prioritising their maritime security challenges. [Ocean Horizons: Special Report](#)

**Japan plans to send 270 sailors to Middle East to guard ships -Nikkei.** Chang-Ran Kim and

Linda Sieg. *Reuters*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2u5q19G> Japan is working on a plan to send about 270 seamen to the Middle East to guard ships supplying Japan under a law that allows military deployments for research and intelligence gathering, the Nikkei business daily said.

**Naval Resupply Advance Gives China New Edge in Maritime Disputes.** *Voice of America*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/naval-resupply-advance-gives-china-new-edge-maritime-disputes> A Chinese military supply ship has made its first transfer from a civilian vessel, Chinese media say.

**Achille Lauro hijacking: A tragic example of maritime terrorism.** *Safety4Sea*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-achille-lauro-hijacking-a-tragic-example-of-maritime-terrorism/> As part of its 'Learn from the past' series, SAFETY4SEA remembers the hijacking of the cruise ship 'Achille Lauro' in 1985 by four heavily armed Palestinian militants who posed as passengers, resulting to the brutal murder of one passenger.

**ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre Conducts Anti-Piracy Capacity Building Programme for Senior Officers of Maritime Authorities and Law Enforcement Agencies in Cooperation with Vietnam Coast Guard.** *ReCAAP*. 10 December 2019. Available from: [http://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/news/2019/CBSOM\\_2019\\_News\\_Release\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/news/2019/CBSOM_2019_News_Release_FINAL.pdf) The three-day programme will gather senior officers from 16 ReCAAP Member Countries as well as Malaysia and Indonesia to review the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia including the incidents of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas, share specific case studies, and discuss ways to improve the maritime safety situation in Asia.

**IACS Council welcomes substantial progress made on Cyber and IQARB and says farewell to its long-standing Accredited Representative to IMO.** *International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.iacs.org.uk/news/iacs-council-80-press-release/> The IACS Council held its 80<sup>th</sup> session (C80) in London last week, where the focus was Cyber Safety, IQARB and Quality matters, along with further enhancing IACS' cooperation with the IMO.

**Iran threat has not gone away, warns Royal Navy head.** Jonathan Beale. *BBC News*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-50813676> Iran's threat to British shipping in the Gulf "hasn't gone away", the head of the Royal Navy has told the BBC.

**S. Korea mulling various options, including troops dispatch, over Strait of Hormuz role: officials.** Oh Seok-min. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20191218003700325> South Korea has been reviewing various options, including troop dispatch, as to what role it can play to safeguard the Strait of Hormuz, officials said Wednesday.

**ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre and Philippine Coast Guard Jointly Convene Meeting with Regional Maritime Authorities, Shipping Industry and Diplomatic Community to Assess Evolution of Piracy and Sea Robbery in Asia.** *ReCAAP*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2ujfXdt> Maritime law enforcement and regulatory agencies from China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam as well as members from the shipping industry and diplomatic community in Manila today began a two-day meeting jointly organised by ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) and ReCAAP Philippine Focal Point (Philippine Coast Guard) to assess the evolution of piracy and sea robbery in Asia.

**Lloyd's Register's certification validates Wärtsilä Marine's cyber security measures.** *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/38nFGjy> The technology group Wärtsilä has been awarded Lloyd's Register (LR) system-level cyber certification for its network architecture relating to Wärtsilä's integrated main and auxiliary machinery.



**French warship to spearhead European mission in Gulf from next year.** *EurActiv*.

20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/defence-and-security/news/french-warship-to-spearhead-european-mission-in-gulf-from-next-year/> A European operation to ensure safe shipping in the Gulf region, scene of attacks on merchant vessels this year, will get underway next month when a French warship starts patrolling there, a French armed forces spokeswoman said on Thursday (19 December).

## MIGRANTS

**Death Toll from Lampedusa Sinking Increases to 18.** *Maritime Executive*. 2 December 2019.

Available from <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/death-toll-from-lampedusa-sinking-rises>  
The death toll from a migrant boat sinking off Lampedusa last month has risen to 18 as divers recover additional bodies from the scene.

**Two ships carrying rescued migrants dock in Italy.** *The Local (Italy)*. 4 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.thelocal.it/20191204/two-ships-carrying-rescued-migrants-dock-in-italy>  
Italy authorised the arrival of two charity ships carrying more than 100 migrants rescued in the Mediterranean, under the terms of an agreement with other EU countries, the interior ministry said late on Tuesday.

**Near-record number of migrants make Channel crossing in one day.** Chiara Giordano.

*The Independent*. 5 December 2019. Available from:  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrant-rescue-channel-dover-boats-kent-border-force-a9233261.html> A total of 79 migrants have crossed the English Channel in five boats – close to the record number to do so in one day.

**Fifty-eight Migrants Confirmed Dead After Boat from The Gambia Capsizes Near Coast of Mauritania.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 5 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.iom.int/news/fifty-eight-migrants-confirmed-dead-after-boat-gambia-capsizes-near-coast-mauritania> At least 58 men, women and children are confirmed dead after a vessel carrying an estimated 150 migrants sank as it approached the coast of Mauritania on Wednesday.

**Death Toll from Mauritania Ship Sinking Mounts as Support to Survivors Gathers Momentum.**

*International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 6 December 2019. Available from:  
<https://www.iom.int/news/death-toll-mauritania-ship-sinking-mounts-support-survivors-gathers-momentum> The death toll from Wednesday's tragic sinking of a fishing boat carrying migrants to the Canary Islands rose to 62 late yesterday with the recovery of four bodies as IOM's efforts to help survivors gathered momentum.

**Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 104,644 in 2019; Deaths Reach 1,246.** *International*

*Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 13 December 2019. Available from:  
<https://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-reach-104644-2019-deaths-reach-1246-0>  
IOM reports that 104,644 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through 11 December, roughly a 6 per cent decrease from the 110,851 arriving during the same period last year.

**Eight people die at sea in 24 hours while trying to reach Spain.** *Aljazeera*. 17 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/12/people-die-sea-reach-spain-191217134750794.html> Spanish police find victim off southern coast after Moroccan vessel retrieves seven bodies from Mediterranean Sea.

**Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 107,546 in 2019; Deaths Reach 1,246.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 20 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-reach-107546-2019-deaths-reach-1246>

IOM reports that 107,546 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through 18 December, roughly a 5 per cent decrease from the 112,836 arriving during the same period last year.

**Pope Francis installs cross in Vatican for migrants who died in Mediterranean.**

Hanna Brockhaus. *Catholic Herald*. 20 December 2019. Available from:

<https://catholicherald.co.uk/news/2019/12/20/pope-francis-installs-cross-in-vatican-for-migrants-who-died-in-mediterranean/> Pope Francis has hung a cross encircled by a life jacket inside a Vatican building in memory of migrants and refugees who have lost their lives in the Mediterranean Sea.

## NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

**Regulatory framework for AIS: ‘Going dark’ and switching off.** Jens Jaeger. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/regulatory-framework-for-ais-going-dark-and-switching-off/>

The Automated Identification System (AIS) is a radio system which enables the exchange of navigation and other data ship to ship and with shore-based facilities.

**PH, Indonesia to renew commitment in watching over Sulu-Celebes Sea.** Betheena Kae Unite. *Manila Bulletin*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.mb.com.ph/2019/12/10/ph-indonesia-to-renew-commitment-in-watching-over-sulu-celebes-sea/>

The Philippines, through the Philippine Coast Guard, and Indonesia, through the Indonesian Maritime Security Force BAKAMLA, aim to intensify maritime security cooperation through the re-signing of the memorandum of understanding with implementing arrangement that will be held in Bali, Indonesia next year.

**Iridium Continues GMDSS Readiness with Announcement of Launch Partners.**

*Iridium Communications Plc*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <http://investor.iridium.com/2019-12-11-Iridium-Continues-GMDSS-Readiness-with-Announcement-of-Launch-Partners>

Iridium Communications Inc. (NASDAQ: IRDM) today announced the first seven companies it has authorized to provide its Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) services, planned for commercial introduction in the first half of 2020.

**As the Arctic melts, China and Russia struggle for control.** Will Bedingfield. *Wired*.

11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.wired.co.uk/article/arctic-ice-melting-shipping-russia-china> In August, satellites scanning the Arctic circle noticed a remarkable transformation: the region’s ice receded to such an extent that islands, previously submerged beneath glaciers, were now visible.

**Scientists plan year locked in ice to unlock Arctic climate change data.** Kristen Pope.

*Yale Climate Connections*. 11 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2019/12/scientists-plan-year-locked-in-ice-to-unlock-arctic-climate-change-data/>

More than 300 scientists from 19 nations are engaged in planned two- to three-month stints locked in polar ice on the German icebreaker *RV Polarstern*.

**Special Report: Icebound - The climate-change secrets of 19<sup>th</sup> century ship's logbooks.**

Andrew R.C. Marshall. *Reuters*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/389VZ3o>

On November 14, 1881, an American called George Melville limped across a frozen delta in Siberia and pulled a pole from the snow with his frost-bitten hands.



**Ship run by Chinese firm under U.S. sanctions spurns Malaysian checks - agency.**

A. Ananthalakshmi and Roslan Khasawneh. *Reuters*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL4N28MONZ> An oil tanker, which shipping data showed was managed by a Chinese company under U.S. sanctions, refused to allow an inspection by maritime authorities while anchored in Malaysian waters, Malaysia's maritime agency said.

**Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) Program to start December this year.** *Government of South Korea*. 12 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.mof.go.kr/eng/article/view.do?articleKey=28138&boardKey=41> Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (Minister Moon Seong-Hyeok) will begin "Vessel Speed Reduction Program" beginning December this year, as an effort to reduce fine dust from ships.

**Russia's largest icebreaker starts sea trials.** Charles Digges. *Bellona Foundation*.

13 December 2019. Available from: <https://bellona.org/news/arctic/russian-nuclear-icebreakers-fleet/2019-12-russias-largest-icebreaker-starts-sea-trials> The *Arktika* nuclear icebreaker – currently billed as the largest in the world – has begun sea trials near the Baltic Shipyard in St Petersburg, authorities said on Thursday.

**Norway considers size limitation on passenger ships sailing at Svalbard.** Thomas Nilsen. *Independent Barents Observer (Norway)*. 17 December 2019. Available from:

<https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/travel/2019/12/norway-considers-size-limitation-passenger-ships-sailing-svalbard> The days may be numbered for mega cruise ships in the waters around Norway's Arctic archipelago of Svalbard.

**Thome implements digitalisation and e-navigation platform.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Digitalisation & Communications*. 17 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/thome-implements-digitalisation-and-e-navigation-57234> International shipmanagement group Thome is installing a software platform across its fleet to manage environmental and regulatory compliance and implement e-navigation.

**Turkish government says mega-canal will prevent accidents.** *Container Shipping & Trade*.

18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/turkish-government-says-mega-canal-to-prevent-accidents-on-bosphorus-57219> Turkey's Minister of Environment and Urbanisation Murat Kurum said that studies on the potential impact of the project on the environment were nearing completion and that the project was being carried out with the highest-level environmental sensitivity.

**e-navigational charts inaugurated.** *Times of Oman*. 18 December 2019. Available from:

<https://timesofoman.com/article/2409474/Oman/e-navigational-charts-inaugurated> The National Hydrographic Office (NHO) of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) inaugurated the Omani e-navigational charts, which were fully prepared by Omani technical cadres at NHO in order to keep pace with the electronic transformation in navigational chart system and as part of the Sultanate's plans and commitment as a member of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

**Traffic Density Maps for a better understanding of maritime traffic.** *European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)*. 20 December 2019. Available from:

<https://bit.ly/3a5W5Lg> Today EMSA is proud to announce the release by EMODnet of our Traffic Density Maps which offer a simple and effective way of displaying ship movement patterns, thereby contributing to a better understanding of maritime traffic.

## PIRACY

**19 crew kidnapped from HK-flagged VLCC off Nigeria.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/19-crew-kidnapped-from-hk-flagged-vlcc-off-nigeria/> The piracy situation in West Africa has descended to new lows with a VLCC raided by armed men yesterday and 19 crew kidnapped.

**Hong Kong-registered oil tanker attacked by pirates off Nigeria, 19 crew kidnapped.** Clifford Lo. *South China Morning Post*. 7 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3041042/hong-kong-registered-oil-tanker-attacked-pirates> The Marine Department on Friday confirmed that the Hong Kong-flagged crude oil tanker – the *Nave Constellation* – was the victim of a pirate attack in the early hours of Wednesday, Hong Kong time.

**Latest Gulf of Guinea kidnapping prompts Union call for international action on piracy.** *Nautilus International*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/361HMo0> Nautilus has continued to urge international co-operation on piracy amid mounting concern for 19 crew kidnapped by pirates off Nigeria in one of the single largest reported kidnappings in 2019.

**Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill introduced in Lok Sabha.** *Economic Times (India)*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2FS0Gmv> A bill which seeks to provide for stringent punishment, including death penalty or life imprisonment, to those involved in piracy at sea was introduced in Lok Sabha on Monday.

**Fight against piracy : France hands over radio equipment to Ghana.** *GhanaWeb*. 14 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2Nt36fw> France hands over digital long-range radios to the Maritime Multinational Coordination Center at Accra as part of its fight against piracy in the Gulf of Guinea.

**Pirates strike again as crew reported taken from tanker off Benin.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 15 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/pirates-strike-again-as-crew-reported-taken-from-tanker-off-benin/2-1-724508> The attack took place on a vessel at least 115 nautical miles (213 km) southeast of Lome, Togo, but in Benin waters, according to piracy reporting body Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GoG).

**Kidnapping – 115nm SE of Lomé, Togo.** *Dryad Global*. 15 December 2019. Available from: <https://dryadglobal.com/kidnapping-100nm-s-of-bonny-island-105nm-sw-of-bioko-island-2/> Reporting indicates that the Marshall Islands-flagged *MT Duke* has been attacked whilst sailing from Luanda, Angola to Lome, Togo deep offshore.

**Contact made with Union Maritime tanker after crew seized.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/contact-made-with-union-maritime-tanker-after-crew-seized/2-1-725539> Contact has been re-established with a Union Maritime tanker left without a crew after a raid by pirates off Benin on Sunday.

**Splash Extra: Nigerian piracy ‘spins out of control’.** *Splash 247.com*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/splash-extra-nigerian-piracy-spins-out-of-control/> The Splash Extra editorial team has ransacked the archives to bring subscribers a special issue, which includes a regular run-down of the month in shipping, an annual review and even a unique take on the past decade.

**Pirate mothership spotted off Nigeria near d'Amico tanker.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/pirate-mothership-spotted-off-nigeria-near-damico-tanker/2-1-727801> The piracy reporting body Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GoG) said "suspicious activity" was reported south-west of the Agbami oil terminal on Thursday morning.

**Suspect pirate mother vessel sighted off Nigeria.** Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/suspect-pirate-mother-vessel-sighted-nigeria> A suspected pirate mothership has been sighted offshore Nigeria roughly between where two kidnapping incidents took place earlier this year.

**Gangs of knife-wielding pirates attack several ships in Singapore Strait.** Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 26 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/gangs-of-knife-wielding-pirates-attack-several-ships-in-singapore-strait/2-1-729209> Vessels belonging to several shipowners have come under attack from knife-wielding bandits who have been engaged in a robbing spree that began last Thursday morning.

**Attack – 143nm NW Sao Tome.** *Dryad Global*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://dryadglobal.com/attack-143nm-nw-sao-tome/> Reporting indicates that the bulk carrier *VINALINES MIGHTY*, was attacked when transiting between Douala and Greenville Liberia.

**Kidnapping – Limboh Anchorage, Cameroon.** *Dryad Global*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://dryadglobal.com/kidnapping-limboh-anchorage-cameroon/> Reporting indicates that whilst at anchor at the Limboh Terminal Anchorage the *MT HAPPY LADY* came under attack and was boarded.

## PORT STATE CONTROL

**Eight migrants found 'hiding' on cargo ship at Waterford port.** Jack Horgan-Jones and Barry Roche. *Irish Times*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/eight-migrants-found-hiding-on-cargo-ship-at-waterford-port-1.4104935> Eight migrants discovered "hiding" on board a cargo ship at a port near Waterford city on Wednesday are likely to be sent back to France in the coming days.

**Malaysia seizes drifting tanker with lone engineer aboard.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/malaysia-seizes-drifting-tanker-with-lone-engineer-aboard/2-1-723299> The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) said the 5,000-dwt *Viet Tin 01* (built 1995) was boarded by its officials on Sunday after it was found anchored without authorisation just off the southern Malaysian state of Johor.

**Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during November 2019.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-november-2019> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that four foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during November 2019 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

**Cargoship banned for year after deck cracking found.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/cargoship-banned-for-year-after-deck-cracking-found/2-1-728582> The Paris MOU on Port State Control has banned two vessels over deck cracking and wage issues.

**Requirements for the use of scrubbers in Australian waters & reporting to AMSA.**

*Standard Club*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2Nuom4s> Further to club's previous article on scrubber guidance, members with ships trading in Australian waters are advised that AMSA has issued a marine notice 05/2019 on the requirements for the use of scrubbers in Australian waters and associated reporting.

**Iran arrests tanker for 'fuel smuggling' in Middle East Gulf.** Lucy Hine. *TradeWinds*.

31 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/news/iran-arrests-tanker-for-fuel-smuggling-in-middle-east-gulf/2-1-730860> A small tanker and its 16 Malaysian crew have been seized in the Middle East Gulf by Iran's Revolutionary Guard for "fuel-smuggling", according to Iranian news channels.

## **PORTS & HARBOURS**

**Panama Canal: Upholding a Legacy of Sustainability in a Shifting Landscape.** *Hellenic*

*Shipping News*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/panama-canal-upholding-a-legacy-of-sustainability-in-a-shifting-landscape/> Late last month, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published its Review of Maritime Transport 2019.

**HHLA aims to become a climate neutral company by 2040.** *Port of Hamburg*. 2 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.hafen-hamburg.de/en/news/hhla-aims-to-become-a-climate-neutral-company-by-2040---36574> Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA) is increasing its efforts to protect the climate and conserve resources.

**Tug and ports: on the frontline in emissions reductions.** Martyn Wingrove. *Tug Technology &*

*Business*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/tug-and-ports-on-the-frontline-in-emissions-reductions-56998> Tug operators will need to act to reduce their environmental footprint in key Scandinavian ports after authorities agreed to collaborate to prevent climate change.

**'Mubarak Al-Kabeer port to play key role in international trade'** *Arab Times (Kuwait)*.

1 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/mubarak-al-kabeer-port-to-play-key-role-in-international-trade/> Undersecretary of Kuwait's Ministry of Communications Kholoud Al-Shehab said Friday Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port is one of the mega projects in the country's national development plan that will have a great impact on international trade routes.

**Coral dredging: 'It's going to cause irreversible damage'.** Vivienne Nunis. *BBC News*.

4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-50647625> Campaigners in the Cayman Islands say they are fighting a "David and Goliath" battle against the world's biggest cruise lines that want to redevelop the country's port to accommodate huge ships.

**The container terminal at the Port of Gothenburg to be fossil-free by 2020.** *Port of Gothenburg*.

6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.portofgothenburg.com/news-room/press-releases/the-container-terminal-at-the-port-of-gothenburg-to-be-fossil-free-by-2020/> A machine park completely run on renewable fuels, a doubling of rail-borne freight and optimising of loading and discharge operations.

**Scrubber waste collection in order in Rotterdam.** *Port of Rotterdam.* 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/scrubber-waste-collection-in-order-in-rotterdam> Shipping needs to be cleaner: The new International Maritime Organisation regulations aim to significantly reduce emissions of sulphur oxides, which are responsible for atmospheric acidification.

**EBRD finances Tekirdag port on Turkey's Sea of Marmara.** Olga Rosca. *European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).* 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/ebrd-finances-tekirdag-port-on-turkeys-sea-of-marmara.html> Turkey's maritime industry is receiving a boost thanks to a new loan from the EBRD of US\$ 17.5 million to the operator of Tekirdag port on the Sea of Marmara.

**New SEA20 study: Port cities must connect or face climate crises alone.** *SEA20.* 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.sea20.org/read/new-sea20-study-port-cities-must-connect-or-face-climate-crises-alone> International collaboration between maritime cities is a political necessity to make shipping more connected and sustainable, and creating an environmentally friendly maritime infrastructure will in turn become a critical interest for city leaders.

**Air quality sensor in the Port of Rotterdam checks sulphur emissions from shipping.** *Port of Rotterdam.* 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/air-quality-sensor-in-the-port-of-rotterdam-checks-sulphur-emissions-from> The Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) from the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management recently installed an air quality sensor on Splitsingsdam at the Port of Rotterdam's Maas Entrance.

**Panama Canal: The path towards 2020 sulphur cap.** *Safety4Sea.* 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/panama-canal-the-path-towards-2020-sulphur-cap/> Following the last preparations concerning the upcoming 2020 sulphur cap, the Panama Canal is ensuring the effective implementation of the environmental regulations, through training, ongoing stakeholder consultation and communication, and awareness-building, actions that Trident Alliance commends.

**Samples reveal substandard fuel in European port.** Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch.* 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/suppliers/article11829930.ece> Lloyd's Register's FOBAS has issued a warning to shipowners regarding several cases of off-spec fuel in Antwerp.

**For the first time the report considers not only HPA's action, but also the entire sustainable development in the Port of Hamburg.** *Port of Hamburg.* 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/36UkQlw> With its sustainability report presented on Wednesday Hamburg Port Authority – HPA, has given an update on sustainable developments during 2017 and 2018.

**Loading caustic soda ship-to-ship? That's possible in Rotterdam.** *Port of Rotterdam.* 14 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/loading-caustic-soda-ship-to-ship-thats-possible-in-rotterdam> The Port of Rotterdam is the first port in the world to offer such loading from a bunker vessel.



**Bold plans showcase Portsmouth's ambition to become the UK's first zero emission port.**

*Portsmouth International Port*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.portsmouth-port.co.uk/news/bold-plans-showcase-portsmouths-ambition-to-become-the-uks-first-zero-emission-port>  
Shore power, wind turbines and solar panels are just some of the major projects Portsmouth International Port is proposing as part of its Air Quality Strategy to reduce emissions and become the UK's first zero emission port.

**European ports welcome Europe's green deal ambition.** *European Sea Ports*

*Organisation (ESPO)*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.espo.be/news/european-ports-welcome-europes-green-deal-ambition> The European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO) welcomes Europe's ambition as enshrined in the European Green Deal published on 11 December, to become the world's first climate neutral continent by 2050.

**Port of Antwerp Works With Industry Partners on Carbon Storage.** *Maritime Executive*.

19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/port-of-antwerp-works-with-industry-partners-on-carbon-storage> The Port of Antwerp is working with seven major industrial companies - Air Liquide, BASF, Borealis, INEOS, ExxonMobil, Fluxys, and Total - on the potential development of joint CO2 infrastructure.

**Interview: Fujairah Port to conduct random checks for IMO compliance.** Dania Saadi.

*S&P Global Platts*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2u5zVlo> The Persian Gulf's bunkering hub of Fujairah will conduct random checks in 2020 on ships taking bunker fuel at the port to make sure they comply with the International Maritime Organization's lower sulfur mandate for marine fuels, the port's general manager Captain Mousa Murad told S&P Global Platts last week.

## REGULATIONS

**IMO2020 Global sulphur cut: German shipping to use new type of fuel.** *German Shipowners'*

*Association*. 28 November 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/36Y1Et9> The vast majority of ships in the German fleet will run on the new sulphur-reduced fuel (Low Sulphur Fuel Oil, LSFO) from 1 January at the latest.

**Global refiners raise cleaner shipping fuel output ahead of IMO 2020.** *Reuters*.

2 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2uU1yF7> Global oil refiners have upgraded processing units and adjusted operations to raise output of low-sulphur residual fuels and marine gasoil (MGO) to prepare for stricter shipping fuel standards that kick in on Jan. 1.

**Fuel market calm ahead of IMO changeover.** John Kemp. *Reuters*. 2 December 2019.

Available from: <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-oil-bunker-kemp/column-fuel-market-calm-ahead-of-imo-changeover-idUKKBN1Y60ZM> Fears about a shortage of diesel and other middle distillates stemming from new marine pollution regulations have receded, with distillate premiums falling to some of the lowest levels for two years.

**Carbon quotas for ships could be adopted as soon as next year.** Mette Mandrup.

*ShippingWatch*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/regulation/article11793502.ece> Powerful forces in the European Parliament are working to impose the CO2 quotas on shipping that companies are fighting vehemently against already next year.

**Scrubber delays: failure to prepare is preparing for failure.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/scrubber-delays-failure-to-prepare-is-preparing-for-failure/2-1-713331> Longer-than-expected scrubber installation times have become a headache for shipowners.

**IMO 2020 is about to get real.** Gavin Thompson. *Wood Mackenzie*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.woodmac.com/news/opinion/imo-2020-is-about-to-get-real/> No surprise given that Singapore is amongst the largest and most important bunkering ports in the world, but it does help focus the mind on the scale of the sector and, as we approach January 1 2020, the impending impact of new IMO fuel oil sulphur limits for global shipping.

**IMO 2020 redefines oil market dynamics.** Richard Price. *Independent Commodity Intelligence Services (ICIS)*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.icis.com/explore/resources/news/2019/12/02/10450187/imo-2020-redefines-oil-market-dynamics> The disruptive International Marine Organisation (IMO) 2020 shipping fuel regulation has triggered a shift in oil market fundamentals, increasing the desirability of low sulphur, sweeter crudes with the ability to be blended into the low sulphur fuel oil pool.

**Many could miss the boat on emissions.** Terry Hutson. *IOL - Independent Online (South Africa)*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.iol.co.za/mercury/network/many-could-miss-the-boat-on-emissions-38073662> In a little less than a month IMO 2020, the date for all ships to comply with low sulphur oil requirement, takes effect on January 1.

**Europe to regulate emissions trading for shipping.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/europe-to-regulate-emissions-trading-for-shipping/> The European Commission will shortly introduce emissions trading for shipping in what could be the industry's next greatest shift after the sulphur cap starts in four weeks' time.

**Beware the perfect storm when complying with Sulphur 2020 regs.** *Hill Dickinson LLP*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hilldickinson.com/insights/news/beware-perfect-storm-when-complying-sulphur-2020-regs> Low sulphur fuel regulations, set to come into force on 1 January 2020, have the potential to present 'the perfect storm' for litigators dealing with disputes between owners, charterers and bunker suppliers in cases of non-compliance, warns a senior lawyer at international maritime law specialist Hill Dickinson.

**Refineries 'sat up' for shipping in IMO 2020 switch.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/refineries-sat-up-for-shipping-in-imo-2020-switch/2-1-717640> Oil-refineries across the globe have "sat up" for the shipping industry by ensuring the availability of IMO 2020-compliant fuels, an industry forum was told.

**Avoiding charterparty pitfalls ahead of IMO 2020.** Craig Jallal. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/avoiding-the-pitfalls-of-imo-2020-57007> The INTERTANKO closed breakfast briefing, held on the second day of the Tanker Shipping & Trade conference in London in November 2019, was an opportunity for INTERTANKO members to hear the latest advice ahead of the IMO 2020 fuel transition.

**Momentous shipping fuel shake-up playing out in unexpected ways.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/momentous-shipping-fuel-shake-up-playing-out-in-unexpected-ways/> Just weeks away from the implementation of new rules mandating the use of cleaner-burning shipping fuel, the impact on energy markets isn't playing out quite how the pundits thought it would.



**IMO 2020 switchover is fuelling uncertainty.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/twplus/imo-2020-switchover-is-fuelling-uncertainty/2-1-708443> The great fuel switch has begun, but it could be months or even years before the marine bunker market finds a new equilibrium.

**Confidence level low on U.S. enforcement of IMO 2020.** John Gallagher. *Freight Waves*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/confidence-level-low-on-u-s-enforcement-of-imo-2020> With just weeks remaining before the IMO 2020 low-sulfur fuel requirement goes into effect, domestic- and foreign-based shipowners trading in the United States are concerned that lax enforcement could leave them at a disadvantage with competitors around the world.

**IMO 2020 Will Lead to More Volatility, Disruption: Ardmore Shipping CEO.** Alix Steel. *Bloomberg*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/videos/2019-12-06/imo-2020-will-lead-to-more-volatility-disruption-ardmore-shipping-ceo-video> In this week's "Commodity-In-Chief" on "Bloomberg Commodities Edge", Alix Steel talks with Anthony Gurnee, president and CEO of Ardmore Shipping.

**Commentary: IMO 2020 will decrease pollution but increase consumer costs.** Ben Thrower. *Freight Waves*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/commentary-imo-2020-costs-to-hit-consumers> We are now less than a month away from the implementation of new shipping regulations that will have an impact on the price of every single item that is shipped by sea.

**Iceland's New Scrubber Rule: Welcome, But Doesn't Address Spill Risks or Black Carbon.** *Clean Arctic Alliance*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2019/12/09/icelands-new-scrubber-rule-welcome-but-doesnt-address-spill-risks-or-black-carbon/> The Iceland Nature and Conservation Association and the Clean Arctic Alliance today welcomed the new regulation issued by Iceland's Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, Guðmundur Ingi Guðbrandsson, to restrict exhaust emissions containing high levels of sulphur from being burned by ships in Iceland's territorial waters, i.e. 12 nautical miles, but highlight that while Iceland is making a positive step forward in cleaning up shipping emissions...

**Regulation banning the use of heavy fuel oil in the territorial sea of Iceland.** *Government of Iceland*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.government.is/news/article/2019/12/06/Regulation-banning-the-use-of-heavy-fuel-oil-in-the-territorial-sea-of-Iceland/> The Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources has issued a regulation tightening fuel requirements, which effectively bans the use of heavy fuel oil in the territorial sea of Iceland.

**DFA, DOTr, MARINA urged to report on PH compliance with EMSA findings.** Charissa Luci-Atienza. *Manila Bulletin*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://news.mb.com.ph/2019/12/12/dfa-dotr-marina-urged-to-report-on-ph-compliance-with-emsa-findings/> Samar Rep. Edgar Mary Sarmiento urged government agencies to apprise the House of Representatives on the status of the country's compliance with the findings of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA).

**Shippers discuss impact of IMO 2020 sulphur cap on their business.** *Ghana Shippers' Authority*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippers.org.gh/index.php/shippers-discuss-impact-of-imo-2020-sulphur-cap-on-their-businesses/> Over 100 shippers and other stakeholders in the maritime industry have converged at a sensitisation seminar in Kumasi to discuss the impact of the implementation of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Sulphur Cap regulation on their businesses.

**IMO 2020 - a major shake-up for oil and shipping.** Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2QZrV53> Tougher rules on sulphur emissions from ships will come into effect next year in the biggest shake-up for the oil and shipping industries for decades.

**Key Countries Aren't Ready for Historic Ship-Fuel Switch.** Olivia Konotey-Ahulu. *Bloomberg*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-12-18/as-historic-ship-fuel-switch-nears-key-countries-aren-t-ready> Historic rules to clean up pollution in the shipping industry are two weeks from taking effect, but there are signs that enforcing the new legislation will prove tricky.

**Global shipping sails into turbulent times as IMO 2020 nears.** *S&P Global Platts*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://blogs.platts.com/2019/12/18/global-shipping-turbulent-imo-2020/> When the shipping industry counts down to the New year on December 31, markets are unlikely to be in a celebratory mood as global markets will wake up to a whole new shipping regime come January 1: IMO 2020.

**All systems go! IMO2020 heralds important change** *African Marine Solutions (AMSOL)*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.amsol.co.za/all-systems-go-imo-2020-heralds-important-change/> Sustainability is at the core of AMSOL's business model, strategy, processes and operations – which is why ensuring that we do no harm to the environment is an important business priority.

**A Major Shipping Change Is Coming, and So Are Higher Fuel Prices.** Firat Kayakiran, Jack Wittels and Rachel Graham. *Bloomberg*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-12-19/a-major-shipping-change-is-coming-and-so-are-higher-fuel-prices> In fewer than two weeks, thousands of ships the world over will be forced to use fuel containing less sulfur in order to comply with global rules set out by the International Maritime Organization.

**Navigating the Rough Waters of Marine Certification.** Dr Alexandre Orth. *MarineLink*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/navigating-rough-waters-marine-473970> With the 'All Subsea Factory' market trend moving offshore exploration and production equipment for oil and gas to the seabed, safety, longevity and environmental protection are just a few of the considerations when choosing marine products.

**Indonesia's Pertamina produces low-sulphur marine fuel to meet IMO 2020 rules.** *Reuters*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL4N28U1C5> Indonesia's state energy company PT Pertamina has started production of low-sulphur marine fuel as the country aims to comply with International Maritime Organization (IMO) rules starting January 2020, it said in a statement on Friday.

**Beware of local restrictions before discharging washwater from exhaust gas scrubbing.** *GARD*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/377emGp> The IMO considers exhaust gas scrubbers to be an acceptable means of reducing vessels' sulphur emissions and ensuring compliance with MARPOL Annex VI.

**IBIA warns shipping ahead of 2020.** Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*. 23 December 2019. Available from: <https://m.shippingwatch.com/article/11844737> The International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA) admonishes the shipping industry ahead of the 2020 regulations, which will come into force approximately a week from now.

**Viewpoint: As the decades roll by.** Michael Grey. *Lloyd's List*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130392/Viewpoint-As-the-decades-roll-by>  
A new decade is likely to see a focus on fuel at the forefront as the shipping industry deals with the reality of the new sulphur cap.

**Ship owners face a stiff challenge.** Easin Molla. *Financial Express (Bangladesh)*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/views/reviews/ship-owners-face-a-stiff-challenge-1577720401> The most significant regulation for international shipping industry regarding air emissions is the upcoming IMO Global Sulphur Cap to reduce air pollution from ships.

**Global refiners raise cleaner shipping fuel output ahead of IMO 2020.** Chen Aizhu, Koustav Samanta, Roslan Khasawneh, Yuka Obayashi, Jane Chung, Chayut Setboonsarng and Erwin Seba. *Reuters*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2tYawka> Global oil refiners have upgraded processing units and adjusted operations to raise output of low-sulphur residual fuels and marine gasoil (MGO) to prepare for stricter shipping fuel standards that kick in on Jan. 1.

**IMO Sulphur Cap coming into force.** *Standard Club*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.standard-club.com/risk-management/knowledge-centre/news-and-commentary/2019/12/news-imo-sulphur-cap-coming-into-force.aspx> Tomorrow, 1 January 2020, the Regulation 14.1.3 of Annex VI of the Marpol Convention (IMO Sulphur Cap) adopted by the IMO in 2016 will come into force.

**Jamaica Ready for IMO Sulphur Cap.** Peta-Gay Hodges. *Jamaica Information Service*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://jis.gov.jm/jamaica-ready-for-imo-sulphur-cap/> The Maritime Authority of Jamaica says Jamaica is ready for the implementation of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) regulations for the 2020 Global Sulphur Limit, which comes into effect on January 1, 2020.

## **SALVAGE**

**Fuel Pumped from Golden Ray, Wreck Removal Next Step.** *World Maritime News*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://worldmaritimeneeds.com/archives/288044/fuel-pumped-from-golden-ray-wreck-removal-next-step/> Salvage workers and divers have completed the oil pumping of all accessible fuel tanks from the capsized car carrier *M/V Golden Ray*, the St. Simons Sound Response said.

## **SEAFARERS**

**India starts talks to free crew taken from Navios VLCC.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/india-starts-talks-to-free-crew-taken-from-navios-vlcc/2-1-718853> The Indian government has begun talks to free 18 of its seafarers abducted from a Navios Maritime Acquisition VLCC off Nigeria.

**Female port chaplains making a difference.** Greg Watts. *ShipInsight*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/female-port-chaplains-making-a-difference> Pat Ezra, the Stella Maris Apostleship of the Sea port chaplain to Felixstowe and Ipswich, likes the fact that she is sometimes known as the lady in the pink hat.

**Hostages released from Norwegian ship.** Maria Broe Trustrup Hansen. *ShippingWatch*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11813860.ece> Nine crew members from Norwegian vessel *MV Bonita* have been released, writes Danish broadcaster TV 2 citing Norwegian media NRK and ABC Nyheter.

**Is it time for the maritime industry to seriously reconsider onboard representation?** Carolyn Graham and Ralph Buiser. *Splash 247.com*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/is-it-time-for-the-maritime-industry-to-seriously-reconsider-onboard-representation/> It is widely accepted among industry experts and maritime scholars that working conditions for seafarers around the world can be variable and substandard.

**The Mission to Seafarers' annual Christmas service celebrates global maritime efforts.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/the-mission-to-seafarers-annual-christmas-service-celebrates-global-maritime-efforts/> The Mission to Seafarers held its annual 'Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols' last week, in the presence of its President, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

**Crewman dies as three other Greek tanker hostages freed.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/crewman-dies-as-three-other-greek-tanker-hostages-freed/2-1-723949> A Filipino seafarer has died but three others have been released in West Africa following their abduction from a Greek tanker last month.

**A terrible injustice - Captain Andrzej Lasota.** Michael Grey. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/terrible-injustice-captain-andrzej-lasota> Let's offer our support, loud and clear, to Captain Andrzej Lasota, late of the bulker *UBC Savannah*, currently incarcerated in a Mexican prison and a victim of the most disgraceful behaviour by the authorities of that country.

**Leading with integrity.** Yashika F. Torib. *Manila Times*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2019/12/18/business/maritime-business/leading-with-integrity/665171/> Selecting the right person for the job has never been more important than it is today for the Philippine maritime industry.

**Welfare organisations raise serious concern on safety and wellbeing of seafarers transiting through the Gulf of Guinea.** Jason Zuidema. *International Christian Maritime Association (ICMA)*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://icma.as/> As reports confirm the pirate attack on *MV Duke* off the coast of Benin this week and the successful abduction of 20 Indian seafarers, leading maritime welfare organisations ISWAN (the International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network) and ICMA (the International Christian Maritime Association) have joined forces to raise concerns about the wellbeing and safety of seafarers transiting through the notorious and dangerous waters of the Gulf of Guinea (GoG).

**Master dies after fall onto ship's deck in Greece.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/master-dies-after-fall-onto-ships-deck-in-greece/2-1-728403> The incident occurred on the 4,200-dwt *Lady Nuray* (built 1992) at Thessaloniki on Wednesday, Greek coastguards said.

**Seafarer abandoned for three years off UAE will be home in time for Christmas.**

Karen McVeigh. *The Guardian*. 20 December 2019. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/dec/20/seafarer-abandoned-for-three-years-off-uae-will-be-home-in-time-for-christmas>

For the past three years, Vikash Mishra, a merchant seaman from Mumbai, has been stranded on a rusting cargo ship at sea in the United Arab Emirates, thousands of miles from his young family, after being abandoned by the vessel's owner.

**Interview with Garry South: The Dr Dierk Lindemann Welfare Personality of the Year 2019.**

*International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 20 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2019/interview-with-garry-south-the-dr-dierk-lindemann-welfare-personality-of-the-year-2019>

Garry South, Port Chaplain for Port Hedland Seafarers Centre in Australia, was named The Dr Dierk Lindemann Welfare Personality of the Year at the International Seafarers' Welfare Awards 2019 in September.

**After 18 days, pirates free 18 Indian sailors.** Nitasha Natu. *Times of India*. 22 December 2019.

Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/after-18-days-pirates-free-18-indian-sailors/articleshow/72930870.cms>

After 18 days in captivity, 18 Indian seafarers, including a Mumbai-based shipping officer, who had been abducted from a crude oil tanker off Nigeria earlier this month, were released on Saturday.

**Stella Maris Supporting Seafarers Facing Unseen Crisis at Christmas.** *Maritime Executive*.

23 December 2019. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/corporate/stella-maris-supporting-seafarers-facing-unseen-crisis-at-christmas> While most businesses and companies have started winding down operations in preparation for the Christmas holidays, global maritime charity Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) will be busy supporting the many seafarers who face unseen difficulties this time of year.

**Women advancement in SA's maritime sector on a giant historical leap: SAMSA.** *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 30 December 2019. Available from:

<https://blog.samsa.org.za/2019/12/30/women-advancement-in-sas-maritime-sector-on-a-giant-historical-leap-samsa/>

Women empowerment in South Africa's maritime sector took on yet another relatively small but highly significant and historical step forward at the weekend in Cape Town after the country despatched an all women cadet and training officers' team on a three months voyage to the southern seas.

## SEARCH & RESCUE

**Ten crew rescued after cargoship sinks off Indonesia.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/ten-crew-rescued-after-cargoship-sinks-off-indonesia/2-1-717864> All 10 crew have been rescued after their cargoship sank off Indonesia.

**Crew rescued from listing cargoship off Greece.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 5 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/crew-rescued-from-listing-cargoship-off-greece/2-1-718606>

Video footage showed the 5,800-dwt *New Leo* (built 1997) rolling alarmingly off Lesvos on Wednesday as coast guard rescuers took the Ukrainian men off.



## SHIP RECYCLING

**The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) welcomes decision by the Government of India to embrace The Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (HKC).** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 29 November 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2QTtEJ0> The Indian government has ratified the HKC, significantly increasing the likelihood of its entry into force.

**Recycling news: India ratifies but HKC still has far to go.** Paul Gunton. *ShipInsight*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/recycling-news-india-ratifies-but-hkc-still-has-far-to-go> We reported last week that India had ratified the Hong Kong Convention (HKC), which sets global standards for safe and environmentally-sound ship recycling.

**Conditions of shipbreaking workers in India remain appalling.** *NGO Shipbreaking Platform*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.shipbreakingplatform.org/new-study-tiss-alang-workers/> Based on the findings of recent independent research carried out by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, the article highlights the lack of protective equipment, inadequate health facilities and far too long working hours.

**Lack of safety, health facilities haunt shipyard workers.** Ritwika Mitra. *New Indian Express*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2019/dec/10/lack-of-safety-health-facilities-haunt-shipyard-workers-2073855.html> Lack of safety equipment, inadequate health facilities, overtime working hours, and lack of accountability in case of accidents continue to haunt workers at the Alang-Sosiya ship-breaking yard in Gujarat, shows an independent study 'Working, Living, Occupational Health and Safety Conditions in Ship Breaking Yards in AlangSosiya, Gujarat, India'.

**Hong Kong Convention holds its meeting in Karachi.** *Government of Pakistan*. 11 December 2019. Available from: [http://pid.gov.pk/site/press\\_detail/12529](http://pid.gov.pk/site/press_detail/12529) In another first by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, a seminar of the Hong Kong Convention for safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships is being held in Karachi at PC Hotel from 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> of December 2019.

**Palumbo first in Europe for retrofitting ships to meet new pollution standards.** *Times of Malta*. 14 December 2019. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/palumbo-first-in-europe-for-retrofitting-ships-to-meet-new-pollution.756898> Palumbo Malta Shipyards has ranked first in Europe for retrofitting the most vessels with a fuel cleaning system in 2019 as ship owners rush to meet new environmental shipping rules.

**Developments in Ship Recycling in 2019** Nikos Mikelis. *Maritime Executive*. 15 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/developments-in-ship-recycling-in-2019> For the sixth year running I have been asked by The Maritime Executive to provide a review of the year's notable developments on ship recycling and my expectations for the coming year.

**New law for safe recycling of ships comes into force.** *Times of India*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/new-law-for-safe-recycling-of-ships-comes-into-force/articleshow/72853778.cms> Recycling of Ships Act has come into force with President Ram Nath Kovind giving assent to the law which provides for safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships.

## SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

**"Green Financing" secured for new vessels.** *United European Car Carriers (UECC).*  
29 November 2019. Available from: <https://www.uecc.com/news/2019/november/green-financing-secured-for-new-vessels/> UECC has secured "Green Financing" in relation to the Company's investment in new generation pure car and truck carriers (PCTC) with Battery Hybrid LNG Solution taking the company beyond IMO's target of 40 percent carbon reduction by 2030.

**Wärtsilä solutions to make new state-of-the-art vessels super-efficient.** *Wärtsilä Corporation.*  
3 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2FQRcrN> The technology group Wärtsilä has been selected to supply a comprehensive package of solutions for two new state-of-the-art vessels being built for the Netherlands-based shipping company Spliethoff.

**Costa Cruises Takes Delivery of LNG-Fuelled Costa Smeralda.** *Maritime Executive.*  
5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/costa-cruises-takes-delivery-of-lng-fueled-costa-smeralda> *Costa Smeralda* is Carnival Corporation's fourth new ship delivery this year and its second LNG-powered ship after the AIDA brand's new *AIDAnova*, the world's first LNG-fuelled cruise ship.

**Why cruise lines keep slicing their ships in half.** *The National (United Arab Emirates).*  
6 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.thenational.ae/business/travel-and-tourism/why-cruise-lines-keep-slicing-their-ships-in-half-1.947399> A few weeks ago, John Delaney, president of Seattle-based Windstar Cruises, stood on a scaffold at a historic shipyard in Palermo, Italy, and took a blowtorch to the *Star Breeze*, a 30-year-old, 212-passenger motor yacht.

**Environmental enforcement uncertainty halts shipowners' newbuild orders.** Niklas Krigslund.  
*ShippingWatch.* 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Bulk/article11806079.ece> Uncertainty surrounding the decarbonization of shipping may benefit the industry in the short-term, believe a number of prominent executives.

**Wärtsilä & CSSC Huangpu Wenchong Shipbuilding Company Limited agree to jointly develop hybrid vessels for the future.** *Wärtsilä Corporation.* 9 December 2019.  
Available from: <https://bit.ly/2FQv14G> The technology group Wärtsilä has signed a strategic development agreement with Chinese state-owned shipbuilder CSSC Huangpu Wenchong Shipbuilding Company Limited Huangpu Wenchong.

**Climate regulation makes northern European shipyards busy.** Mathias Blædel Lorenzen.  
*ShippingWatch.* 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/suppliers/article11815369.ece> Several major northern European shipyards are currently seeing a boost in activity from the environmental requirements imposed on shipping in both the short and longer term.

**World's First Liquefied Hydrogen Carrier SUIISO FRONTIER Launches Building an International Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain Aimed at Carbon-free Society.** *Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.* 11 December 2019. Available from: [https://global.kawasaki.com/en/corp/newsroom/news/detail/?f=20191211\\_3487](https://global.kawasaki.com/en/corp/newsroom/news/detail/?f=20191211_3487) This vessel was developed to provide a means of transporting liquefied hydrogen at 1/800 of its original gas-state volume, cooled to -253°C, safely and in large quantities over long distances by sea.



**S. Korea to nurture industry for eco-friendly vessels.** Kang Yoon-seung. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20191217001600320> South Korea's Cabinet approved a motion on Tuesday that centers on nurturing industries for eco-friendly vessels to better deal with tightened international regulations and reduce emissions of fine dust.


**MOL and e5 Lab Launch Study on Hydrogen Hybrid Pure Car Carrier : - MOU Aims at Development of Zero-emission Vessels.** *Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (MOL)*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.mol.co.jp/en/pr/2019/19082.html> The companies aim to develop a hydrogen hybrid PCC, which do not emit carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), sulfur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), or particulate matter (PM) while underway in coastal waters or in ports, in other words, achieving "zero emissions," since its propulsive force would come from electricity supplied by the hydrogen fuel cell system and large-capacity batteries.

## SHIPPING

**Shipowners face delays, higher costs for bunkering in Singapore pre-IMO 2020.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 29 November 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipowners-face-delays-higher-costs-for-bunkering-in-singapore-pre-imo-2020/2-1-715932> With the IMO requiring vessels to switch to 0.5%-sulphur fuel from high-sulphur fuel oil (HSFO) from January, unless they are installed with scrubbers, barge owners are busy cleaning the tanks onboard to carry the new compliant fuel.

**Maritime Development Center: decarbonICE to create a pathway to carbon negative shipping.** *Port News*. 1 December 2019. Available from: <http://en.portnews.ru/news/287841/> A group of world leading shipping companies including NYK, Sovcomflot, Knutsen OAS and Ardmore, ship builders, including DSME and the mining company Vale, have therefore teamed up with Denmark based Maritime Development Center to develop such an on-board carbon capture and storage solution in a project named decarbonICE.

**UAE discusses four key challenges facing maritime sector.** *Trade Arabia*. 1 December 2019. Available from: [http://tradedearabia.com/news/IND\\_361409.html](http://tradedearabia.com/news/IND_361409.html) Four key areas in the maritime sector which are expected to bring new challenges to the global maritime community was recently highlighted by Dr Abdullah Belhaif Al Nuaimi, UAE Minister of Infrastructure Development and chairman of FTA - Land and Maritime.

**IUMI 2019 statistical report released today: Uncertainty prevails across all marine insurance lines.** *International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI)*. 2 December 2019. Available from: <https://iumi.com/news/press-releases/iumi-2019-statistical-report-released-today-uncertainty-prevails-across-all-marine-insurance-lines> This is the second in a series of annual reports launched by IUMI last year. [IUMI Stats Report 2019](#) 

**New DNV GL class notation helps to boost LPG as ship fuel.** *DNV GL*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/news/new-dnv-gl-class-notation-helps-to-boost-lpg-as-ship-fuel-162900> As the maritime industry looks to reduce emissions to air and work towards the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) greenhouse gas reduction strategy, alternative fuels are coming to the fore.

**Nigeria buying four vessels to kickstart new shipowner.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/nigeria-buying-four-vessels-to-kickstart-new-shipowner/2-1-716907> Nigeria is planning to buy four cargo vessels for a new intra-African service.

**CCS responds to green ship trend with revamped guidelines.** Lee Hong Liang. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/ccs-responds-green-ship-trend-revamped-guidelines> China Classification Society (CCS) will revamp its guidelines for green ships from 1 July 2020 in response to the shipping industry's increasing focus on curbing harmful emissions and pollution from ocean-going ships.

**Container lines' CO2 calculators "riddled with absurdly poor data".** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 3 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11798190.ece> While the IMO is preparing for the decisive CO2 meeting in March 2020, there seems to still be a long way to go before the shipping companies which must supply the crucial data can agree on how to calculate the numbers.

**Drewry aims to end IMO 2020 confusion with new bunker index** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/drewry-aims-to-end-imo-2020-confusion-with-new-bunker-index/2-1-718002> Shipping consultancy Drewry is trying to shine a light on new bunker adjustment factor (BAF) fees with a new index.

**Liner CO2 calculators branded useless.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/liner-co2-calculators-branded-useless/> Shippers keen to track their carbon footprint are being misled by containerlines, significant new research from Copenhagen analysts Sea-Intelligence shows.

**Poor shipping environment: Nigeria, other African countries ranked low by UN.** Oko Ebuka. *Vanguard (Nigeria)*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2019/12/poor-shipping-environment-nigeria-other-african-countries-ranked-low-by-un/> Despite Federal Government's efforts in the fight against maritime environmental degradation and hazards, Nigeria is ranked among countries with the lowest scores on ships that have poor environmental indicators.

**Where to look for clues to shipping's future?** Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 4 December 2019. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/where-to-look-for-clues-to-shippings-future> Early December is usually a fairly quiet time for news as people prepare for the coming holiday season, but this week sees an unusual cluster of events making it difficult to know where to look.


**Shipping Faces New Headwinds in Meeting Emissions Rules.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shipping-faces-new-headwinds-in-meeting-emissions-rules/> With weeks to go before a landmark mandate for ships to burn cleaner fuels goes into effect, a zero-carbon future for the maritime sector may be growing more distant.

**Shippers call for urgent changes in liner CO2 reporting.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 5 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shippers-call-for-urgent-changes-in-liner-co2-reporting/> Containerlines have been urged to adopt a common, internationally recognised way of calculating their CO2 emissions in the wake of a damning report from Copenhagen-based Sea-Intelligence that highlighted how divergent on data the current online CO2 calculators offered by liners really are.

**Euronav and DHT chose different sulfur strategies – now they must stand the test.** Niklas Krigslund and Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Tanker/article11805198.ece> Two tanker shipping companies have chosen different methods for complying with the new sulfur regulations, and therefore each have their own set of experiences from the preparations leading up to the turn of the year, when the regulations come into force.

**RPT-Tankers running on fumes as shipping fuel switch causes delays.** Julia Payne and Roslan Khasawneh. *Reuters*. 6 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/36UEF2c> Disruption to shipping from the long-anticipated switch to more environmentally friendly marine fuels has finally arrived, exacerbated by logistical problems as much as any shortage of the cleaner fuel.

**MSC becomes first major shipping line to use 30% biofuel blends.** *Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)*. 7 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.msc.com/gbr/news/2019-december/msc-becomes-first-major-shipping-line-to-use-30-bi> The trials were completed with a minimal 10% blend fuel and following further trials the company is now using much higher 30% blends.

**European shipping's climate record.** Nico Muzi. *Transport & Environment*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/publications/european-shippings-climate-record> Guided by these goals, a key finding of this study is that container shipping operator, Mediterranean Shipping Company joined coal power plants in the EU's top 10 emitters list in 2018. [EU shipping's climate record: Maritime CO2 emissions and real-world ship efficiency performance](#) 

**Med states meeting agrees roadmap to regional ECA.** Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/med-states-meeting-agrees-roadmap-regional-eca> A meeting of all the states bordering the Mediterranean Sea, except Syria, has agreed a road map that could see the creation of a Mediterranean Sulphur Emission Control Area (Med SECA) by 2024.

**Seizing the opportunity of the climate action momentum.** *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 9 December 2019. Available from: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2262> Over 80% of the goods consumed around the world are transported by sea, making shipping the engine of the global economy.

**UN Climate Conference – ICS embraces 4<sup>th</sup> Propulsion Revolution.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/view-article/2019/12/10/un-climate-conference-ics-embraces-4th-propulsion-revolution> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is representing the world's national shipowners' associations and over 80 percent of the world merchant fleet at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 25) in Madrid this week.

**The Future Shipping Company: Autonomous Shipping Fleet Operators.** Okan Duru. *Maritime Executive*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/the-future-shipping-company-autonomous-shipping-fleet-operators> You may have heard of tech industry buzz words like software-as-a-service (SaaS) or car-as-a-service (CaaS) - in the SaaS scheme, the user does not need to install and sacrifice a portion of storage for software.

**IMO 2020 transition faces obstacles to bunkering.** Hwee Hwee Tan. *Lloyd's List*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130310/IMO-2020-transition-faces-obstacles-to-bunkering> When bunkering in Singapore, the world's top marine fuel hub, shipowners are having to notify suppliers weeks in advance if requiring refuels with HSFO.

**New Report on the role of biofuels for shipping's decarbonisation launched at UN Climate Chance Conference.** *Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI)*. 10 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.ssi2040.org/news/press-release-new-report-on-the-role-of-biofuels-for-shippings-decarbonisation-launched-at-un-climate-change-conference/> The Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI) today launches the report 'The Role of Sustainable Biofuels in the Decarbonisation of Shipping: The findings of an inquiry into the sustainability and availability of biofuels for shipping' at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) currently underway in Madrid (information on the COP25 launch event available here).

**Report: The Role of Sustainable Biofuels in the Decarbonisation of Shipping** *Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI)*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2RfhR7Y> The Role of Sustainable Biofuels in the Decarbonisation of Shipping: The findings of an inquiry into the sustainability and availability of biofuels for shipping outlines the findings of an inquiry commissioned by the Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI), reflecting a stakeholder consultation process facilitated by SSI member Forum for the Future to explore the potential role (if any) of biofuels in the decarbonisation of shipping. [Executive Summary](#)

**Cautious welcome as shipping included in EU's Green Deal.** Gary Dixon and Michael Juliano. *TradeWinds*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/cautious-welcome-as-shipping-included-in-eus-green-deal/2-1-722284> Shipping has been included in the EU's new Green Deal at its launch on Wednesday, but a German industry group and a green group have reservations about its efficacy.

**EU's new climate plan will bring CO2 quotas for shipping.** Mette Mandrup. *ShippingWatch*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/regulation/article11816825.ece> The EU Commission significantly expands its climate ambitions for the next five years.

**IMO 2020 fuel switch prompts bulkers to load less cargo to enable higher bunker intake.** Shriram Sivaramakrishnan. *S&P Global Platts*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2st6tvN> The IMO 2020 sulfur regulations that take effect in three weeks' time are starting to redefine the choice of bunkering ports and impact the cargo-carrying capacity of dry bulk ships, according to freight market participants.

**U.S. Refiners to Deliver Cleaner Marine Diesel Fuel with Key Regulatory Change.** *US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/us-refiners-deliver-cleaner-marine-diesel-fuel-key-regulatory-change> To aid the smooth implementation of the Jan. 1 2020 (IMO 2020) global marine fuel limit for sulfur that takes effect January 1, 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is revising key regulatory text to ensure that U.S. refiners and suppliers can permissibly distribute cleaner global marine fuel for use in ships operating outside of our Emission Control Areas (ECAs).

**The European shipping industry welcomes the European Green Deal.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 11 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/european-shipping-industry-welcomes-european-green-deal> As announced by the Commission President, the European Green Deal aims to create a cleaner, greener, healthier environment as well as a sustainable, resilient, growing economy.

**Liners accused of blatant profiteering as 90% variance in low sulphur surcharges is revealed.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/liners-accused-of-blatant-profiteering-as-90-variance-in-low-sulphur-surcharges-is-revealed/> Low sulphur surcharges implemented by the world's top liners from the start of this month vary by as much as 90%, according to research carried out by Aphaliner.

**Ten women influencing shipping in 2019.** *Lloyd's List*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130291/Ten-women-influencing-shipping-in-2019> While the Lloyd's List Top 100 has steadily started to feature more women in the ranks of industry influencers, the gender bias that this list reflects in the industry is still a deeply problematic issue yet to be resolved.

**MSC responds to CO2 emission criticism.** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11822746.ece> MSC does not recognize that it is one of Europe's biggest emitters of CO2, as otherwise concluded recently when NGO Transport & Environment, T&E, published a list of Europe's top CO2 emitters.



**MSC confirms long-standing commitment to reducing CO2 emissions.** *Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)*. 12 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.msc.com/gbr/news/2019-december/msc-confirms-long-standing-commitment-to-reducing> MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company, a global leader in shipping and logistics, is strongly committed to further reducing CO2 emissions and supporting longer term goals to fully decarbonise shipping and ensure it is a truly sustainable industry.

**BIMCO agrees that climate ambitions will not be achieved by Europe acting alone.** Lars Robert Pedersen. *BIMCO*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2NvSGf7> In The European Green Deal, published on 11 December 2019 by the European Commission, it is highlighted in the introduction that “the environmental ambitions of the Green Deal will not be achieved by Europe acting alone” - BIMCO fully agrees with this, especially when it comes to climate actions for international shipping.

**Shipping at COP25: Full speed ahead towards full decarbonisation.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/shipping-cop25-full-speed-ahead-towards-full-decarbonisation> Today at COP 25, the UN Climate Change Conference, in Madrid, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA), and the Spanish Shipowners' Association (ANAVE) organised an event dedicated to the decarbonisation of shipping.

**Plenty Of Fuel Available, But Also Plenty Of Questions, As Shipping Industry Braces For Anti-Sulphur Overhaul.** Scott Carpenter. *Forbes*. 13 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2RwUgPh> Since the day it was voted into the rulebook on October 28, 2016, a massive regulatory overhaul called “IMO 2020” that mandates lower sulphur limits in marine fuel has provoked a fierce debate.

**Grimaldi Group wins excellence in decarbonisation towards 2050 at the Lloyd's List Europe Awards.** *Grimaldi Group*. 13 December 2019. Available from: [https://www.grimaldi.napoli.it/en/read\\_168.html](https://www.grimaldi.napoli.it/en/read_168.html) Among the 400 shipping professionals who attended the ceremony there were also representatives of the main international organizations in the sector, such as the Secretary General of IMO (International Maritime Organization), Kitack Lim, and the Secretary General of ICS (International Chamber of Shipping), Guy Platten.

**Decarbonisation – on the brink of a breakthrough?** Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/decarbonisation-on-the-brink-of-a-breakthrough> Almost nobody in shipping expects that fossil fuels will be out of fashion by 2030 especially since that would involve replacing the power systems of more than 80,000 vessels at a cost that would be so huge that many within the industry could never survive.

**Low-sulphur fuel prices soar in Singapore.** Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insight/low-sulphur-fuel-prices-soar-in-singapore/2-1-724588> Prices for low-sulphur fuel grades in Singapore soared to edge out marine gas oil (MGO) prices out of the top spot on Friday as pressure mounts on the bunker markets ahead of the IMO 2020 implementation date.

**Marshall Islands Registry Launches IHM Verification Service.** *International Registries*. 16 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.register-iri.com/wp-content/uploads/RMI-IHM-Service-Launched-16-December-2019.pdf> From 31 December 2020 non-EU vessels calling at EU ports must carry an authorized Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IHM) and Statement of Compliance (SoC).



**The Lloyd's List Podcast: Shipping's biggest questions answered by the experts.** *Lloyd's List*. 16 December 2019. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130346/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Shippings-biggest-questions-answered-by-the-experts> Lloyd's List has been polling the industry on everything from AI to zero carbon fuels over the past months and the results formed the backbone of the discussions at our annual Outlook Forum in London last week, with a panel of experts offering the analysis and context.

**BIMCO restructures committees to balance safety and environment** Rasmus Nord Jorgensen. *BIMCO*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20191217-bimco-restructures-committees-to-balance-safety-and-environment> In the future, BIMCO will have a Marine Environment Committee and a Maritime Safety and Security Committee.

**Carnival Corporation Joins Getting to Zero Coalition for Zero Emission Operations.**

*Carnival Corporation & plc*. 17 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.carnivalcorp.com/news-releases/news-release-details/carnival-corporation-joins-getting-zero-coalition-zero-emission> World's largest leisure travel company is first in cruise sector to join coalition of over 80 companies

**Shipping sector proposes USD 5 billion R&D board to cut emissions.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2019/12/18/shipping-sector-proposes-usd-5-billion-r-d-board-to-cut-emissions> The global maritime transport industry has submitted a proposal to form the world's first collaborative shipping R&D programme to help eliminate CO2 emissions from international shipping.

**Maritime industry gears up for new decade.** Ambassador Carlos Salinas. *Manila Times*.

18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2019/12/18/business/maritime-business/maritime-industry-gears-up-for-new-decade/665169/> We welcome the good news of the Philippines' reelection as member of the IMO Council during the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the IMO Assembly in London on November 29.

**Here is an overview of shipping's new green billion dollar fund.** Trine Vestergaard.

*ShippingWatch*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/regulation/article11834861.ece> A new green billion dollar fund will pave the way for reduced CO2 emissions.

**We recognise our role in perpetuating the climate crisis, and we're taking responsibility.**

Guy Platten. *TradeWinds*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/we-recognise-our-role-in-perpetuating-the-climate-crisis-and-we-re-taking-responsibility/2-1-726881> As an industry that is accountable to the United Nations via the IMO but not bound by country, the Paris Agreement notably did not account for the role of shipping in perpetuating the climate crisis.

**Shippers: Liner low-sulfur surcharges are not ethical or transparent.** Mike King. *Freight Waves*.

18 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/shippers-liner-low-sulfur-surcharges-are-not-ethical-or-transparent> Shippers are furious that low-sulfur IMO 2020 fuel surcharges introduced by lines vary so widely, even between carriers offering the same service within an alliance.

**Greek Shipowners fully support the global shipping sector's proposal for a £5 billion R&D fund to eliminate CO2 emissions** *Union of Greek Shipowners*. 18 December 2019.

Available from: <https://www.ugs.gr/en/press-releases/2019/press-release-20191219/> The international shipping community has today announced plans for the creation of the first collaborative shipping Research & Development (R&D) Fund, intended to eliminate CO2 emissions from international shipping.

**IKEA wants to speed up the use of biofuels among shipping companies.** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/logistics/article11832889.ece> ShippingWatch has interviewed Global Sustainability Manager at IKEA Transport & Logistics Services Elisabeth Munck af Rosenschöld about IKEA's CO2 reduction efforts.

**New report: Shipping industry headed for uncharted waters.** Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11836716.ece> The most recent decade within shipping has expressed more than just a cyclical downturn, according to Danish Ship Finance.

**IMO transition charges boost ocean freight spot rates.** Will Waters. *Lloyd's List*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130431/IMO-transition-charges-boost-ocean-freight-spot-rates> Carriers have begun applying new low-sulphur fuel surcharges, which have been implemented and accepted on some routes, notes Drewry, highlighting a 'huge disparity in charge levels' ranging between \$60 and \$281 per teu.

**Petrobras raises low-sulfur fuel oil supply in Singapore for IMO 2020.** Atsuko Kawasaki. *S&P Global Platts*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2srBTT7> Brazil's Petrobras has raised its low-sulfur fuel oil supply from the country to Singapore to prepare for new IMO 2020 regulations that kick in on January 1, a company official said this week.

**Global Maritime Forum report: Top decision-makers identify collaboration as a key driver for positive change.** *Global Maritime Forum*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/press/2108/> A new report summarizes the discussions that took place when more than 220 decision-makers convened for the Global Maritime Forum's second Annual Summit in Singapore.  
[Report: Taking the Lead: Global Maritime Forum Annual Summit - Singapore, 30-21 October 2019](#) 📄

**Viewpoint: Is trade bad for shipping?** Michael Grey. *Lloyd's List*. 19 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130339/Viewpoint-Is-trade-bad-for-shipping> The message of climate activists regarding shipping is one of doom and utter negativity.

**Annual Review: The year shipping grew up.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://splash247.com/annual-review-the-year-shipping-grew-up/> After the toughest decade imaginable, those that have made it to the end of this century's angst-ridden teenage years are determined to be more in control of the 2020s.

**Alphatanker sees \$400 fuel price spread in IMO 2020 switch.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/alphatanker-sees-400-fuel-price-spread-in-imo-2020-switch/2-1-728308> Delays in scrubber installations, time-consuming barge cleaning and insufficient supply of compliant fuel are leading to chaos in the bunker market, where the discount of high-sulphur fuel oil (HSFO) to 0.5%-sulphur fuel will widen to \$400 per tonne in January.

**An eve of Sulphur 2020 message from ICS.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2019/12/20/an-eve-of-sulphur-2020-message-from-ics> On the eve of the implementation of the IMO Global Sulphur Cap – which requires most of the world's commercial shipping to use fuels with a sulphur content of 0.5 percent or less, Guy Platten, Secretary General of ICS, has issued a message to the shipping industry and its regulators.

**Interview with Teekay Shipping - Shipping Company of the Year 2019.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 20 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2019/interview-with-teekay-shipping-shipping-company-of-the-year-2019> Teekay Shipping was named Shipping Company of the Year at the International Seafarers' Welfare Awards 2019 in September.

**IMO 2020 is only the start in shipping fuel shake-up.** Jack Jordan and Paul Hickin. *S&P Global Platts*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2tD1yJ9> Some 11 years after the International Maritime Organization committed to a 0.5% sulfur limit for marine fuels and three years after it confirmed a 2020 start date, the deadline for the IMO's lower sulfur cap has arrived.

**Scrubber premiums hit five-figures with IMO 2020 closing in.** Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 30 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/scrubber-premiums-hit-five-figures-with-imo-2020-closing-in/2-1-730773> According to Deutsche Bank's Amit Mehrotra, VLCCs with the emissions-cleaning technology are earning \$17,000 per day more than their scrubber-less peers in the spot market.

**Year in Review: Environmental issues that caught shipping's eye in 2019.** *Safety4Sea*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-year-in-review-environmental-issues-that-caught-shippings-eye-in-2019/> As we are approaching the end of another exciting year for shipping, without a doubt the focus of everyone ahead of 2020 will be on IMO sulphur cap.

**Sea change transition already in place on eve of IMO 2020.** Michelle Wise Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1130507/Sea-change-transition-already-in-place-on-eve-of-IMO-2020> GREEK shipowners feared anarchy on the oceans, while gasoil and diesel prices were forecast to surge by 30%.

**ITOPF — An invaluable resource of marine pollution assistance available to Members.** *Shipowners' Club*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.shipownersclub.com/itopf-an-invaluable-resource-of-marine-pollution-assistance-available-to-members/> Vessels entered with the Club are automatically enrolled with the ITOPF as members (for tankers) or associates (for other vessel types) and can benefit from free access to its comprehensive range of technical services.

**Vessels with scrubbers set for substantial fuel savings on eve of IMO 2020.** Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/bunkering/vessels-scrubbers-set-substantial-fuel-savings-eve-imo-2020> With IMO 2020 less than 24 hours away from coming into force owners with scrubbers look likely to be quids up while, those needing to buy compliant fuel on the spot market face high prices, according to analysts.

**Tests raise alarms over fuel blends coming for ocean-going vessels.** Collin Eaton and Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 31 December 2019. Available from: <https://reut.rs/30o8XYD> As a global clean-fuel mandate takes effect Jan. 1, testing companies examining newer, low-sulfur marine blends acquired in Antwerp, Belgium; Houston and Singapore have found sediment at levels that could damage the engines of ocean-going vessels.

## RESEARCH

Merchant CJ, Embury O, et al. **Satellite-based time-series of sea-surface temperature since 1981 for climate applications.** *Scientific Data*. 22 October 2019. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-019-0236-x> A climate data record of global sea surface temperature (SST) spanning 1981–2016 has been developed from  $4 \times 10^{12}$  satellite measurements of thermal infra-red radiance.

De Lucia V. **The BBNJ negotiations and ecosystem governance in the arctic.** *Marine Policy*. 18 December 2019. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X19306025> The aim of this article is to explore the question of ecosystem governance in the Arctic, in light of the potential implications of the ongoing negotiations towards a new global treaty on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction for ecosystem governance of the Arctic.

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