



SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING
FOR A
SUSTAINABLE PLANET

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)

“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”

CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN

MARCH 2020

www.imo.org

[Maritime Knowledge Centre \(MKC\)](#)

maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org



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.

Table of Contents

IMO NEWS & EVENTS	2
UNITED NATIONS	4
CASUALTIES.....	7
ENVIRONMENT	8
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION	10
HEALTH & SAFETY	11
IMO	15
LAW & POLICY	16
MARINE TECHNOLOGY.....	21
MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING	23
MARITIME SAFETY	25
MARITIME SECURITY	25
MIGRANTS.....	27
NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS	27
PIRACY.....	29
PORT STATE CONTROL.....	29
PORTS & HARBOURS.....	32
REGULATIONS	35
SALVAGE	36
SEAFARERS	36
SHIP RECYCLING	42
SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR	42
SHIPPING.....	42
RESEARCH.....	53

IMO NEWS & EVENTS

WHAT'S NEW

Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Advice for IMO Member States, seafarers and shipping

IMO has issued the following circular letters:

- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.7](#) (3 April 2020) - Coronavirus (COVID-19) – **Guidance concerning unforeseen delays in the delivery of ships**
- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.6](#) (27 March 2020) Coronavirus (COVID-19) – **Preliminary list of recommendations for Governments and relevant national authorities on the facilitation of maritime trade during the COVID-19 pandemic**
- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.5](#) (17 March 2020) Coronavirus (COVID-19) – **Guidance relating to the certification of seafarers**
- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.4](#) (5 March 2020) contains ICS Coronavirus (COVID-19) **Guidance for ship operators for the protection of the health of seafarers**
- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.3](#) (2 March 2020) - **Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships**
- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.2](#) (21 February 2020) contains the **Joint Statement IMO-WHO on the Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak** and encourages Member States and international organizations to disseminate it as widely as possible. Available in the six official languages of the United Nations system.
- [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.1](#) (19 February 2020) provides advice on **Implementation and enforcement of relevant IMO instruments**
- [Circular Letter No.4203.Add.1](#) (12 February 2020) provides information and guidance on the precautions to be taken to minimize risks to delegates
- [Circular Letter No.4204](#) (31 January 2020) providing information and guidance, based on recommendations developed by the World Health Organization (WHO), on the **precautions to be taken to minimize risks to seafarers, passengers and others on board ships** from the coronavirus.

[More...](#)

[IMO MEETINGS FOR 2020](#)

IMO postpones further meetings due to COVID-19 (updated)

IMO has announced further meeting postponements, in the light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

- the 7th session of the Sub-Committee on Human Element Training and Watchkeeping (HTW) scheduled to take place from 1 to 5 June 2020.
- the 70th session of the Technical Cooperation Committee (TC), scheduled to take place from 15 to 18 June 2020.

[More...](#)

[LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS](#)

[Tackling COVID-19 – a voyage together](#)

Briefing: March 19, 2020

[The power of visibility – IMO launches photo search for women in maritime](#)

Briefing: March 6, 2020

[IMO 2020 sulphur limit implementation - carriage ban enters into force](#)

Briefing: March 2, 2020

[RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM](#)

Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE 7), 2-6 March 2020
([Opening](#) remarks)

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

[IMO PUBLISHING](#)

[Just Published 2020](#)

[March 2020 Newsletter](#)

UNITED NATIONS

UN health agency warns against coronavirus COVID-19 criminal scams. *UN News.* 29 February 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/02/1058381> Criminal elements, says the UN health agency, are posing as WHO representatives, and recommends that, if anyone is contacting by a person or organization claiming to be from the Organization, they should take steps to verify their authenticity.

UN releases US\$15 million to help vulnerable countries battle the spread of the coronavirus. *World Health Organization (WHO).* 1 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2ywrPLc> UN Humanitarian Chief Mark Lowcock today released US\$15 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to help fund global efforts to contain the COVID-19 virus.

World Wildlife Day: UN chief urges 'more caring' relationship with nature. *UN News.* 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058491> People everywhere need to remember that we depend on Mother Earth to survive, the UN chief said in his message for World Wildlife Day marked on Tuesday, advocating for "a more caring, thoughtful and sustainable relationship with nature".

Coronavirus COVID-19 wipes \$50 billion off global exports in February alone, as IMF pledges support for vulnerable nations. *UN News.* 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058601> The extent of the damage to the global economy caused by novel coronavirus COVID-19 moved further into focus on Wednesday as UN economists announced a likely \$50 billion drop in worldwide manufacturing exports in February alone.

Coronavirus outbreak has cost global value chains \$50 billion in exports. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).* 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2297> The slowdown of manufacturing in China due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak is disrupting world trade and could result in a \$US50 billion decrease in exports across global value chains, according to estimates published by UNCTAD on 4 March.
[Global trade impact of the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Epidemic](#) 📄

Coronavirus update: UN scales back major conference. *UN News.* 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058631> The organizing committee of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), a major UN conference scheduled to take place in March, has decided to cut the event down to a one-day meeting, citing current concerns surrounding the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Coronavirus update: 290 million students now stuck at home. *UN News.* 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058791> Disadvantaged children are the worst-hit by the emergency measures, declared UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay: "While temporary school closures as a result of health and other crises are not new, unfortunately, the global scale and speed of the current educational disruption is unparalleled and, if prolonged, could threaten the right to education."

International Women's Day: progress on gender equality remains slow. *UN News.* 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058811> 📄 The report finds faltering progress and notes that hard-won advances are being reversed by rampant inequality, climate change, conflict and exclusionary politics.

Report reveals nearly 90 per cent of all people have ‘a deeply ingrained bias’ against women.

UN News. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058731> The first UNDP Gender Social Norms Index analyzed data from 75 countries, which are collectively home to more than 80 per cent of the global population, and found new clues to the invisible barriers women face in achieving equality – potentially forging a path forward to breaking through the so-called “glass ceiling”.

Coronavirus update: UN addresses school disruptions, suspends public access to New York Headquarters.

UN News. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059121> In an attempt to slow the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus, classrooms have been shuttered across the world, causing a record number of students to miss school, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization said on Tuesday.

Flagship UN study shows accelerating climate change on land, sea and in the atmosphere.

UN News 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059061> A wide-ranging UN climate report, released on Tuesday, shows that climate change is having a major effect on all aspects of the environment, as well as on the health and wellbeing of the global population.

COVID-19: Mental health in the age of coronavirus.

UN News. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059542> Since January when the World Health Organization (WHO) determined the outbreak of the novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, to be a “public health emergency of international concern”, stress levels everywhere have continued to mount.

Almost 25 million jobs could be lost worldwide as a result of COVID-19, says ILO.

International Labour Organization (ILO). 18 March 2020. Available from: https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_738742/lang--en/index.htm An initial assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the global world of work says the effects will be far-reaching, pushing millions of people into unemployment, underemployment and working poverty, and proposes measures for a decisive, co-ordinated and immediate response.

[COVID-19 and the world of work: Impact and policy responses](#)

Swift policy action, strong leadership can save millions of jobs, ‘avert the worst’ amid COVID-19 pandemic.

UN News. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059672> As dire forecasts about the global economy add to the anxiety surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the UN’s labour agency (ILO) on Thursday offered a range of urgent measures, which, if governments act quickly, can help to protect workers in the workplace, stimulate the economy and save millions of jobs.

UN health chief announces global ‘solidarity trial’ to jumpstart search for COVID-19 treatment.

UN News. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059722> Just 60 days after the genetic sequence of COVID-19 was shared by China, the first vaccine trial has begun, the UN health chief said on Wednesday, calling it “an incredible achievement” and urging the world to maintain “the same spirit of solidarity” that has helped fight Ebola.

‘Solidarity, hope’ and coordinated global response needed to tackle COVID-19 pandemic, says UN chief.

UN News. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059752> As public fear and uncertainty grow around the COVID-19 pandemic, “more than ever before, we need solidarity, hope and the political will to see this crisis through together,” UN Secretary-General António Guterres said on Thursday in his first virtual press conference.

Coronavirus update: WHO and world football launch ‘kick out coronavirus’ campaign, as millions sign up to WhatsApp helpline. *UN News*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060032> A new awareness-raising campaign, led by the world’s top football stars, called ‘Pass the message to kick out coronavirus’, was launched on Monday by the UN health agency, WHO, and international football’s governing body, FIFA.

UN launches major humanitarian appeal to keep COVID-19 from ‘circling back around the globe’. *UN News*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060222> To confront the unprecedented worldwide challenge posed by the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic, top UN officials on Wednesday, launched a massive humanitarian appeal to mitigate its impact, particularly on fragile countries with weak health systems.

‘Concerted efforts’ needed to meet 2030 Global Goals in Asia-Pacific region. *UN News*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060162> Action to reverse the depletion and degradation of the environment across Asia and the Pacific is a top priority if the region is to stay on course to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), according to a new United Nations report launched online, for the first time, on Tuesday.

Coronavirus could cut global investment by 40%, new estimates show. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2313> A new UNCTAD analysis of how the coronavirus pandemic will affect global foreign direct investment (FDI) prospects shows that the negative impact will be worse than previously projected on 8 March.

CASUALTIES

Polaris Shipping: *Stellar Banner* has not leaked oil. Michael Juliano. *TradeWinds*.

29 February 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/polaris-shipping-stellar-banner-has-not-leaked-oil/2-1-764879> Polaris Shipping, owner of the ill-fated *Stellar Banner*, has determined that no oil has leaked from the VLOC as a result of running aground off the coast of Brazil.

Salvage OSRVs Reach the Stranded Vessel Site. *Vale*. 29 February 2020. Available from:

<http://www.vale.com/EN/aboutvale/news/Pages/salvage-OSRVs-reach-the-stranded-vessel-site.aspx> Vale informs that the two Oil Spill Recovery Vessels (OSRVs) mobilized with support from Petrobras have since this morning been at the site where the *MV Stellar Banner* is stranded, 100 kilometers off the coast of São Luís, in the state of Maranhão, Brazil.

13 missing after cargo ship rams fishing boat off northern Aomori. *Asahi Shimbun (Japan)*.

2 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/13179966> Thirteen crew members of a Belize-flagged cargo ship are missing after it collided with a Japanese fishing vessel off this northeastern prefecture.

Polaris Shipping aims to take bunkers off *Stellar Banner*. Irene Ang. *TradeWinds*. 3 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/polaris-shipping-aims-to-take-bunkers-off-stellar-banner/2-1-765855> A grounded and laden very large ore carrier is being examined by divers on Brazil's coast as owner Polaris Shipping gears up to remove bunkers from the vessel, the outfit said.

Probe begins as SwissMarine Inc bulker goes aground off Brazil. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

5 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/probe-begins-as-swissmarine-inc-bulker-goes-aground-off-brazil/2-1-767679> The country's navy said it was informed by local police and the port captain in Sao Francisco do Sul that the 77,000-dwt *Aeolian Grace* (built 2007) got stuck while exiting its berth on Tuesday night, about 500 metres from the terminal.

Divers discover significant damage near the bow of grounded Polaris VLOC. Sam Chambers.

Splash 247.com. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/divers-discover-significant-damage-near-the-bow-of-grounded-polaris-vloc/> 📰 The latest update from the Brazilian navy shows there's significant damage near the bow of the *Stellar Banner*, a fully laden Polaris Shipping very large ore carrier that ran aground nine days ago 100 km into its journey from South America to China.

Pollution barrier erected around tanker that ran aground off Kea island. *Ekathimerini (Greece)*.

18 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.ekathimerini.com/250779/article/ekathimerini/news/pollution-barrier-erected-around-tanker-that-ran-aground-off-kea-island> Authorities have placed floating barrier around a small oil tanker than ran aground off the coast of the western Aegean island of Kea while carrying 190 migrants and refugees on Monday.

Accident Investigation Report 7/2020: Collision between container vessel *ANL Wyong* and gas carrier *King Arthur*. *UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)*. 19 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/collision-between-container-vessel-anl-wyong-and-gas-carrier-king-arthur> On 4 August 2018, the UK registered container vessel, *ANL Wyong*, and the Italian registered gas carrier, *King Arthur*, collided in darkness, dense fog and an area of heavy shipping traffic, south-east of Gibraltar; both vessels were destined for Algeciras, Spain.

[Report](#) 📄 [Annexes](#) 📄

Arab nations sound alarm over oil tanker moored off Yemen. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 21 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/arab-nations-sound-alarm-over-oil-tanker-moored-off-yemen-1.995369> © Six Arab countries are urging the UN Security Council to exercise “maximum efforts” to persuade Yemen’s Houthi rebels to allow the United Nations to inspect a tanker moored in the Red Sea while loaded with over a million barrels to prevent “widespread environmental damage, a humanitarian disaster and the disruption of maritime commerce”.

Ship splits in two in Maltese waters. *Times of Malta*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/ship-splits-in-half-in-maltese-territorial-waters.780950> Three people have been rescued in an operation in Maltese waters after a vessel split in two east-northeast of Malta.

Pollution measures after ship grounds on rocks. *BBC News*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-52055363> The *MV Kaami* grounded on rocks in the Minch between Skye and Lewis in bad weather.

ENVIRONMENT

Fishy Business. *Greenpeace International*. 28 February 2020. Available from: <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/publication/28803/fishy-business/> Using data from Global Fishing Watch and research from a wide range of maritime sources, Greenpeace has developed a record of 416 ‘risky’ reefer (refrigeration) vessels operating on the high seas. [Protect the Oceans](#) 🇺🇸

WMO expects above average temperatures, but no El Niño. *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/wmo-expects-above-average-temperatures-no-el-niño> Above average temperatures are expected in many parts of the globe in the next few months, even without the presence of a warming El Niño event, according to the World Meteorological Organization.

Air pollution 'pandemic' shortens lives by 3 years: study. *France 24*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/20200303-air-pollution-pandemic-shortens-lives-by-3-years-study> A ‘pandemic’ of air pollution shortens lives worldwide by nearly three years on average, and causes 8.8 million premature deaths annually, scientists said Tuesday.

Liberia: Think Blue, Live Green! Youth Forum on Clean Oceans and Healthy Environment Takes Place in Marshall City. *Front Page Africa (Liberia)*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-think-blue-live-green-youth-forum-on-clean-oceans-and-healthy-environment-takes-place-in-marshall-city/> The Think Blue, Live Green awareness campaign for sustainable and clean communities proudly supported by the Embassy of Sweden Monrovia and organized by Miss Boss Lady (MBL) International got underway on the weekend of February 29, 2020 with a one-day youth forum in Marshall City, Margibi County.

Committing to climate-neutrality by 2050: Commission proposes European Climate Law and consults on the European Climate Pact. *European Commission*. 4 March 2020. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_335 Today, the Commission presents a proposal to enshrine in legislation the EU’s political commitment to be climate neutral by 2050, to protect the planet and our people.

2020: A critical year for climate and biodiversity. Oleksandra Vakulina. *Euronews*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2020/03/04/2020-a-critical-year-for-climate-and-biodiversity> More than 90% of European citizens say protecting the environment is important to them and more than 80% believe it should be protected by legislation.

Landmark deep-sea mission to boost ocean action. *The Commonwealth*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/landmark-deep-sea-mission-boost-ocean-action-0> The newest Commonwealth member country, Maldives, has joined Seychelles to launch a major joint scientific expedition to investigate unexplored depths of the Indian Ocean.

Great Barrier Reef coral bleaching event linked to 'anthropogenic climate change'. Ben Deacon and Jess Davis. *ABC (Australia)*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-06/great-barrier-reef-coral-bleaching-anthropogenic-climate-change/12029936> The Great Barrier Reef is facing one of the most widespread coral bleaching events on record, as water temperatures in the Coral Sea spike.

The Caribbean can make waves with a blue ocean economy. Gerard Alleng. *Climate Home News*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/03/06/caribbean-can-make-waves-blue-ocean-economy/> Due to their geography, they're usually more susceptible to disasters and extreme weather events, have limited access to freshwater and land for agriculture, and scarce development options and international trade opportunities.

Cruises Come With Human Health Risks. They Can Be Just As Harmful To The Environment. Amelia Tait. *Huffington Post UK*. 7 March 2020. Available from: https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/cruise-ships-environmental-damage_uk_5e63a408c5b68d616454fc28 In 2012, London-based couple Ben Hewitt and David McDonald were invited to a friend's wedding they feared was going to be "awful."

Coronavirus delays global efforts for climate and biodiversity action. Chloé Farand. *Climate Home News*. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/03/10/coronavirus-delays-global-efforts-climate-biodiversity-action/> The spread of coronavirus across the world is disrupting climate and biodiversity meetings ahead of two critical UN summits seeking to limit warming and to halt extinctions of plants and wildlife.

At the Glasgow climate conference, the UK could kickstart a green tech revolution. Mike Mason. *The Guardian*. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/mar/10/glasgow-climate-conference-uk-green-tech-revolution-cop26> We have now had 25 of them – the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) will take place in Glasgow in November – yet greenhouse gas concentrations continue to rise inexorably.

Sir David Attenborough urges halt to deep sea mining plans in wake of alarming new scientific report. Nathan Williams. *Fauna & Flora International (FFI)*. 12 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.fauna-flora.org/news/sir-david-attenborough-urges-halt-deep-sea-mining-plans-wake-alarming-new-scientific-report> Sir David Attenborough has urged countries to halt plans to mine the deep sea following the publication of a new report from Fauna & Flora International (FFI) that warns deep sea mining could cause significant loss of biodiversity, disruption of the ocean's life-support systems and its carbon storage function.
[An assessment of the risks and impacts of seabed mining on marine ecosystems](#)

Oban-based scientists in deep sea Arctic life study. *BBC News*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-51833703> Scottish-based scientists have been involved in a study of how light adversely affects the behaviour of deep sea animals.

Global light pollution is affecting ecosystems—what can we do? *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/story/global-light-pollution-affecting-ecosystems-what-can-we-do> For hundreds of millions of years, the web of life on land has been dependent on, and determined by, day and night, light and dark.

Could Our Energy Come from Giant Seaweed Farms in the Ocean? Annie Sneed. *Scientific American*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/could-our-energy-come-from-giant-seaweed-farms-in-the-ocean/> One day in the future, the Pacific Ocean could be home to kilometers of seaweed farms tended by submarine drones and waiting to be turned into fuel.

Deep-sea expedition in Seychelles' waters to launch Tuesday. Daniel Laurence. *Seychelles News Agency*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2UTdJfR> A joint Nekton deep sea expedition in the waters of Seychelles and Maldives will start on Tuesday to establish a baseline of marine life and the state of the ocean in both jurisdictions.

Predators on track for ocean protection around Antarctica. Ana M. M. Sequeira. *Nature*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00640-1> Satellite tracking of marine predators in the Southern Ocean has revealed key ecological areas under disproportionate pressure from human activities.

Speech by President Danny Faure on the occasion of 30% of Seychelles' EEZ Designated as Marine Protected Area 26 March 2020. *Government of Seychelles*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3dYDEKp> Following 6 years of hard work, planning, and over 200 consultation meetings, we mark the third and final milestone in developing a Marine Spatial Plan for the whole Exclusive Economic Zone of Seychelles.

Statement: coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef. *Government of Australia*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/news-room/latest-news/latest-news/coral-bleaching/2020/statement-coral-bleaching-on-the-great-barrier-reef> Australia's lead management agency for the Great Barrier Reef can confirm mass bleaching is occurring on the Great Barrier Reef, with very widespread bleaching detected.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

NYK Starts World's First Large-scale Survey of Microplastics in Oceans. *NYK Line*. 6 March 2020. Available from: https://www.nyk.com/english/news/2020/20200306_01.html NYK has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Chiba Institute of Technology (CIT) to use a ship to collect and analyze microplastics in oceans around the world in an effort to create a solution to marine plastic pollution, a global environmental issue.

Stress from Undersea Noise Interferes with Crab Camouflage. Susanne Bard. *Scientific American*. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/stress-from-undersea-noise-interferes-with-crab-camouflage/> In an example of how sea noise can harm species, exposed shore crabs changed camouflaging color sluggishly and were slower to flee from simulated predators.

Southeast Asia is the world's bilge dumping hotspot—what can be done to stop ships discharging waste oil? Robin Hicks. *Eco-Business*. 11 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.eco-business.com/news/southeast-asia-is-the-worlds-bilge-dumping-hotspot-what-can-be-done-to-stop-ships-discharging-waste-oil/> Satellite images have revealed the illegal discharge of waste oil and sludge from ships to be a daily occurrence in Indonesia, while Southeast Asia's biodiverse waters suffer more from the problem than anywhere.

Ocean plastic returning to Aussie coastlines. *Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)*. 11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.csiro.au/en/News/News-releases/2020/Ocean-plastic-returning-to-Aussie-coastlines>

Plastic waste in the ocean is making its way back to land and increasing pollution on Australia's beaches, according to new research from CSIRO, Australia's national science agency.

A Huge Amount of Plastic Waste Is 'Missing' From Our Oceans. New Study Shows Where It Is.

Britta Denise Hardesty and Chris Wilcox. *Science Alert*. 13 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.sciencealert.com/we-might-have-finally-worked-out-where-the-ocean-s-missing-plastic-waste-as-gone> Our new research suggests ocean plastic is being transported back onshore and pushed permanently onto land away from the water's edge, where it often becomes trapped in vegetation.

A New Frontier: Fishing And Carbon Emissions In The Pacific. Maria Sahib. *Fiji Sun Online*.

17 March 2020. Available from: <https://fijisun.com.fj/2020/03/17/a-new-frontier-fishing-and-carbon-emissions-in-the-pacific/> In recent weeks my colleagues have been discussing with you the international decarbonising shipping debate and what might mean for the future of shipping in the Pacific.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Fighting Coronavirus at Nigerian seaports. Enyeribe Anyanwu. *Ships & Ports*. 2 March 2020.

Available from: <https://shipsandports.com.ng/fighting-coronavirus-at-nigerian-seaports/>

The Coronavirus has continued to strike fear into nations as it spreads like wildfire in Asia, Europe and other parts of the world, with the death toll rising by the day.

Coronavirus leads to cancellation of the biggest shipping conferences. Trine Vestergaard.

ShippingWatch. 2 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11977027.ece> TPM 2020, which was to take place this week in Long Beach, California, was cancelled at the last minute as a consequence of the coronavirus outbreak.

COVID-19 cases reported in five new member states. *Standard Club*. 2 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.standard-club.com/risk-management/knowledge-centre/news-and-commentary/2020/03/news-covid-19-cases-reported-in-five-new-member-states.aspx> The latest Situation Report no. 41 issued by the WHO on 1 March 2020 states that there are now reported cases of COVID-19 in five new member states in the last 24 hours: Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Ireland, Monaco and Qatar.

Grand Princess Update. *Princess Cruises*. 4 March 2020. Available from:

https://www.princess.com/news/notices_and_advisories/notices/grand-princess-updates.html

After collaboration with and guidance from the U.S. Centers of Disease Control (CDC) and local authorities, Princess Cruises can confirm the following proactive measures to ensure the continued safety and well-being of our guests on board *Grand Princess*.

Fatigue guidelines—managing and reducing the risk of fatigue at sea. *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/vessels-operators/seafarer-safety/fatigue-guidelines-managing-and-reducing-risk-fatigue-sea>

The new guidelines are based on the International Maritime Organization Guidelines on Fatigue (MSC.1/Circ.1598) and are aimed at regulated Australian and foreign flagged vessels. [Fatigue Guidelines](#) 

A cruise ship that carried a man who died from coronavirus is headed back to California with 2,500 passengers. Faith Karimi and Steve Almasy. *CNN*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/05/health/california-coronavirus-cruise-ship-thursday/index.html> 

A former cruise ship passenger has died from coronavirus almost two weeks after he returned home, marking California's first death from the illness and the 11th death across the US.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) issues new Coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance for shipping industry. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 5 March 2020. Available from: [http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/03/05/international-chamber-of-shipping-\(ics\)-issues-new-coronavirus-\(covid-19\)-guidance-for-shipping-industry](http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/03/05/international-chamber-of-shipping-(ics)-issues-new-coronavirus-(covid-19)-guidance-for-shipping-industry) The comprehensive 22-page document has been produced in collaboration with prominent international bodies including: The World Health Organization; The International Maritime Organization; The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control; The International Maritime Health Association. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Ship Operators for the Protection of the Health of Seafarers](#) 

Inside the cruise ship that became a coronavirus breeding ground. Rebecca Ratcliffe and Carmela Fonbuena. *The Guardian*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/mar/06/inside-the-cruise-ship-that-became-a-coronavirus-breeding-ground-diamond-princess> Christian Santos remembers staying awake at night, anxiously listening to the sound of his colleague coughing.

WHO statement on cases of COVID-19 surpassing 100 000. *World Health Organization (WHO)*. 7 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/07-03-2020-who-statement-on-cases-of-covid-19-surpassing-100-000> As we mark this sombre moment, the World Health Organization reminds all countries and communities that the spread of this virus can be significantly slowed or even reversed through the implementation of robust containment and control activities.

Cruise Ship Passengers. *US Department of State*. 8 March 2020. Available from: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/cruise-ship-passengers.html> U.S. citizens, particularly travellers with underlying health conditions, should not travel by cruise ship.

Update on Grand Princess Cruise Ship. *California Governor's Office of Emergency Services*. 8 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.oesnews.com/update-on-grand-princess-cruise-ship/> The State of California has been working in partnership with the federal government to aid in the safe return of passengers from the *Grand Princess*.

Covid-19: Italian cruise ship will dock in S'pore as scheduled; passengers to undergo health checks before disembarking. Toh Ting Wei. *Straits Times*. 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/transport/italian-cruise-ship-rejected-by-thailand-malaysia-over-covid-19-fears-will-dock>  In a joint statement on Monday, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and Singapore Tourism Board (STB) said: "The doctor on board the cruise ship will check on passengers and crew in order to ensure that they are healthy prior to disembarkation."

Coronavirus Protocols: Important Update for Seafarers. *Seafarers International Union (SIU).* 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarers.org/coronavirus-protocols-important-update-for-seafarers/> Consistent with Seafarers Appeals Board Action 480 , effective immediately, if you have returned from any of the countries identified by the World Health Organization as “hotspots” for the coronavirus (COVID-19) within the last 14 days, DO NOT ENTER ANY HIRING HALL.
[Coronavirus Protocols](#) 📄

Coronavirus Covid-19: 33 cases confirmed on cruise ship in Egypt. *Ship-technology.com.* 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/news/coronavirus-covid-19-33-cases-cruise-ship-egypt/> Egypt authorities have confirmed that 33 people have tested positive for coronavirus (Covid-19) on a River Nile cruise ship on 7 March.

Rolling updates on coronavirus disease (COVID-19). *World Health Organization (WHO).* 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/events-as-they-happen> WHO is working 24/7 to analyse data, provide advice, coordinate with partners, help countries prepare, increase supplies and manage expert networks.

Report: Three Cruise Workers at Port Everglades Have Coronavirus. *Maritime Executive.* 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/report-three-cruise-workers-at-port-everglades-have-coronavirus> Metro Cruise Services, a provider of ship's agency and terminal operations services for the American cruise industry, said Tuesday that three of its part-time employees at Port Everglades have tested positive for the novel coronavirus.

Viking to temporarily suspend cruise operations until May 1, 2020. *Viking Cruises.* 11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.vikingcruises.co.uk/press/press-releases/viking-temporarily-suspends-cruise-operations.html> Viking today announced it will temporarily suspend river and ocean cruise operations until May 1, 2020 in response to the coronavirus COVID-19 situation.

Femfi takes measures in addressing mental health awareness for seamen. *Genici Factao. Manila Times.* 11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/11/business/maritime-business/femfi-takes-measures-in-addressing-mental-health-awareness-for-seamen/702168/> Far East Maritime Foundation Inc. (Femfi) has taken a suicide prevention action plan for seafarers, for them to be able to work productively and make a fruitful contribution to the economy.

Over-70s and at-risk Brits advised against travelling on cruise ships. *UK Government.* 12 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-70s-and-at-risk-brits-advised-against-travelling-on-cruise-ships> British nationals aged 70 and over, and those with underlying health conditions like chronic diseases and diabetes, are advised not to travel on cruise ships.

Government of Canada announces intention to defer the start of cruise ship season in Canada as COVID-19 response measure. *Government of Canada.* 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-intention-to-defer-the-start-of-cruise-ship-season-in-canada-as-covid-19-response-measure.html> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has announced a comprehensive \$1 billion COVID-19 Response Fund in response to the pandemic.

Managing COVID-19 cases onboard. *GARD.* 13 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29346632/managing-covid-19-cases-onboard> The World Health Organization has now upgraded the status the COVID-19 outbreak from epidemic to pandemic.

Cruise passengers kept on board in Hobart due to Tasmanian coronavirus cases.

ABC (Australia). 14 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-14/cruise-ship-passengers-arriving-in-hobart/12056370> Over 3,000 cruise ship passengers and staff have been barred from disembarking in Hobart, after the captain decided the risk of people becoming infected with coronavirus was too great, with five cases recorded in Tasmania so far.

Coronavirus: Centre directs returning seafarers to self-quarantine for 14 days. P. Manoj.

Hindu BusinessLine (India). 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/coronavirus-centre-directs-returning-seafarers-to-self-quarantine-for-14-days/article31088595.ece> The Director General of Shipping (DG Shipping) has asked seafarers who have travelled to coronavirus-infected regions overseas to “self-quarantine immediately on arrival in India for at least a period of 14 days”.

Flag states must protect seafarers and passenger’s health during coronavirus crisis.

International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF). 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/flag-states-must-protect-seafarers-and-passengers-health-during-coronavirus-crisis> The impact of rapid and worldwide spread of Covid-19 throughout the maritime industry, in particular the cruise ship industry, has made global headlines since the outbreak of the global pandemic.

First coronavirus vaccine clinical trials begin in United States. Flora Graham. *Nature*.

17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00802-1> The phase I trial of the vaccine from drug company Moderna is just the beginning of a long process to test safety and efficacy.

Statement from Guy Platten re COVID-19. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*.

18 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/03/18/statement-from-guy-platten-re-covid-19v> The spread of the coronavirus has resulted in many countries closing their borders and restricting port entry.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Ship Operators for the Protection of the Health of Seafarers](#)

Ruby Princess logged 158 cases of illness before passengers disembarked without coronavirus testing. Ben Smee. *The Guardian*. 21 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/21/ruby-princess-logged-158-cases-of-illness-before-passengers-disembarked-without-coronavirus-testing> The *Ruby Princess* cruise ship, which docked in Sydney this week and has been linked to six confirmed Australian coronavirus cases, had previously logged 158 instances of illness onboard, according to a News Corp report.

Communicating in the crisis. Susan Huppert. *Mare Report*. 22 March 2020. Available from:

<http://marereport.namma.org/index.php/2020/03/22/communicating-in-the-crisis/> For years, chaplains at international seafarers centers have concerned themselves with the problem of isolation at sea.

ITF calls on Maersk to protect their workers during the Covid-19 crisis. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 23 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/itf-calls-maersk-protect-their-workers-during-covid-19-crisis> On the day of the AP Moller Maersk annual general meeting, the ITF has made a statement to the company AGM following up its calls for action in the wider transport industries during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Seafarers call for better support, transparency and information on COVID19-[Updated].

Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 23 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/03/23/seafarers-call-for-better-support-transparency-and-information-on-covid19/>

Human Rights at Sea has been deluged with cases of seafarers seeking to highlight their plight after being retained on vessels after sign-off, left ashore in foreign countries unable to return to their families without funds, and not having sufficient information being passed to them due to the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis.

'Mental agony': Seafarers being abandoned during outbreak, charity says. Gary Dixon.

TradeWinds. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/people/mental-agony-seafarers-being-abandoned-during-outbreak-charity-says/2-1-779570>

UK charity Human Rights at Sea has said it has been deluged by cases of seafarers stuck on vessels after companies struggled to come to terms with the coronavirus outbreak.

Advisory for shore personnel and ship crew visiting or working onboard vessels alongside wharves, in shipyards and at anchorages. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*.

23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/2e84813a-74d3-4ba5-a838-fe251f70ec66>

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) situation is being monitored closely, and Singapore continues to take a calibrated and risk-based approach in determining the appropriate precautions and measures.

Coronavirus – implications for ships and crew. *GARD*. 24 March 2020. Available from:

<http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29112071/coronavirus-implications-for-ships-and-crew>

Countries around the world are strengthening their border control measures in order to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 and port authorities continue to be in a heightened state of alert in order to identify crew members or passengers displaying symptoms compatible with the disease.

German software specialist urges stress reduction for seafarers. Paul Gunton. *ShipInsight*.

25 March 2020 Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/german-software-specialist-urges-stress-reduction-for-seafarers> This year as Stress Awareness month (April) coincides with a global pandemic Hamburg-based maritime software specialist, Hanseaticsoft is urging shipping companies to tackle stress and depression amongst seafarers by ensuring connectivity at sea.

Managing your mental health during the Covid 19 pandemic. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 25 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/managing-your-mental-health-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>

ISWAN has just launched a new video, aimed at seafarers, with Dr Kate Thompson, a counselling psychologist.

IMO

IMO's draft HFO "ban" is nothing of the sort. Bryan Comer. *International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT)*. 27 February 2020. Available from:

<https://theicct.org/blog/staff/imo-draft-hfo-ban-2020> Last week's meeting of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) 7th annual Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) subcommittee was billed as an "Arctic Summit," and judging by the draft language to ban the use and carriage for use of heavy fuel oil (HFO) by ships in Arctic waters that resulted, the meeting was, in many ways, chilling.

IMO urged to consider market-based measures for emissions. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 28 February 2020. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131318/IMO-urged-to-consider-marketbased-measures-for-emissions>

Economic incentives have been a controversial topic for governments previously. But with increasing industry acceptance that eventually they will be necessary, will the IMO manage to agree to one?

IMO is a writer not a fighter. Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 4 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shipinsight.com/articles/imo-is-a-writer-not-a-fighter> Whether its an environmental group lamenting the slow pace of regulation of shipping, an equipment manufacturer with some new piece of kit it thinks ought to be mandated, a member state with a particular axe to grind or even a ship operator appalled at new rules promulgated without regard to cost or practicality, the IMO is constantly accused of falling down and not coming up with the goods.

China dropped out of European IMO-proposal due to corona. Katrine Grønvald Raun.

ShippingWatch. 9 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/secure/regulation/article11993624.ece> France, Denmark and Germany are behind a proposal that aims to lower ships' emissions a few years from now.

Japan plan wins fresh support ahead of IMO carbon meeting. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*.

11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/japan-plan-wins-fresh-support-ahead-of-imo-carbon-meeting/2-1-769096> The International Chamber of Shipping and Bimco have joined tanker industry association Intertanko in supporting a Japanese proposal to reduce shipping's carbon emissions to meet IMO targets for 2030.

Determined to make shipping more integrated and efficient part of global supply chain.

CargoConnect. 19 March 2020. Available from: <http://cargoconnect.co.in/?p=528> Kitack Lim, Secretary General, IMO in an exclusive interview with Saurabh Sharma articulates about their security policies, sulphur fuel mandate, India's accession to the ship recycling treaty, and the organisation's efforts towards UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

New proposal aims to cut CO2 emissions by 80 percent in 2030. Katrine Grønvald Raun.

ShippingWatch. 23 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12029663.ece> Shipping companies need to settle on a far more ambitious CO2 strategy starting from 2023.

LAW & POLICY

Government of Canada unveils 2020 North Atlantic right whales protection measures.

Government of Canada. 27 February 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39T1xjz> The endangered North Atlantic right whale is an iconic marine mammal, but with roughly 400 left in the world, the Government of Canada is doing its part to ensure its protection, conservation, and recovery.

Canada's 'dynamic' plan to protect endangered right whales rests on robots. Elizabeth Pennisi.

Science. 28 February 2020. Available from: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/02/canada-s-dynamic-plan-protect-endangered-right-whales-rests-robots> With only about 400 North Atlantic right whales remaining, the Canadian government is stepping up its efforts to keep them safe, even as it tries to keep the nation's lucrative snow crab and lobster fisheries in business.

The Greater Caspian region: A new Silk Road, with or without a new belt. Matthew Bryza. *Atlantic Council*. 29 February 2020. Available from: <https://atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/the-greater-caspian-region-a-new-silk-road-with-or-without-a-new-belt/> With the signing of a US-Taliban peace agreement, now might be a good time to look ahead to how Afghanistan might strengthen its economic connectivity with both its neighbors and more distant markets.

Lawsuit Launched to Protect Endangered Whales in California Shipping Lanes. *Center for Biological Diversity*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/lawsuit-launched-protect-endangered-whales-california-shipping-lanes-2020-03-02/> The Center for Biological Diversity notified the Trump administration today that it is failing to protect endangered whales and sea turtles from being struck by ships using ports in California.

North Pentecost chiefs declare marine ban. *Vanuatu Daily Post*. 3 March 2020. Available from: https://dailypost.vu/news/north-pentecost-chiefs-declare-marine-ban/article_00204848-5cca-11ea-86c2-8fcd4b00ae36.html A 1.38km coastline from Lamalana to Laone in north west Pentecost has been declared recently as a marine protected area following a custom ceremony performed by high ranking chiefs from the area.

Nautilus International calls for inquiry in Viking Sigyn criminal case. Charlie Bartlett. *Safety at Sea*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/nautilus-international-calls-for-inquiry-in-viking-sigyn-criminal-case/> Seafarer union Nautilus International has demanded an independent commission of inquiry into the handling of the criminal case against C. Yuriy, the Ukrainian master of river cruise vessel *Viking Sigyn*, after a collision that caused the deaths of 29 South Korean passengers.

MAJ prepares leaders for international pollution legislation. *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/shipping/20200303/maj-prepares-leaders-international-pollution-legislation> Last week, the Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ) engaged shipping industry stakeholders, including vessel operators and users, members of the environment, transportation, and fishing sectors, in a discussion on the upcoming Shipping Bill 2020.

Is China's Belt Road Initiative the start of a new Cold War? Andre Wheeler. *Splash 247.com*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/is-chinas-belt-road-initiative-the-start-of-a-new-cold-war/> Whilst there has been much commentary around the Belt Road Initiative (BRI) and its geopolitical intentions, not much has been said about the way the Digital Silk Road is seen as being essential to deliver the BRI outcomes.

Pressure builds on EU to dump aviation's licence to pollute. Sam Morgan. *EurActiv*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/aviation/news/pressure-builds-on-eu-to-dump-aviations-licence-to-pollute/> EU environment ministers suggested on Thursday (5 March) that airlines should no longer be issued free pollution permits by the bloc's carbon market, as a review of the emissions trading system fast approaches.

US Coast Guard has no IMO 2020 whistleblowers to report. Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/us-coast-guard-has-no-imo-2020-whistleblowers-to-report/2-1-768207> Whistleblowers have not yet come forward to report IMO 2020 infractions, according to the head of the US Coast Guard.

Seychelles hands over presidency of the Indian Ocean Commission. Daniel Laurence.

Seychelles News Agency. 7 March 2020. Available from:

<http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/12547/Seychelles+hands+over+presidency+of+the+Indian+Ocean+Commission> Maintaining regional stability in Madagascar and Comoros was among the achievements made during the one-year presidency of Seychelles over the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC).

Will generation x make a difference in the world's gender agenda? Emma Seline Akinyi Okello.

Standard Digital (Kenya). 8 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/business/article/2001363355/will-generation-x-make-a-difference-in-the-world-s-gender-agenda> Today, women across the globe are celebrating International Women's Day where their point of convergence is to put gender on the agenda of world affairs.

Member States must cut emissions across all sectors to achieve EU climate targets by 2030.

European Environment Agency (EEA). 10 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/member-states-must-cut-emissions> Emission cuts in the European Union's (EU) Effort Sharing sectors need to accelerate considerably from 2018 onwards to achieve the current EU 2030 targets, according to a European Environment Agency briefing, published today.

Maritime: Bashir Jamoh takes over as NIMASA DG. *Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)*.

10 March 2020. Available from:

<https://nimasa.gov.ng/maritime-bashir-jamoh-takes-over-as-nimasa-dg/> The newly appointed Director-General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Bashir Yusuf Jamoh, resumed duty today as the 6th DG of the maritime regulatory Agency since the merger of National Maritime Authority with Joint Maritime Labour Industrial Council to form NIMASA.

Couple sues Princess over possible coronavirus exposure. Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*.

10 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/couple-sues-princess-over-possible-coronavirus-exposure/2-1-770813> A Florida couple is seeking more than \$1m from Princess Cruise Lines over potential exposure to the coronavirus aboard the *Grand Princess*.

Croatia Sets Ambitious Goals in Maritime Affairs. *Government of Croatia*. 10 March 2020.

Available from: <https://eu2020.hr/Home/OneNews?id=206> A Maritime Conference and an Informal Meeting of Ministers of Transport in Charge of Maritime Affairs of the EU Member States, hosted by the Minister of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure Oleg Butković is held in Opatija.

Future of island states: Expert emphasises rule of law at sea. Christine Rovoi. *Radio New Zealand*.

10 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/411359/future-of-island-states-expert-emphasises-rule-of-law-at-sea> Solidarity among Pacific nations is key to protecting their maritime, fisheries, and mineral resources in exclusive economic zones (EEZs), says a researcher.

Cleaner ships get backing of EU ministers. Sam Morgan. *EurActiv*. 11 March 2020. Available

from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/news/cleaner-ships-get-backing-of-eu-ministers/>

EU transport ministers agreed on Wednesday (11 March) that greenhouse gas emissions from the shipping sector need to be reduced significantly.

Flagging up flag fraud. Paul Gunton. *ShipInsight*. 12 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shipinsight.com/articles/flagging-up-flag-fraud> Many ships at sea today are flying fraudulent flags.

CLIA Announces Voluntary Suspension in U.S. Cruise Operations. *Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://cruising.org/news-and-research/press-room/2020/march/clia-covid-19-toolkit> CLIA ocean-going cruise lines will be voluntarily and temporarily suspending cruise ship operations from U.S. ports of call for 30 days as public health officials and the U.S. Government continue to address COVID-19.

Detecting dark fishing activity in the North Natuna Sea. Imam Prakoso. *Global Fishing Watch*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://globalfishingwatch.org/fisheries/dark-fishing-natuna-sea/> On March 1st 2020, Indonesian authorities seized five Vietnamese vessels fishing illegally in the North Natuna Sea, located south west of Indonesia's Natuna Islands, which borders the South China Sea.

French legislation contradicting STCW revoked. Gabriella Twining. *Safety at Sea*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/french-legislation-contradicting-stcw-revoked/> Proposed legislation to allocate some of the master's responsibilities to the chief engineer in an emergency situation was shut down at a meeting in Paris this week.

UAE takes action against MSC over failure to adhere to new HSFO carriage ban. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/uae-takes-action-against-msc-over-failure-to-adhere-to-new-hsfo-carriage-ban/> The *MSC Joanna*, a 9,200 teu boxship, has been banned from calling in UAE waters for a year and the ship's master cannot work on any ships visiting the Middle Eastern nation and faces legal action as the ship becomes one of the first landmark failures to adhere to the new March 1 ban on the carriage high sulphur fuel oil (HSFO).

You have 'little recourse' if you get coronavirus on a cruise, maritime law expert warns. Catherine Thorbecke. *ABC News (US)*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://abcnews.go.com/Business/recourse-coronavirus-cruise-maritime-law-expert-warns/story?id=69501800> While the novel coronavirus outbreak on massive cruise liners has quarantined thousands, sickened hundreds and even resulted in a handful of deaths, one maritime law expert warns that there may be very little legal recourse that can be taken by those whose lives have been impacted by the pandemic at sea.

HFO on banned MSC boxship was intended for scrubber test. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/hfo-on-banned-msc-boxship-was-intended-for-scrubber-test/2-1-774413> Mediterranean Shipping Co is disputing an alleged breach of the IMO ban on carrying high sulphur fuel oil (HSFO) in the United Arab Emirates.

SAMSA outlines measures to curb spread of Covid 19 by ships and crew at South Africa seas. *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/03/18/samsa-outlines-measures-to-curb-spread-of-covid-19-by-ships-and-crew-at-south-africa-seas/> The South African Maritime Authority (SAMSA) has set out guidelines on how management of sea going vessels falling within its scope of activities shall be dealt with, following the outbreak of the coronavirus (Covid19), and which partly suspends some of its activities, such as ship surveys for a limited period of time.

Vanuatu to convene historic meeting in The Hague on climate justice and international law. *Vanuatu Daily Post*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2UMZMzW> On 30 June, Vanuatu will convene a historic meeting with delegations from all regions to discuss a groundbreaking initiative to promote climate justice: the possibility of seeking an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Recent APPS Case Shows Importance of Whistleblowers. Jessica T. Moore. *gCaptain*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/recent-apps-case-shows-importance-of-whistleblowers/> On the open seas away from watchful eyes, illegal ocean polluters might never be held accountable for damaging the fragile marine environment without conscientious witnesses coming forward.

Looking North: How should the Arctic be governed? Angus Parker. *Geographical*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39NuUUe> The Arctic is in the midst of a fundamental geophysical transformation.

New Marina chief Empedrad vows a corrupt-free agency. Genivi Factao. *Manila Times*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/18/business/maritime-business/new-marina-chief-empedrad-vows-a-corrupt-free-agency/703994/> Newly installed Maritime Industry Authority (Marina) Administrator VAdm Robert A. Empedrad on Monday assured all the stakeholders in the maritime industry that they would see reforms to eradicate corruption and ensure a vibrant seafaring industry.

In disputed South China Sea, Asean claimant states are neither friends nor foes. Ding Duo. *South China Morning Post*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/opinion/article/3075605/disputed-south-china-sea-asean-claimant-states-are-neither> Over the past decade, the Philippines has viewed China as its biggest challenger in the contested South China Sea.

Maritime minister responds ‘positively’ to calls to move department to Liverpool. *Liverpool Seafarers Centre*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2020/03/19/maritime-minister-responds-positively-to-calls-to-move-department-to-liverpool/> John Wilson, chief executive of the Crosby centre, wrote to the Prime Minister Boris Johnson (see attached letter) to suggest Liverpool as a suitable new home for the maritime department.

Joint Open Letter to United Nations agencies from the global maritime transport industry. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2xSBUSB> As the COVID-19 pandemic takes hold it is vital that all governments keep maritime trade moving by continuing to allow commercial ships access to ports worldwide and by facilitating the movement and rapid changeover of ships’ crews.

Singaporean Shipping Company Fined \$1.65m for Concealing Illegal Discharges of Oily Water. *US Department of Justice*. 21 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/singaporean-shipping-company-fined-165m-concealing-illegal-discharges-oily-water> Unix Line PTE Ltd., a Singapore-based shipping company, was sentenced Friday in federal court before U.S. District Court Judge Jon S. Tigar in Oakland, California, after previously pleading guilty to a violation of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships.

Covid-19: ITF global demands for governments and employers. *International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF)*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/covid-19-itf-global-demands-governments-and-employers> Covid-19 is issuing the world an unprecedented collective challenge.

Arbitration promoted as a way to resolve human rights abuses at sea. Sam Chambers.

Splash 247.com. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/arbitration-promoted-as-a-way-to-resolve-human-rights-abuses-at-sea/> On the UN International Day for the Right to The Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims, the UK-based charity Human Rights at Sea, in partnership with global law firm Shearman & Sterling LLP, is today launching a jointly developed legal project to facilitate the resolution of disputes concerning human rights abuses at sea using international arbitration.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Digital disruption holds virtual key to climate action, researchers say. Megan Rowling. *Reuters*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2wsLFXg> As the digital revolution hurtles on at breakneck speed, states, businesses and individuals should work together to harness technology to create low-carbon, fairer societies - or risk that vision being undermined, a research group warned on Monday.

Schiebel, Nordic Unmanned successfully test Camcopter S-100 equipped with sniffer capability. *Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI)*. 2 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.auvsi.org/industry-news/schiebel-nordic-unmanned-successfully-test-camcopter-s-100-equipped-sniffer-capability> The entities note that ships operating in Europe's busiest sea routes are allowed to emit exhaust fumes with a Sulphur oxide content limited to no more than 0.1 percent.

Will wind-assisted propulsion blow the maritime industry away? Adele Berti.

Ship-technology.com. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/wind-assisted-ship-propulsion/> A partnership between NAPA and C-Job Naval Architects is studying the applications of wind-assisted propulsion using voyage optimisation software, hoping to ultimately drive the industry away from polluting fuels and help it prepare for the IMO's ever-stricter requirements.

Digitalisation drives smarter working and lower costs. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/digitise-to-work-smarter-and-cut-costs-58340> Many OSV owners are now embracing digitalisation to help reduce their operating expenditures, streamline operations, reduce headcount and provide integrated logistics solutions.

ABS Leads Consortium to Deliver EU-Funded Study on EEDI's Future. *ABS (American Bureau of Shipping)*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://ww2.eagle.org/en/news/press-room/abs-leads-consortium-to-deliver-eu-funded-study-on-eedi-future.html> A consortium led by ABS has been granted EU funding for a study on the future of the Ship Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI).

Sea Trials Begin for Mayflower Autonomous Ship's 'AI Captain'. *IBM*. 5 March 2020.

Available from: <https://newsroom.ibm.com/2020-03-05-Sea-Trials-Begin-for-Mayflower-Autonomous-Ships-AI-Captain> IBM and marine research organization Promare, have announced that a new 'AI Captain', which will enable the Mayflower Autonomous Ship (MAS) to self-navigate across the Atlantic later this year, is to go to sea this month for testing.

Singapore to launch initiative for startups to tackle carbon emissions. Lee Hong Liang. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/technology/singapore-launch-initiative-startups-tackle-carbon-emissions> A new Singapore Trade and Transport Impact program will open for global startups to look into tackling decarbonisation in Singapore.

Shipping: Long live the internal combustion engine. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 7 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shipping-long-live-the-internal-combustion-engine/> The internal combustion engine stands out as one invention that has transformed every facet of human life.

How autonomous and remote underwater vehicles are boosting global maritime operations. *Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI)*. 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.auvsi.org/unmanned-systems-magazine-how-autonomous-and-remote-underwater-vehicles-are-boosting-global-maritime> The global offshore AUV and ROV Market was valued at \$3.5 billion and is projected to grow at about 18% per year over the next six years.

Scrubbers payback to lengthen on narrowing high-low sulphur fuel spread. Lee Hong Liang. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/bunkering/scrubbers-payback-lengthen-narrowing-high-low-sulphur-fuel-spread> A global collapse of marine fuel prices has significantly narrowed the price gap between very low sulphur fuel oil and high sulphur fuel oil, putting into question the economics of scrubbers.

Bureau Veritas launches digital classification in Rotterdam. Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 11 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/suppliers/article11999175.ece> Classification firm Bureau Veritas is now going digital and will open its first remotely operated center in Rotterdam, a main hub for shipping.

Korean Register: The transition to a fully digitalised classification society. *Splash 247.com*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/korean-register-the-transition-to-a-fully-digitalised-classification-society/> In his first interview with overseas media since assuming the top job at Korean Register, Hyung-chul Lee lays out his ambitions as chairman and CEO of the world's seventh largest class society.

Autonomous Ships or Better Decision Making? Jussi Siltanen. *Maritime Logistics Professional*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/autonomous-ships-better-decision-making-356563> Looking back through articles on autonomous shipping, one could be forgiven for thinking that it's becoming the nuclear fusion of maritime; always seemingly five or 10 years away but never quite arriving.

How ABB technology supports sustainable Arctic shipping. Nick Blenkey. *Marine Log*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.marinelog.com/video/video-how-abb-technology-supports-sustainable-arctic-shipping/> The Northern Sea Route allows cargo to be transferred from northern Europe to northeast Asia, via the Bering Strait.

The Digital Age and the Evolving Role of Ship Agents. Mikael Lind and Juan Carlos Croston. *Maritime Executive*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/blog/the-digital-age-and-the-evolving-role-of-ship-agents> Traditionally, a ship agent (as a representative of the owner, the charterer -or both- of a visiting ship), ensures that the essential requirements for a ship visit are arranged and met.

The Marine Fuels for the Motorships of the Future. Panos Koutsourakis. *The Motorship*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.motorship.com/news101/alternative-fuels/the-marine-fuels-for-the-motorships-of-the-future> A technical pathway is supporting a new maturity in the debate over available GHG reduction options, writes Panos Koutsourakis, Global Technology Leader at Bureau Veritas.

The application of blockchain in Malta's maritime and shipping industry. Nina Fauser. *Times of Malta*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/the-application-of-blockchain-in-maltas-maritime-and-shipping-industry.779009> By definition, a blockchain is a system, within which transactions made in a cryptocurrency are recorded and maintained across several computers, which are linked in a peer-to-peer network.

Delayed Scrubber Install May be Factor in MSC's HSFO Carriage Ban Violation. *Ship & Bunker*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/825175-delayed-scrubber-install-may-be-factor-in-mscs-hsfo-carriage-ban-violation> Delayed scrubber installation work may have been a factor in the recent HSFO carriage ban violation by box ship *MSC Joanna*, operator MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company has suggested.

Tracking and tracing polluting ships. Adele Berti. *Ship-technology.com*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/prevention-of-pollution-from-ships/> The ongoing case of a ship's oil discharge off the coast of Brazil has sparked fresh concerns over the need to improve surveillance of ships around the world.

Coronavirus drives classification society revolution as digital technology comes into its own. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insight/coronavirus-drives-classification-society-revolution-as-digital-technology-comes-into-its-own/2-1-781679> The wider and more frequent use of remote ship safety inspections to help shipowners meet statutory flag and class certification requirements during the coronavirus crisis may be here to stay.

Analysis: Marine fuel price squeeze to test scrubber appetite. Paul Hickin, Britt Russell-Webster, Sarah Jane Flaws, Tom Washington and James Goldburn. *S&P Global Platts*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/shipping/032620-marine-fuel-price-squeeze-to-test-scrubber-appetite> With global oil demand having collapsed due to the coronavirus pandemic, shipowners planning to invest in equipment to use high sulfur fuel oil in their engines are having second thoughts about whether the payback economics still work.

MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

Business and Personnel Considerations in the Age of Autonomous Ships. Andrew Kinsey. *MarineLink*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/business-personnel-considerations-age-476151> There is much talk among maritime professionals about how automation and autonomous vessels will make the industry safer.

Developing the country's maritime human capital Brenda V. Pimentel. *Manila Times*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/04/business/maritime-business/developing-the-countrys-maritime-human-capital/699970/> It has been seven years since I had a friend publish in her maritime magazine an article, which calls attention to the bias in maritime educational programs focused on responding to the demand for seafarers.

Meyer Turku Is the First Strategic Partner of University of Turku. *University of Turku (Finland)*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.utu.fi/en/news/press-release/university-of-turku-and-meyer-turku-increase-collaboration-in-engineering> The partnership agreement increases e.g. student projects, theses, as well as teaching events, expert lectures, and workshops between the University and Meyer Turku.

Shortage of seafarers opens the door for new recruits. Brett Riskin. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/shortage-of-seafarers-opens-the-door-for-new-recruits-1.5488160> The shipping industry needs hundreds of new seafarers to deal with a growing shortage of skilled labour, which will worsen over time and could delay shipments of scores of consumer goods, marine experts say.

Developing the country's maritime human capital [Last part]. Brenda V. Pimentel. *Manila Times*. 11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/11/business/maritime-business/developing-the-countrys-maritime-human-capital-2/702162/> Until the adoption of the STCW Convention which sets the global standard for seafarers' training and certification, merchant marine courses received the same attention as any higher education learning, except at that time, seafarers engaged in international voyages were already offered higher compensation packages than most professions.

US\$500,000 invested in new towage training simulator. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/us500000-invested-in-new-towage-training-simulator-58542> A Canadian maritime college is upgrading its training facilities in British Columbia with simulators to teach ship handling, towage, ice navigation and bridge operations.

UK MCA issues advice on seafarers training amid COVID-19. *Safety4Sea*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/uk-mca-issues-advice-on-seafarers-training-amid-covid-19/> As the shipping industry is facing challenges amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the UK issued information concerning seafarers training including, COVID-19 update, career information, written and oral exam syllabuses and details for nautical colleges and training centres.

Building a true partnership of academic and maritime sectors. Imran Mojib. *Gulf Today (UAE)*. 22 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gulftoday.ae/business/2020/03/22/building-a-true-partnership-of-academic-and-maritime-sectors> The Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST) Maritime Transport in Sharjah has started implementing e-learning for the second semester in the College of Maritime Transport Technology.

Closing the competence gap with training. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/closing-the-competence-gap-with-training-58641> Skills gaps due to technology advances can be filled by simulators, e-learning, virtual reality and onboard mentoring.

Extension of standards of training certification and watchkeeping (STCW) certificates. *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)* 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/about/regulations-and-standards/2020-extension-standards-training-certification-and-watchkeeping> During to this time of uncertainty that has been caused by COVID-19, we are extending the duration of some certificates.

MARITIME SAFETY

'Ticking time bomb' in Antarctic as fishing vessels fail safety checks. *Greenpeace International*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/press-release/28919/ticking-time-bomb-in-antarctic-as-fishing-vessels-fail-safety-checks/> Fishing cargo vessels operating in pristine Antarctic waters are failing a majority of their safety inspections, Greenpeace International analysis of Port State Control inspection records has found.

Steady on the stairs! *GARD*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29369055/steady-on-the-stairs> When walking up or down stairs onboard, apply the old adage of 'one hand for yourself and one for the ship' and keep one hand free to grasp the handrail.

Expert Group Meeting on Improving Domestic Ferry Safety in Support of Safe Maritime Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific. *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.unescap.org/events/expert-group-meeting-improving-domestic-ferry-safety-support-safe-maritime-connectivity-asia> The International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) are pleased to announce that an Expert Group Meeting on "Improving Domestic Ferry Safety in Support of Safe Maritime Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17 to 18 March 2020.

North Korea fires two projectiles into sea. *BBC News*. 21 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-51984344> They were launched early on Saturday from Pyongyang province towards the East Sea, also known as the Sea of Japan.

MARITIME SECURITY

SAF to restructure intelligence and cyber defence units, acquire new ships for maritime security amid evolving threats. Aqil Haziq Mahmud. *Channel News Asia*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/saf-intelligence-cyber-defence-new-ships-maritime-security-12490692> 🇸🇬 The Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) will restructure its intelligence and cyber defence units as well as acquire new ships to boost maritime security, Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen said in Parliament on Monday (Mar 2).

Arab League Council calls for ensuring security, safety of maritime navigation in Arabian Gulf, Oman Sea, Red Sea. *Saudi Press Agency (SPA)*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewfullstory.php?lang=en&newsid=2043060> The Arab League Council affirmed the principle of freedom of maritime navigation in international waters according to the established rules in international law and the conventions of the law of the sea.

Saudi Arabia foils Houthi plot to blow up tanker off Yemen. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/saudi-arabia-foils-houthi-plot-to-blow-up-tanker-off-yemen/2-1-767013> Piracy reporting body Maritime Security Centre — Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) said a manned boat and two unmanned craft approached to within 0.07 nautical miles (130 metres) of one of the vessels on Tuesday morning.

The United States and Gabon Assume the Co-Secretariat of the Friends of Gulf of Guinea.

US Department of State. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-and-gabon-assume-the-co-secretariat-of-the-friends-of-gulf-of-guinea/> The Department of State is pleased to announce that the United States and the Republic of Gabon have assumed the co-secretariat of the Friends of Gulf of Guinea, also known as the FoGG, for calendar year 2020.

The curious case of Saudi WBIED attacks in the Gulf of Aden. *Dryad Global.*

6 March 2020. Available from: <https://dryadglobal.com/the-curious-case-of-saudi-wbied-attacks-in-the-gulf-of-aden/> Reports issued by the Saudi-led coalition that is active in Yemen, state that they had foiled a potential attack on a crude oil tanker in the Gulf of Aden.

Gulf of Guinea Security [Joint Press Releases, Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Round Table of International Shipping Associations (11 Feb 2020 Rome)]. *INTERTANKO.*

9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.intertanko.com/news-desk/press-releases/pressreleasearticle/gulf-of-guinea-security-joint-press-release-1-3> The four largest shipping trade organisations forming the RT - BIMCO, INTERCARGO, the International Chamber of Shipping and INTERTANKO - are to organise a joint meeting with the IMO Secretary General and regional member states to discuss the issue of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea.

DCSA Publishes Implementation Guide for IMO Cyber Security Mandate. *Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA).* 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://dcsa.org/dcsa-publishes-implementation-guide-for-imo-cyber-security-mandate/> The Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA), a neutral, non-profit group established to further digitalisation of container shipping through technology standards, today in conjunction with its nine member carriers, published the DCSA cyber security implementation guide to facilitate vessel readiness for the IMO Resolution MSC.428(98) on Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems.

IMO 2021: Shipping now needs to get to grips with cyber security. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds.*

16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/technology/imo-2021-shipping-now-needs-to-get-to-grips-with-cyber-security/2-1-769976> As the dust begins to settle on IMO 2020, the shipping industry must start gearing up for the global rules on auditing cyber security aboard vessels — being tagged as IMO 2021.

This startup is using AI to investigate crime on the high seas. Omer Benjakob. *WIRED UK.*

18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.wired.co.uk/article/ship-tracking-winward-ai> Set up by two former Israeli navy intelligence officers in 2010, Tel Aviv-based Winward is a relentless ocean sleuth.

Shifting Realities: How the Covid-19 crisis will impact the maritime threat picture. *Hellenic Shipping News.*

23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shifting-realities-how-the-covid-19-crisis-will-impact-the-maritime-threat-picture/> The emergence of COVID-19 as a severe global public health issue has created significant ramifications, including economic disruption and the threat of a global recession, logistical complexities, geopolitical considerations, and security issues.

MIGRANTS

Shipwreck Off Coast of Libya Pushes Migrant Deaths on the Mediterranean Past 20,000 Mark.

International Organization for Migration (IOM). 3 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.iom.int/news/shipwreck-coast-libya-pushes-migrant-deaths-mediterranean-past-20000-mark>

A tragic shipwreck off the coast of Libya last month and more than a dozen other recent fatalities elsewhere have pushed the death toll in the Mediterranean Sea to 20,014 since 2014, according to IOM's Missing Migrants Project.

A drop in the ocean: how one plane is trying to save thousands of migrants in the

Mediterranean. Sophia Vahanvaty. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 13 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/a-drop-in-the-ocean-how-one-plane-is-trying-to-save-thousands-of-migrants-in-the-mediterranean-1.991301>

As one of a dozen volunteer pilots with the Swiss NGO Humanitarian Pilot's Initiative (HPI), he conducts search and rescue aerial reconnaissance missions over the Mediterranean, attempting to spot migrant crafts, finding nearby ships to assist and reminding them of their obligation by international law to rescue boats in distress.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

To See the Sea: Achieving Total Maritime Situational Awareness Using VHR Satellite Imagery.

GIM International. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/34m4rMw> The ocean is a precious resource that all Europeans make use of in one way or another.

There are downsides to making decisions in isolation. GARD. 3 March 2020. Available from:

<http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29290809/there-are-downsides-to-making-decisions-in-isolation> In an isolated decision-making style decisions are made without consulting the people who will be affected by the decision.

First international standard for BDS shipborne receiver initially released. *Government of China*.

16 March 2020. Available from: http://eng.mod.gov.cn/news/2020-03/16/content_4862037.htm The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) officially released the first international standard for testing ship-borne receiver equipment of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS), known as IEC 61108-5:2020, on March 11, 2020.

NAVTOR: Too much information on ECDIS can jeopardize navigational safety. *Safety4Sea*.

17 March 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-navtor-too-much-information-on-ecdis-can-jeopardize-navigational-safety/> Mr. Tor A. Svanes, Managing Director, NAVTOR AS – who recently received the 2020 SMART4SEA Leadership award for his valuable contribution in the e-navigation field – shares his perspective on the future of navigation.

Connectivity reduces crew isolation from coronavirus restrictions. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime*

Optimisation & Communications. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/connectivity-reduces-crew-isolation-from-coronavirus-restrictions-58573> Shipping companies are raising their interest in providing connectivity and welfare services to seafarers as they become increasingly isolated due to the global coronavirus outbreak.

Coronavirus-hit Italian cruise ship to dock in south of France. Marc Leras and Geert De Clercq. *Reuters*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3e3k6F0> An Italian cruise ship that earlier in its voyage disembarked two passengers who later tested positive for coronavirus has been authorized to dock in Marseille in the south of France, a port authorities spokesman said on Wednesday.

Seafarer onboard Corona bulk carrier hit by Covid-19. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/seafarer-onboard-corona-bulk-carrier-hit-by-covid-19/> South Africa has quarantined its first cargo vessel, a dry bulk carrier with the unfortunate name of *Corona*, after one sailor contracted Covid-19 and another crewmember has gone into self-isolation.

Hydrographic Mapping is Critical for the Caribbean. Carol Fisher and Kyle Goodrich. *Hydro International*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39TeSbC> Considered paradise by the legions of tourists who visit each year, the Caribbean islands are developing states that struggle to maintain a delicate balance between economic expansion and environmental preservation.

Oceana Exposes Ships Ignoring Voluntary Speed Zone Designed to Protect Endangered Right Whales. *Oceana*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://usa.oceana.org/press-releases/oceana-exposes-ships-ignoring-voluntary-speed-zone-designed-protect-endangered-right> Oceana today released the results of an analysis finding ships ignoring a voluntary speed zone in an area south of Nantucket designed to protect endangered North Atlantic right whales, of which only about 400 remain.

Union backs calls for free crew internet. *Nautilus International*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/union-backs-calls-for-free-crew-internet/> Nautilus has backed calls for crew internet, data and satellite calls to be made free for three months to cover the peak infection period expected of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Connectivity boost in Northern waters. Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/connectivity-boost-in-northern-waters> Passage through Northern shipping routes and Arctic waters has received a boost following the doubling of the connectivity speed of the Iridium Certus network, says maritime communications specialist IEC Telecom.

Connecting crew during COVID-19. Ronald Spithout. *Inmarsat*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.inmarsat.com/blog/connecting-crew-during-covid-19/> Given Inmarsat's position as the leading provider of maritime VSAT services at sea, it is hardly surprising that we have been alert to the direct connection between coronavirus and surging demand for crew voice call and data services.

US Coast Guard protests GPS disruption to UN body: 'urgent issue'. Dana Goward. *GPS World*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gpsworld.com/us-coast-guard-protests-gps-disruption-to-un-body-urgent-issue/> Responding to a plea from 14 maritime organizations in the fall of 2019, the U.S. Coast Guard has protested disruption of GPS and GNSS signals to the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

COVID-19 Map: Number of ships en route. *Windward Ltd*. March 2020. Available from: <https://covid19map.wnwd.com/> This map shows the scope of global shipping operations. Select specific destination countries for more granular insights. Data is updated hourly.

PIRACY

Crew reported safe after Nigerian pirates board Chinese cargoship. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/crew-reported-safe-after-nigerian-pirates-board-chinese-cargoship/2-1-768536> A Chinese multipurpose cargoship (MPP) has become the latest victim of a pirate group off Nigeria, marking the third attack in the area on the same day.

Vessel attacked off Cotonou coast, crew member missing. Gabriella Twining. *Safety at Sea*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/vessel-attacked-off-cotonou-coast-crew-member-kidnapped/> An oil chemical tanker was boarded by pirates 45 nautical miles (83 km) from the Port of Cotonou, off the south coast of Benin, West Africa, on 5 March.

Crew thwarts pirate attack on Swiss bulker. Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/crew-thwarts-pirate-attack-on-swiss-bulker/> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore's Port Operations Command Centre received a report from 2013-built 57,200 dwt bulk carrier *SAM Jaguar* on Monday that pirates had boarded the ship near Pulau Karimun Kecil, Indonesia.

Seven crew kidnapped from Greek boxship off Gabon. Dale Wainwright and Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 23 March 2020 Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/seven-crew-kidnapped-from-greek-boxship-off-gabon/2-1-779010> Seven crew members are reported to have been kidnapped from a Greek-owned feeder containership of Gabon in West Africa.

PORT STATE CONTROL

PCG investigates 'Misrepresented' vessel from China. *Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)*. 28 February 2020. Available from: <http://www.coastguard.gov.ph/index.php/11-news/3711-pcg-investigates-misrepresented-vessel-from-china> The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Commandant, Admiral Joel S Garcia has ordered the investigation of Panama-flagged cargo vessel "*MV Harmony 6*" after its captain allegedly declared false information of its port clearance details amid intensified maritime security measures against 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Shipowners and operators could face detention of ships from 1st March under IMO rule. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/34foR9K> Port state control authorities will begin to enforce the IMO's Sulphur 2020 from 1st March, making it an offense for ships to carry fuel that contains a sulphur content higher than 0.5 percent unless the ship has an Exhaust Gas Cleaning System.

Myanmar turns away cruise ship over coronavirus fears. *Straits Times*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/myanmar-turns-away-cruise-ship-over-coronavirus-fears> Myanmar stopped a cruise boat carrying hundreds of tourists from docking in the country, a senior tourism official said on Tuesday (March 3), citing fears passengers could be carrying the coronavirus.

Singapore sets entry ban due to fear of coronavirus. Mathias Blædel Lorenzens. *ShippingWatch*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11985913.ece> Seafarers and passengers who have been to China, South Korea, Iran or northern Italy within the past 14 days will no longer be able to enter Singapore, as the country at midnight Wednesday introduced an entry ban, informs Singapore's Maritime and Port Authority, MPA, in a press release.

Goa: To prevent Covid-19, MPT closes port for cruise vessels till March 31. Newton Siqueira. *Times of India*. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/to-prevent-covid-19-mpt-closes-port-for-cruise-vessels-till-mar-31/articleshow/74558620.cms>
With cruise ships being seen as fertile grounds for the Coronavirus (Covid-19), Mormugao Port Trust (MPT) has decided to turn away all international cruise vessels till the end of this month, as a precautionary measure.

Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during February 2020. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-february-2020> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that seven foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during February 2020 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

Cuba allows British cruise ship carrying passengers with COVID-19 to dock on the island. Mario J. Pentón and Nora Gámez Torres. *Miami Herald (US)*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/cuba/article241228736.html>
The *MS Braemar*, which has been sailing in the Caribbean since the end of February, has 22 guests and 21 crew members who are in isolation after displaying influenza-like symptoms, Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, the owner of the ship, said in a statement.

Coronavirus: cruise passengers stranded as countries turn them away. Ben Doherty and Dom Phillips. *The Guardian*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/16/cruise-ships-scramble-to-find-safe-harbour-amid-covid-19-crisis-as-countries-turn-them-away> As countries scramble to close their borders in response to the global Covid-19 pandemic, thousands of cruise ship passengers are stranded on the high seas while their vessels seek a port at which to dock.

Coronavirus ban: more than 100 Australian doctors and dentists stuck on cruise ship off Chile. Josh Taylor. *The Guardian*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/17/coronavirus-covid-19-australian-doctors-dentists-stuck-cruise-ship-coast-chile> More than 100 Australian doctors and dentists are trapped on board a cruise ship that is currently stuck off the coast of Chile after the country banned cruise ships from docking in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Passengers of British coronavirus-hit cruise ship evacuate in Cuba. Sarah Marsh and Nelson Acosta. *Reuters*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/39TfFcB> Passengers aboard a British cruise ship that has been stranded for more than a week in the Caribbean after several cases of the new coronavirus were confirmed onboard disembarked in Cuba on Wednesday in order to fly home.

Australia slams door on cargo ships; desperately needed goods at risk. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/australia-slams-door-cargo-ships-desperately-needed-goods-risk> Late yesterday morning (March 18) Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) banned all commercial ships from entering ports in Queensland if the ship, or any person onboard, has been in any country outside of Australia within the last 14-days.

Ports deny entry to vessels from Italy as virus spread fears accelerate. Ian Lewis. *TradeWinds*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/ports-deny-entry-to-vessels-from-italy-as-virus-spread-fears-accelerate/2-1-775552> Shipowners face mounting hurdles as vessels docking in Italy are being denied access to ports worldwide in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Nearly half of coronavirus-hit cruise ship passengers can disembark in Marseille. Marc Leras and Geert De Clercq. *Reuters*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2XfTudM> Passengers who have tickets to travel back to their home countries will be allowed to disembark from the coronavirus-hit Costa Luminosa cruise ship in Marseille, the port authority and the cruise operator said on Thursday.

Italy closes all ports to cruise ships. *The Local (Italy)*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.thelocal.it/20200320/italy-closes-all-ports-to-cruise-ships> The transportation ministry said late Thursday that Italian ships already at sea will have to return to port and undergo tests on all crew and passengers.

Four cruise ships given special permission to dock in Australia despite 30-day coronavirus ban. Jane Norman. *ABC (Australia)*. 21 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-21/coronavirus-four-cruise-ships-dock-australia-national-ban/12077824> The NSW Government has hit back against criticism of its handling of cruise ship arrivals, insisting it has a strict compliance regime, despite almost 2,700 passengers being allowed to disembark in Sydney in the face of a national coronavirus crackdown.

‘A cruise to nowhere’: Cruise ships remain at sea as countries deny entry to ports. Jana G. Pruden. *Globe and Mail (Canada)*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-a-cruise-to-nowhere-cruise-ships-remain-at-sea-as-countries-deny/> For more than 21 days, Myra Evans and Frank Pasquill have been afloat in the South Pacific on a Holland America cruise ship, the *MS Maasdam*.

Non-compliant or missing paperwork main causes for detentions in UK. Gabriella Twining. *Safety at Sea*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/non-compliant-or-missing-paperwork-main-causes-for-detentions-in-uk/> Non-compliant or missing certificates and implementation of the International Safety Management (ISM) code was the basis for seven out of the ten vessel detentions carried out by the Maritime Coast Agency (MCA) in the UK in February.

Public Health Responses to COVID-19 Outbreaks on Cruise Ships — Worldwide, February–March 2020. *US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6912e3.htm> More than 800 cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases occurred during outbreaks on three cruise ship voyages, and cases linked to several additional cruises have been reported across the United States.

Borders close as COVID-19 lockdowns go into effect. Samira Nadkarni. *Safety at Sea*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/borders-close-as-covid-19-lockdowns-go-into-effect/> In a response to the global pandemic, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore has closed its borders indefinitely to seafarers and passengers on short term visits as of 23:59 on 23 March 2020.

Exceptional measures for exceptional times says MCA's head of maritime safety standards. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://maritimecoastguard.blogspot.com/2020/03/exceptional-measures-for-exceptional.html> The Director of Maritime Safety and Standards at the Maritime and Coastguard Agency says that exceptional times need exceptional measures. [Survey and Inspection information update](#)

Panama Canal Adopts Measures to Guarantee Sustained Operations Amid COVID-19.

Panama Canal Authority. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2020/03/25/pr687.html> Following the mandatory countrywide lockdown announced by the Panamanian Government to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, the Panama Canal adopted new measures today to guarantee the continuity of its operation and prevent the further spread of the virus, safeguarding its workforce and the safety of its customers.

Stop 'infested' ships from entering our ports. *Ghana Maritime Authority*. 25 March 2020.

Available from: https://www.ghanamaritime.org/news_page.php?id=89 The Ghana Maritime Authority has directed all seaports to prevent from entering the country any ship whose crew are suspected to be infected with the coronavirus.

Paris MOU guidance regarding the impact of COVID-19. *Paris MoU on Port State Control*.

26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.parismou.org/paris-mou-guidance-regarding-impact-covid-19> The Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MoU) acknowledges the crisis which the international shipping industry is facing.

The choice for 300 Australians: stay on cruise ship with possible Covid-19 cases or disembark in Italy Ben Doherty and Matilda Boseley. *The Guardian*. 26 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2020/mar/26/the-choice-for-300-australians-stay-on-cruise-ship-with-covid-19-positive-passenger-or-disembark-in-italy> Costa Victoria is one of 20 cruise ships around the world carrying 3,000 Australians that are stranded as countries close borders.

At least 13 crew members evacuated as cruise ships carrying people with flu-like symptoms sail off Florida. Stephanie Gallman and Rosa Flores. *CNN*. 26 March 2020. Available from:

<https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/cruise-ship-zaandam-flu-symptoms-florida/index.html>

At least 13 crew members who were displaying respiratory symptoms consistent with pneumonia and bronchitis have been evacuated from two cruise ships near Florida, according to Miami-Dade County government.

Statement[s] Regarding Zaandam. *Holland America Line*. 28 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.hollandamerica.com/blog/ships/ms-zaandam/statement-regarding-zaandam/> We are aware of reported permission for both *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* to transit the Panama Canal in the near future.

Covid-19 Map. *V. Group Ltd*. 2020. Available from: <https://vgrouplimited.com/covid-19-map>

This map provides that latest updates on the restrictions that ports are imposing on vessels and crews as well as any other relevant updates coming from that country.

PORTS & HARBOURS

COVID-19 virus: how vulnerable are European container ports to the drop in Chinese port volumes? Theo Notteboom. *Port Economics*. 27 February 2020. Available from:

<http://www.porteconomics.eu/2020/02/27/covid-19-virus-how-vulnerable-are-european-container-ports-to-the-drop-in-chinese-port-volumes/> At the time of writing there were more than 73,000 cases of the COVID-19 virus and more than 1,850 deaths. China, and particularly the Hubei province, is responsible for most of the recorded cases and deaths.

Port of Tyne first UK port to become a connected ports partner. *Port of Tyne*. 2 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.portoftyne.co.uk/news-and-media/news/port-of-tyne-first-uk-port-to-become-a-connected-ports-partner> The global data and resource sharing initiative was welcomed by the new Maritime Minister, Kelly Tolhurst MP, as she congratulated the Port of Tyne on being at the forefront of driving innovation across the North East's international logistics cluster.

Floating battery as clean energy source for city and port. *Port of Amsterdam*. 2 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/press-release/floating-battery-clean-energy-source-city-and-port> Skoon Energy and the Port of Amsterdam have launched a floating battery service to bring mobile stored power into the port and inner city of Amsterdam.

Chinese govt waives or cuts port and logistics fees to counter coronavirus impact. Katherine Si. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3dXaQly> As the Chinese government looks to the country's economy back on track after the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak it is waiving or cutting port fees and logistics to the end June across a wide range of sectors.

How two major shipping canals are mitigating climate change. Varsha Saraogi.

Ship-technology.com. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/panama-canal-vs-suez-canal/> The effects of climate change have sparked urgent action in all sectors of the economy – including maritime.

'Knowledge transfer between Rotterdam and SOHAR works both ways'. *Port of Rotterdam*.

6 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/knowledge-transfer-between-rotterdam-and-sohar-works-both-ways> The success of SOHAR Port – one of the world's fastest growing ports – is partly due to its favourable location.

Officials Respond to Using Port of Oakland to Dock *Grand Princess* Cruise Ship. *NBC Bay Area News (US)*. 8 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/east-bay/officials-respond-to-using-port-of-oakland-to-dock-grand-princess-cruise-ship/2250199/> East Bay elected officials have taken to social media Sunday morning in response to confirmation by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services that the *Grand Princess* cruise ship, quarantined off the California coast, will dock Monday at the Port of Oakland.

Human traffic: tackling people-smuggling at ports. Chris Lo. *Ship-technology.com*.

9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/human-trafficking-ports/> The tragic deaths of 39 Vietnamese migrants, discovered in the back of a lorry in Essex, has once again highlighted the misery caused by human trafficking through ports.

Continuously working on the future. *Port of Rotterdam*. 10 March 2020. Available

from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/continuously-working-on-the-future> 📰 The Rotterdam port and industrial complex has a strong position.

The committees who care – a look at Britain's port welfare committees. *Nautilus International*.

10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/the-committees-who-care-a-look-at-britains-port-welfare-committees/> Port welfare committees have been coordinating support services for seafarers in UK ports for over seven decades. Andrew Linington explores the past, present and future of a British institution that is now being successfully emulated in other countries.

Warning bells sound for US economy as coronavirus squeezes ports. *Straits Times.*

11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/business/economy/warning-bells-sound-for-us-economy-as-virus-squeezes-ports> Accustomed to running at full speed this time of year, George Powers has watched as a shipping slowdown tied to the coronavirus sidelines more than half his warehouse workers at the usually bustling Port of Savannah on the US East Coast.

Cruise Industry's Daunting Efforts to Berth. Allan E Jordan. *Maritime Executive.* 15 March 2020.

Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/cruise-industry-s-daunting-efforts-to-berth> The cruise industry is garnering nearly universal praise for its actions of the past days taking the unprecedented decision to suspend nearly all of its global operations.

American and European ports suffer record low container equipment availability.

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com.* 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/american-and-european-ports-suffer-record-low-container-equipment-availability/> The massive box imbalance brought about by the trade war and then the coronavirus sees Chinese ports rammed full of boxes waiting to move, while carriers are urgently deploying extra tonnage to other hubs where equipment shortages are now at their lowest levels ever.

Cruise passenger traffic in Singapore down 52% since COVID-19 outbreak; STB to give industry more support. Aqil Haziq Mahmud. *Channel News Asia.* 18 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/cruise-passenger-traffic-down-covid-19-stb-more-support-12549696> Cruise passenger traffic in Singapore has fallen by 52 per cent year-on-year since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak on Jan 23, the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) said as it pledged to give the industry more support.

Port of Houston to re-open container terminals after COVID-19 positive worker hospitalized.

Kristen Hays, Ali Oktay, Kevin Allen and Jacquelyn Melinek. *S&P Global Platts.* 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39RTvap> The Port of Houston will re-open both of its container terminals Thursday evening after shutting them down Wednesday because a worker who had been at both sites tested positive for the COVID-19 strain of the coronavirus, the port said.

Overview: Ports across the globe have put restrictions on ships and seafarers.

Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch.* 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/Ports/article12022174.ece> Ports all over the world have introduced restrictions on ships and crew arriving from corona-stricken countries.

China Shipping Exports Rebound, Just as Western Ports Cope With Coronavirus Downturn.

Hellenic Shipping News. 21 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/china-shipping-exports-rebound-just-as-western-ports-cope-with-coronavirus-downturn/> Two months after a near complete standstill in China that rattled global supply chains, the country's ports are again pushing out thousands of containers that were stranded at the onset of the coronavirus outbreak.

More Cruise Ships Reach Port. Allan E. Jordan. *Maritime Executive.* 23 March 2020.

Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/more-cruise-ships-reach-port> Ten days after the cruise industry announced its 30-day suspension of operations, several cruise ships are still working to return to port.

IMO-compliant fuel more available in ports. Erik Hoffmann. *Argus Media.* 24 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2089932-imocompliant-fuel-more-available-in-ports> There are signs that IMO-compliant marine fuel is becoming more widely available in ports around the world, with shipowners filing fewer non-availability reports.

Chaos at Indian ports as country goes into full lockdown. *TradeWinds*. 25 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/chaos-at-indian-ports-as-country-goes-into-full-lockdown/2-1-780763> Major disruptions are taking place at India's dry-bulk and container ports as the country goes into full lockdown to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 coronavirus.

India lockdown: Ports declare force majeure, ship operations go awry. Carina Li, Rason Chen, Angeline Cheong, Pradeep Rajan, Sameer Mohindru and Ratnajyoti Dutta. *S&P Global Platts*.

25 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2JHvPLg> India's three-week nationwide lockdown to contain the deadly coronavirus pandemic will delay both imports and exports of commodities such as crude, coal, iron ore, vegetable oils and refined energy products as several ports have declared force majeure, while shipping operations across its sprawling coastline are going awry.

Latin American ports take measures to remain open, guarantee operations. Michele Labrut.

Seatrade Maritime News. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ports-logistics/latin-american-ports-take-measures-remain-open-guarantee-operations> With the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) around the world, governments and ports in Latin America are taking different measures to deal with the pandemic.

COVID-19 Global Port Restrictions Map. *Wilhelmsen*. 2020. Available from:

<https://wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/coronavirus-map/> With the COVID-19 outbreak, ports are imposing various restrictions on vessels and crew.

REGULATIONS

Dodging environmental rules is about to get harder for shippers. *Gulf Times (Qatar)*.

1 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gulf-times.com/story/657242/Dodging-environmental-rules-is-about-to-get-harder-for-shippers> tweak to new environmental rules for the shipping industry is just days from taking effect, closing off a loophole for would-be cheats looking to cut their fuel bills.

Coronavirus on the high seas: Why the U.S. can't touch cruise lines. Tanya Snyder.

POLITICO (US). 11 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/11/coronavirus-cruises-126426> The nightmare of coronavirus outbreaks on cruise ships has revealed an industry that's skirted oversight for years and used powerful allies in Washington to keep the government out of its business.

Inert gas generators – could new regulations spur innovation? Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*.

13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/inert-gas-generators-ndash-could-new-regulations-spur-innovation-58532> Inert gas generation is the latest onboard operation to be subjected to the optimisation process and with owners looking to future-proof their vessels against regulatory change, this standardised equipment is having to play catch up.

Joint letter by ECSA and ETF to the Council on urgent regulatory measures for the shipping industry. *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 18 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.ecsa.eu/news/joint-letter-ecsa-and-etf-council-urgent-regulatory-measures-shipping-industry> The shipping industry urgently needs special regulatory measures and actions to prevent a total collapse of seaborne trade to and from the EU.

Regulations of the People's Republic of China on the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships.

Standard Club. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3e0EwOG>

We refer owners and members to the club's circular issued on 4 June 2015 on the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships and the requirement that owners/operators of (a) any ship carrying polluting and hazardous cargoes in bulk or (b) any other ship above 10,000 GT enter into a pollution clean-up contract with a Ship Pollution Response Organisation before the ship enters a PRC port or engages in loading.

SALVAGE

Stellar Banner Update: De-Bunkering Plan Submitted for Review.

Mike Schuller. *gCaptain*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/stellar-banner-update-de-bunkering-plan-submitted-for-review-images/> Officials in Brazil continue to confirm that the grounded Stellar Banner remains stable as plans to remove fuel oil from the vessel progresses.

Stellar Banner Debunkering Continuing.

Mike Schuler. *gCaptain*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/stellar-banner-debunkering-continuing/> Salvage crews are continuing with the debunkering operation on the grounded *MV Stellar Banner* off Brazil.

Operation Recovery—YM Efficiency.

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/campaigns/operational-updates> If you missed out on attending one of our community information sessions in the Newcastle region last month, you can view and download our presentation on the response to date and overview of the salvage operations.

SEAFARERS

Shipping accused of being worse than Big Tobacco when it comes to human rights and sustainability.

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shipping-accused-of-being-worse-than-big-tobacco-when-it-comes-to-human-rights-and-sustainability/> It is almost a decade since the United Nations adopted its principles on business and human rights, but a new report out this week suggests shipping continues to ignore the livelihoods of its most precious commodity, the men and women working at sea, with international shipping groups coming in for particular stick.

A Challenging Review of Maritime Industry support for Business and Human Rights.

Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/03/04/a-challenging-review-of-maritime-industry-support-for-business-and-human-rights/> Human Rights at Sea today issues a new independent briefing note and report on the state of play for the rigorous and effective incorporation of business and human rights policies and practices throughout the shipping industry, including by States. [Are the 2011 UN Guiding Principles Working Effectively and being Rigorously Applied in the Maritime Industry?](#)

Two Filipino seafarers' tale of surviving piracy.

Yashika F. Torib. *Manila Times*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/04/business/maritime-business/two-filipino-seafarers-tale-of-surviving-piracy/699972/> Nigerian pirates recently released eight seafarers held for almost a month in captivity under terrible conditions.

All-out efforts to facilitate seafarers: Ali Zaidi. *The Nation (Pakistan)*. 7 March 2020.

Available from: <https://nation.com.pk/07-Mar-2020/all-out-efforts-to-facilitate-seafarers-ali-zaidi>

Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Syed Ali Haider Zaidi held the Third Quarterly meeting with Seafarers and Registered Manning Agent on 06/03/2020 at Pakistan National Shipping Corporation.

Filipino seafarers have a hard time when onshore. *Safety4Sea*. 8 March 2020. Available from:

<https://safety4sea.com/filipino-seafarers-have-a-hard-time-when-onshore/> Filipino seafarers have to deal with stress beginning from shore, months prior to their shipboard deployment when training, assessments and examinations consume a chunk of their shore leave.

Celebrating women at sea. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*.

8 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/celebrating-women-at-sea-part-1> In honour of International Women's Day today, we spoke to a group of women from across the industry about their work as seafarers and asked what advice they would give to others wishing to follow the same path. [Part 2](#) [Part 3](#)

Celebrity Edge's all-female bridge and onboard leadership team make history. Mary Bond.

Seatrade Cruise News. 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-cruise.com/news/celebrity-edges-all-female-bridge-and-onboard-leadership-team-make-history>

For the first time in maritime history, an all-female bridge and onboard leadership team set sail Sunday, commemorating International Women's Day.

Shipping organisations flag-up freedom of movement restrictions in coronavirus fight.

Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2ULhNhU> The Roundtable of shipping organisations has flagged up the potential implications on the growing number of restrictions by ports on the free movement of seafarers in an effort to stop the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Women must be driven to set benchmark in an unusual career. Jagriti Kumari. *Times of India*.

11 March 2020. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/women-must-be-driven-to-set-benchmark-in-an-unusual-career/articleshow/74571856.cms> Radhika is one of the few women in a leadership role in Merchant Navy and is the first woman to receive the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea in 2016.

ILO gives green light for Covid-19 crew annual leave exemptions. *Nautilus International*.

11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/ilo-gives-green-light-for-covid-19-crew-annual-leave-exemptions/> The International Labour Office has given the green light for flag states to forgo Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) annual leave entitlements for crew due to Covid-19 coronavirus containment restrictions.

Top manager takes aim at unfair coronavirus stance on crew. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*.

16 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/top-manager-takes-aim-at-unfair-coronavirus-stance-on-crew/> One of the world's top shipmanagers has hit out at the unfair treatment of stranded crew thanks to the coronavirus.

Talking Point: Welfare to well-being – a changing emphasis in service to seafarers.

Jason Zuidema. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/welfare-to-well-being-a-changing-emphasis-in-service-to-seafarers> Talking Point is a new series of thought pieces written by experts in the maritime industry, offering insights into different topics affecting seafarers.

Crew changes remain blocked in China despite Beijing's easing policy. Cichen Shen.

Lloyd's List. 16 March 2020. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131513/Crew-changes-remain-blocked-in-China-despite-Beijings-easing-policy> China's transport ministry has asked shipping companies to make timely arrangements to relieve seafarers on board ships whose service contracts have expired as the virus situation in the country improves.

New video highlights problem of unregistered crewing agencies in India. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 17 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/new-video-highlights-problem-of-unregistered-crewing-agencies-in-india> ISWAN has released a new video focusing on the risks posed to Indian seafarers who sign up to unlicensed crewing agencies.

ICS to convene emergency global crew change meeting on Thursday. Sam Chambers.

Splash 247.com. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/ics-to-convene-emergency-global-crew-change-meeting-on-thursday/> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) will be using its convening power to bring national shipowning associations from around the world together on Thursday for the first of an ongoing set of meetings designed to identify swift and effective solutions with crew change near the top of the agenda.

Crew members could be at risk as ships are being prevented from taking on supplies because of Coronavirus, says ISSA. *Ship Management International*. 17 March 2020. Available from:

<http://shipmanagementinternational.com/crew-members-could-be-at-risk-as-ships-are-being-prevented-from-taking-on-supplies-because-of-coronavirus-says-issa/> Seafarers could be the ones to suffer as ships find themselves unable to take on essential medical supplies and provisions as the extent of the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic takes hold around the world, according to the International Shipsuppliers & Services Association (ISSA).

"Coronavirus poses major challenges for seafarers on merchant ships from increasing restrictions imposed by port states". *International Association of Dry Cargo*

Shipowners (INTERCARGO). 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.intercargoo.org/media-release-17-03-2020/> The coronavirus (COVID-19) has already caused the loss of thousands of human lives and the imposition by authorities of travel restrictions and lockdown of cities, provinces and countries across the world. [Media Release](#)

The Diary of a Grand Princess Crew Member as the Coronavirus Spread on the Ship.

Charles Bethea. *The New Yorker*. 17 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/the-diary-of-a-grand-princess-crew-member-as-covid-19-spread-on-the-ship> On the night of March 3rd, before going to bed, a crew member aboard the *Grand Princess* — a cruise ship owned by Carnival, the largest cruise operator in the world—sat down to write in her diary.

Brussels urged to show leniency towards seafarers in face of European travel ban.

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/brussels-urged-to-show-leniency-towards-seafarers-in-face-of-european-travel-ban/> The heads of the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers' Federation have called for leniency from Brussels when it comes to Europe's blanket travel ban in the wake of the spread of coronavirus.

Caring for Seafarers During the Coronavirus Outbreak. Susan Huppert. *Maritime Executive*.

18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/caring-for-seafarers-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak> Ship visits by chaplains from seafaring centers are normally a primary contact for meeting seafarer's needs while in port.

New shipping passport to ensure new crews access to ships. Tomas Kristiansen and Daniel Logan Berg-Munch. *ShippingWatch*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12020189.ece> Shipping companies from across the globe are hit hard by closed borders that make it very difficult to change crews.

An update to better reflect the way we are known by those we serve. *Apostleship of the Sea (AoS)*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/update-better-reflect-way-we-are-known-those-we-serve> Apostleship of the Sea has long been known as Stella Maris by seafarers and fishers across the globe and so, as part of our Centenary this year, we are refreshing our logo and updating our name to better reflect the way we are known by those we serve.

Coronavirus: Who can rescue 20,000 stranded seafarers? Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://loydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131556/Coronavirus-Who-can-rescue-20000-stranded-seafarers> China's Ministry of Transport is now taking the lead to facilitate crew changes at domestic ports amid reduced virus infection domestically.

ITF agrees to crew contract extensions. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/itf-agrees-crew-contract-extensions> The explosive spread of coronavirus has led to more and more countries introducing and imposing travel restrictions in an effort to curb the spread of Covid-19.

Manfred Muller: stop moaning and think of the poor seafarers. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insight/manfred-muller-stop-moaning-and-think-of-the-poor-seafarers/2-1-777236> German shipowner Manfred Muller has a clear message to those of us feeling sorry for ourselves during the coronavirus crisis: remember the seafarers.

Five stages of crew relief grief. Steven Jones. *Splash 247.com*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/five-stages-of-crew-relief-grief/> Every quarter the Seafarers Happiness Index plots the satisfaction of crews working globally, across all vessel types.

Maritime professionals top of agenda as Union and social partners lobby for vital protections. *Nautilus International*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3aW78qy> The importance of maritime and shipping professionals to the world economy has been driven home by Nautilus International in highlighting the vital role they play keeping trade and goods flowing – including medical supplies - during the coronavirus pandemic.

Covid-19: UK government designates seafarers as key workers. *Nautilus International*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/covid-19-uk-government-designates-seafarers-as-key-workers/> Following sustained pressure from Nautilus and other transport unions, the UK government has officially designated seafarers as key workers.

Seafaring charities step in to assist stranded cruise crew at Tilbury. *Nautilus International*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/seafaring-charities-step-in-to-assist-stranded-cruise-crew-at-tilbury/> Seafaring charities rallied to assist about 3,000 overseas and British cruiseship crew stranded at a UK port this week as the domino effect of the coronavirus pandemic continued.

The Lloyd's List Podcast: Seafarers are not the problem — they're part of the solution.

Lloyd's List. 20 March 2020. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131610/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Seafarers-are-not-the-problem--theyre-part-of-the-solution> © A practical and pragmatic approach' to crew

changeovers and seafarer movement in general is required from governments rapidly shutting borders in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Sailors trapped off UAE coast for 9 months appeal for help. Mazhar Farooqui. *Gulf News (UAE)*.

21 March 2020. Available from: <https://gulfnews.com/uae/sailors-trapped-off-uae-coast-for-9-months-appeal-for-help-1.70540560> Eight sailors trapped on a ship off the UAE for the past nine months have send out an SOS as some of them have taken ill.

All fishing vessels to discontinue any crew changes on high seas or at any port visited.

Iva Danford. *Fiji Village*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://fijivillage.com/news/All-fishing-vessels-to-discontinue-any-crew-changes-on-high-seas-or-at-any-port-visited-xf845r/>

The Fiji Ports Corporation Limited has directed all fishing vessels, local and foreign, to follow set protocols and discontinue any crew changes on high seas or at any port visited.

Thanking our seafarers. *InterManager*. 24 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.intermanager.org/2020/03/news-release-tuesday-24-march-2020-thanking-our-seafarers/> With all the anxiety and uncertainty that is happening the world over as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, now might seem like a surprising time to talk about remaining positive.

Quarantine and the seafarer. Ambassador Carlos Salinas. *Manila Times*. 24 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/25/business/maritime-business/quarantine-and-the-seafarer/705880/> The concept of quarantine has always been associated with shipping.

Republic of the Marshall Islands Urges Countries to Treat Seafarers as Key Transport

Workers. *Marshall Islands Registry* 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.register-iri.com/wp-content/uploads/RMI-Urges-Countries-to-Treat-Seafarers-as-Key-Transport-Workers.pdf>

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), one of the world's largest maritime registries, with more than 4,700 vessels and nearly 100,000 seafarers serving on RMI-flagged vessels encourages countries to recognize and protect seafarers as key transport workers amid restrictions around the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Imagine a world if you can: Open Letter From the World's 1.6 Million Seafarers. *International*

Transport Workers' Federation (ITF). 24 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/imagine-world-if-you-can> These men and women are transporting cargo and goods essential to businesses and people's everyday lives that will sustain communities through the coronavirus pandemic.

Indian seafarers delay homecoming amid 21-day lockdown. Inderpreet Walia. *Lloyd's List*.

24 March 2020. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131663/Indian-seafarers-delay-homecoming-amid-21day-lockdown> Indian seafarers are advised not to sign off from their ships and return to India after completing their contracts, except in an emergency, due to the 21-day nationwide lockdown in an attempt to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Indian seafarers working abroad on Indian/foreign ships told not seek repatriation post completion of contract. P Manoj. *Hindu BusinessLine (India)*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2yyL1bc> The Director General of Shipping has advised Indian seafarers working overseas either on Indian or foreign ships not to sign off after completing their contract and return to India except in an emergency, citing restrictions imposed by the government on international and domestic travel to check the spread of coronavirus.

Manning industry reels from Covid-19 effects. Yashika F. Torib. *Manila Times*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/25/business/maritime-business/manning-industry-reels-from-covid-19-effects/705906/> The country's manning industry is reeling over the domino effect caused by the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic that has led to multiple community quarantines across the country.

Seafarers on 'front line of this global calamity'. Kim Link-Wills. *Freight Waves*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/seafarers-on-front-line-of-this-global-calamity> The IMO has issued a reminder that seafarers are essential to the movement of goods by water, even as ships' crews around the world are being prohibited from going ashore in the global effort to fight the spread of the coronavirus.

Better to leave crew onboard than risk catching virus during changeovers, warns Danica boss. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/better-to-leave-crew-onboard-than-risk-catching-virus-during-changeovers-warns-danica-boss/> Responding to industry calls for seafarers to be given special travel dispensation, Henrik Jensen, managing director of Danica Crewing Services, warns that crew face a bigger risk of catching the virus while they travel to and from postings using public transport networks.

Parliament: Seafarers will continue to be paid if they are kidnapped, under changes to Act. Fabian Koh. *Straits Times*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/parliament-seafarers-will-continue-to-be-paid-if-they-are-kidnapped-under-changes-to-act> Seafarers who are abducted by pirates or armed robbers in an attack while out at sea will stay employed and be paid their salaries while being held captive, said Senior Minister of State for Transport Lam Pin Min on Wednesday (March 25).

Synergy Group Calls For Collective Action On Shipping's Coronavirus Crewing Crisis. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/synergy-group-calls-for-collective-action-on-shippings-coronavirus-crewing-crisis/> The organisation of collective crew changes at key hub ports by ship managers and owners has the potential to solve the seafarer welfare crisis currently threatening global supply chains, believes Captain Rajesh Unni, Founder and CEO of Singapore-based ship manager Synergy Group, which employs over 12,000 seafarers on more than 300 vessels.

Action plan to get crews repatriated gains momentum. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/action-plan-to-get-crews-repatriated-gains-momentum/> One shipmanager has come up with a solution for the crew change crunch hitting shipping around the world and has started to engage with stakeholders to get seafarers home finally.

SHIP RECYCLING

Breaking Bad: Uncovering The Oil Industry's Dirty Secret. Chris Foote. *BBC News*.

18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/extra/ao726ind7u/shipbreaking>

Every year hundreds of ships and oil rigs are sold to shipbreaking yards in south Asia where they are cut apart by low-paid migrants.

Where to Next for Demolition Activity? Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*.

24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/where-to-next-for-demolition-activity/> In today's market conditions, it may wise to remove some older tonnage, although there are still many market unknowns.

Altera Infrastructure becomes newest signatory of Ship Recycling Transparency Initiative.

Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI). 24 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.ssi2040.org/news/press-release-altera-infrastructure-becomes-newest-signatory-of-ship-recycling-transparency-initiative/> Formerly part of the Teekay group of companies, Altera becomes the tenth shipowner to publicly disclose its approach to ship recycling, bringing the number of SRTI signatories to 24.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

Shipping lines can expect two months of delay on newbuilds. Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*.

5 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/article11987744.ece>

Shipping lines can expect delays of two months on newbuild vessels due to the coronavirus outbreak, which has halted production at shipyards in China, Japan and South Korea.

ABB and DNV GL make history with first vessel cybersecurity verification. *ABB*. 5 March 2020.

Available from: <https://new.abb.com/news/detail/58018/abb-and-dnv-gl-make-history-with-first-vessel-cybersecurity-verification> In a milestone for the marine industry, ABB's solutions on board a large passenger ship have been awarded cybersecurity verification from classification society DNV GL.

Want Electric Ships? Build a Better Battery. Daniel Oberhaus. *WIRED*. 19 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.wired.com/story/want-electric-ships-build-a-better-battery/> Later this year, the world's largest all-electric container ship is expected to take its maiden voyage, setting sail from a port in Norway and traveling down the Scandinavian coast.

SHIPPING

Virus Disrupts China's Shipping, and World Ports Feel the Impact. Keith Bradsher and

Niraj Chokshi. *New York Times*. 27 February 2020. Available from:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/27/business/economy/china-coronavirus-shipping-ports.html>

Some docks in China are clogged with arriving shipping containers or iron ore.

Shipping sector faces new fuel era. Scott Neil. *Royal Gazette (Bermuda)*. 28 February 2020.

Available from: <http://www.royalgazette.com/business/article/20200228/shipping-sector-faces-new-fuel-era> Saturday is the last day that ship operators can carry heavy fuel oil in the engine tanks of ships not fitted with scrubbers, without falling foul of international regulations.

Russian Arctic shipping up 430 percent in three years. Atle Staalesen. *Independent Barents Observer (Norway)*. 28 February 2020. Available from: <https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/industry-and-energy/2020/02/russian-arctic-shipping-430-percent-three-years> The goods volumes delivered to and from ports on the Arctic shipping route has never been close to the current level.

The Lloyd's List Podcast: Qatar brings a fresh perspective for the Gulf. *Lloyd's List*. 28 February 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131317/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Qatar-brings-a-fresh-perspective-for-the-Gulf> © Qatar's Hamad port with its next-generation terminals and free zone form the foundation of a maritime cluster that draws on best practice elsewhere.

Ammonia could emerge as best future fuel candidate. Nicklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/regulation/article11965354.ece> Ammonia is currently the best candidate among future eco-friendly ship fuels, shipping researcher Tristan Smith tells ShippingWatch.

S. Korea expands support for maritime firms as woes over coronavirus escalate. Kang Yoon-seung. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20200302002200320?section=search> South Korea said Monday it has decided to take additional steps to support local shipping firms and passenger ferry operators amid growing concerns over economic fallout from the global spread of the new coronavirus.

Wärtsilä and partners to pursue greater fuel efficiency in major EU-funded project. *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/02-03-2020-wartsila-and-partners-to-pursue-greater-fuel-efficiency-in-major-eu-funded-project-2652626> The technology group Wärtsilä, together with a consortium of six other industry and academic partners, has been awarded EU funding for a major project aimed at reducing fuel consumption and lowering emission levels for shipping.

Feature: What IP Week Told Us About the Bunker Industry. Jack Jordan. *Ship & Bunker*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/190065-feature-what-ip-week-told-us-about-the-bunker-industry> The IP Week events at the start of IMO 2020 were supposed to take on a celebratory tone for the bunker industry.

Record numbers of blanked sailings lead to severe container equipment imbalance. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/record-numbers-of-blanked-sailings-lead-to-severe-container-equipment-imbalance/> The container shipping industry is facing up to acute shortages of boxes at ports in Europe and North America, a situation that could worsen in the coming weeks.

“Can your idea change the future of shipping for the better?”. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/can-your-idea-change-future-shipping-better/> The UK Chamber of Shipping has launched a competition to find new ideas that could help make the shipping industry greener, cleaner, more sustainable and get to net zero Shipping by 2050.

Maritime SheEO will help remove glass ceiling in shipping industry: Sanjam Sahi Gupta.

Hellenic Shipping News. 3 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/maritime-sheeo-will-help-remove-glass-ceiling-in-shipping-industry-sanjam-sahi-gupta/>

In an industry where women in leadership roles are an exception rather than the norm — Harjeet Kaur Joshi, the current Chairperson and Managing Director of Shipping Corporation, is a prime example — Gupta has been at the forefront of driving gender equality and diversity in shipping.

Women stepping up as stereotypes break down in maritime world. Llewellyn Bankes-Hughes.

Professional Mariner. 3 March 2020. Available from:

<http://www.professionalmariner.com/March-2020/Women-stepping-up-as-stereotypes-break-down-in-maritime-world/>

At the most recent bunker training course run by Petrosport in Oxford, England, two-thirds of the attendees were female.

Small island states want part of shipping's new CO2 fund. Katrine Grønvald Raun.

ShippingWatch. 3 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/secure/regulation/article11980426.ece>

The Solomon Islands and Tonga want to ensure that small island states can share in a future shipping fund meant to raise billions of US dollars in order to develop the fuel of the future.

Maritime's journey to zero-carbon. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 4 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/maritimes-journey-zero-carbon>

More than any other sector, transport is under pressure to boost efficiency and cut emissions.

ANALYSIS: IMO Fuel Reports Show VLSFO Shortage Blackspots. Jack Jordan. *Ship & Bunker*.

4 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/995992-analysis-imo-fuel-reports-show-vlsfo-shortage-blackspots>

Reports on fuel shortages submitted to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) appear to suggest Brazil is emerging as one of the less reliable countries for very low sulfur fuel oil (VLSFO) availability.

ICS: Shipping sector losing millions due to Covid-19. Genivi Factao. *Manila Times*.

4 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/04/business/maritime-business/ics-shipping-sector-losing-millions-due-to-covid-19/699969/>

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) said the global shipping industry was losing revenues and warned that worse things were expected if the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) outbreak continues.

Corona outbreak gave Norden CEO flashbacks to the SARS era. Katrine Grønvald Raun.

ShippingWatch. 4 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Bulk/article11984391.ece>

When Jan Rindbo heard about the outbreak of coronavirus in the Chinese city of Wuhan shortly after New Year's Eve, he was transported roughly 17 years back in time.

South Korea faces 'unprecedented' supply chain chaos from spread of coronavirus.

Jason Jiang. *TradeWinds*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/south-korea-faces-unprecedented-supply-chain-chaos-from-spread-of-coronavirus/>

The escalation of the coronavirus in South Korea has caused major burdens on many industries in the country, including manufacturing, shipping, ports and shipyards.

Short-term effects of the coronavirus outbreak: what does the shipping data say?

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). 4 March 2020. Available from:

<https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2296>

Shipping data, based on real-time observations of vessel positions (AIS) and information about the cargoes aboard those ships, already shows a change in the operational behaviour of container vessels and in the amount of oil products on the water.

IMO 2020: lubricants take centre stage in a sulphur-constrained era. Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 4 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/imo-2020-lubricants-take-centre-stage-in-a-sulphur-constrained-era> The entry into force of the Global Sulphur Cap on January 1st catalysed a monumental shift in the types of fuel bunkered by the international shipping fleet.

EU resurrects moves to pull shipping into its ETS plans. Justin Stares. *TradeWinds*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/eu-resurrects-moves-to-pull-shipping-into-its-ets-plans/2-1-766979> Accelerated plans to fold shipping into the European Union's existing emissions trading scheme are set to be revealed before the Brussels summer recess.

Coronavirus creates costly disruption for Russia-China maritime trade. Vladislav Vorotnikov. *Safety at Sea*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/coronavirus-creates-costly-disruption-for-russia-china-maritime-trade/> Russia is losing RUB1 billion (USD18 million) per day because of disruptions in trade caused by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), according to the Russian Federal Customs Service.

COVID-19: Coronavirus Outbreak – Impact on Shipping Update. *North P&I Club*. 5 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nepia.com/industry-news/coronavirus-outbreak-impact-on-shipping/> In response to the 2019-nCoV novel coronavirus outbreak, a number of countries, ports and organisations are publishing details of the measures being put in place.

The missing piece of the puzzle: savvy owners get proactive on biofouling. Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/the-missing-piece-of-the-puzzle-savvy-owners-get-proactive-on-biofouling> Nowadays a new generation of owners are building ships tailored to both their exact operational needs and environmental performance ambitions.

Cruise coatings: maximising efficiency and cutting CO2 emissions. Rebecca Moore. *Passenger Ship Technology*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2Vg7mC7> The cruise industry's awareness of the importance of underwater hull coatings to boost fuel savings has grown, according to Jotun Marine Coatings cruise concept director Jorunn Sætnøe.

Italian shipping hit hard by virus outbreak. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/secure/carriers/Container/article11988048.ece> According to the country's maritime cluster in the form of organization Assarmatori, there has recently been a large reduction of activity at Italian ports.

U.S. retailers face \$700 million hit as virus disrupts ocean shipping. Jonathan Saul and Lisa Baertlein. *Reuters*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2XeYol6> U.S. retailers face an estimated \$700 million sales hit from the coronavirus and some shipping lines are sending vessels to retrieve empty cargo containers from Los Angeles to prevent further supply disruptions.

The Lloyd's List Podcast: How is shipping coping with coronavirus? *Lloyd's List*. 6 March 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131399/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-How-is-shipping-coping-with-coronavirus> The impact of coronavirus continues to ripple through the shipping industry and the wider global supply chain, so to help make sense of the increasingly complex picture we have once again sought a diverse range of industry insight for this week's edition.

Statement from WISTA on International Women's Day 2020. *Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA)*. 7 March 2020. Available from:

<https://wistainternational.com/news/statement-from-wista-on-international-womens-day-2020/>

WISTA wishes to thank all our members and supporters around the world.

2020: Optimism for Transformation in Maritime Sector. Kunle Aderinokun. *This Day (Nigeria)*.

8 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2020/03/08/2020-optimism-for-transformation-in-maritime-sector-2/> For 2020, perhaps the key word on the minds of many stakeholders is optimism for the best to come in the country's maritime industry.

Big Careers! Big Opportunities! Maritime UK celebrates International Women's Day by launching new resource for schools and industry ambassadors. *Maritime UK*. 8 March 2020.

Available from: <https://bit.ly/2UJXipT> Maritime UK, the industry body for the maritime sector, and its Women in Maritime Taskforce will be celebrating International Women's Day by launching its new resource for schools and industry ambassadors.

We are all seafarers: International Women's Day reflections from a female captain and engineer at sea. *Marlins*. 8 March 2020. Available from: <https://marlins.co.uk/we-are-all-called-seafarers-international-womens-day-reflections-from-a-female-captain-and-engineer-at-sea/>

Happy International Women's Day to all seafarers, clients and colleagues worldwide.

Playing your part. Davide Ippolito. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 9 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/playing-your-part> The debate continues between shipowners and operators worldwide as how best to operate efficiently with several factors impacting operations.

Cautious sails: Coronavirus (Covid-19) measures and impact on the cruise industry.

Vasanthi Vara. *Ship-technology.com*. 9 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2USOaeJ> Large number of people in confined spaces on cruise ships make onboard tourists prone to infectious diseases such as the coronavirus.

Greeks in full precaution mode amid coronavirus fears. Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*.

10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/news/greeks-in-full-precaution-mode-amid-coronavirus-fears/2-1-770349> News that Greek owner Evangelos Marinakis contracted the coronavirus is likely to concentrate minds at major shipping offices in Athens and Piraeus, where management and staff have been busy drawing up and implementing contingency plans to deal with the outbreak.

Shipping "Sweats" as Coronavirus "Fever" Spreads Globally. Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 10 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shipping-sweats-as-coronavirus-fever-spreads-globally/> Havoc is what best describes the effect of the Coronavirus to the world's trade, economy and of course the shipping industry.

Q&A: Lloyd's Register on how ammonia can be the ideal renewable marine fuel.

Varsha Saraogi. *Ship-technology.com*. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/ammonia-powered-ships/> The International Maritime Organization has set a goal to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, as the sector accounts for more than 2% of global emissions.

Coronavirus and the impact on the cruise industry. Marie-Anne Moussalli and Ioanna Tsekoura. *Clyde & Co LLP*. 10 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-the-cruise-industry>

The cruise industry is the fastest growing sector of the travel industry, with an increase in demand of 20.5% in the past five years.

Cruise sector could see coronavirus 'doomsday'. Michael Juliano. *TradeWinds*. 10 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/cruise-sector-could-see-coronavirus-doomsday/2-1-770861> Growing fears around the global coronavirus outbreak could spell eventual "doomsday" for the embattled cruise sector, according to analysts.

Breakingviews - Virus storm will challenge cruise liners' buoyancy. Christopher Thompson.

Reuters. 10 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2UJxCpw> A virus-shaped squall is threatening to capsize Carnival, the world's biggest cruise company.

St. Kitts Registry Sponsors Female Cadet to Attend WISTA Conference. *Maritime Executive*.

11 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/corporate/st-kitts-registry-sponsors-female-cadet-to-attend-wista-conference> The St Kitts and Nevis International Ship Registry (SKANReg) has underlined its commitment to the need for greater gender diversity in the shipping industry by sponsoring a female cadet to attend this year's WISTA AGM and International Conference in Hamburg.

All-female bridge team sets sail on International Women's Day. *Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)*. 11 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/item/5478-all-female-bridge-and-leadership-team-sets-sail-to-commemorate-international-women-s-day> An all-female bridge and onboard leadership team set sail from Florida this week aboard a 300m cruise ship to commemorate International Women's Day.

The best man for the job; why the shipping industry so often misses the point of diversity.

Nick Chubb. *Splash 247.com*. 12 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/the-best-man-for-the-job-why-the-shipping-industry-so-often-misses-the-point-of-diversity/> In 2008 fans watched with bated breath as the world's fastest runners lined up to compete in the 100 m sprint final at the Beijing Olympics.

ICS overview of the impact of COVID-19 on the shipping industry and summary of containment and mitigation measures. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 12 March 2020.

Available from: <https://bit.ly/2V3SRkV> On 4 March 2020, ICS received a letter from the European Commission Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE), seeking input about specific measures adopted by the maritime transport sector to monitor, contain and mitigate the effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

How to decarbonize shipping without spending billions. Wajiha Khalid and Sheikh Ahsan Ullah Tariq. *World Economic Forum*. 13 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/decarbonizing-shipping-without-spending-billions/> What seems like a simple car purchase order involves a complex chain of warehousing, shipping agents, ocean carriers and customs clearance in order to make the entire process run smoothly and ensure your car arrives on your doorstep in a few days' time.

Handwringing cannot lead to sitting on our hands in drive to decarbonise. Jamey Bergman. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/handwringing-cannot-lead-to-sitting-on-our-hands-in-drive-to-decarbonise-58518> A University College London Energy Institute-led event posed the knotty question to panellists representing trade associations and an environmental non-governmental organisation to gather insight and help propel the decarbonisation dialogue forward.

New Strategic Plan published as Chamber confirms John Denholm as new President. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 13 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/new-strategic-plan-published-chamber-confirms-john-denholm-new-president/> The UK Chamber of Shipping has launched its new Strategic Plan for the next five years on the day John Denholm took over from Sir Michael Bibby as Chamber President.

Coronavirus: Royal Caribbean pauses operations globally, major cruise lines suspend US ships. Curtis Tate and Bryan Alexander. *USA Today*. 14 March 2020. Available from: <https://eu.usatoday.com/story/travel/2020/03/13/coronavirus-concerns-cruise-cancellations-port-closures/5037173002/> Royal Caribbean will suspend operations globally as of midnight Saturday amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Shipping Deputy Ministry leads innovation in Cypriot maritime sector. Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 16 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39M1Xbj> Shipping in Cyprus is a mixture of famous local name companies, global shipmanagers and government initiatives.

Maersk cancels all crew changes for a month. Soren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12015213.ece> As a direct consequence of the efforts to contain the spread of coronavirus, Maersk has called off all crew changes on its ships for the next month.

Ships pushed to cut carbon emissions by at least 80%. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 17 March 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131516/Ships-pushed-to-cut-carbon-emissions-by-at-least-80> The progression of climate change and new relevant information that becomes available mean responses can change significantly down the years.

Coronavirus: the shipping sector needs urgent support. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/coronavirus-shipping-sector-needs-urgent-support/> What we do know is that shipping is going to play a major part in keeping Britain open for business during these very difficult moments.

Shippers act to defend against virus disruption. Duncan Hall. *Royal Gazette (Bermuda)*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.royalgazette.com/business/article/20200318/shippers-act-to-defend-against-virus-disruption> Shipping companies in Bermuda have taken special measures in a bid to keep their crews and ships free of the Covid-19 virus, and to ensure that the pipeline of food and other essential goods to the island remains open.

BIMCO revises 2020 forecast for main shipping markets. Peter Sand. *BIMCO*. 18 March 2020. Available from: https://www.bimco.org/news/market_analysis/2020/20200318_bimco_revises_2020_forecast The speed of the virus spread makes it difficult to assess the full consequences.

2020 Fuels: The New Normal. Bill Stamatopoulos. *Safety4Sea*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-2020-fuels-the-new-normal/> Before the implementation of IMO Sulphur Cap, there were two famous myth busters: firstly that cat fines will be a big problem for the VLSFOs and secondly that the 2018 fuel incidents related to HSFOs from Houston were a pre-warning for VLSFOs issues.

Shipping Australia reacts to Queensland coronavirus ban. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 18 March 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131562/Shipping-Australia-reacts-to-Queensland-Coronavirus-ban> The association linking Australia's shipping lines and maritime businesses has criticised a direction from Maritime Safety Queensland banning seafarers from stepping ashore less than 14 days after leaving an overseas port.

Coronavirus: Moody's downgrades outlook for shipping to negative due to COVID-19 pandemic. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/coronavirus-moodys-downgrades-outlook-for-shipping-to-negative-due-to-covid-19-pandemic/> In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and deteriorating global economic outlook, ratings agency Moody's has changed its forecast for the shipping industry to negative for the next 12-18 months from stable.

The shipping industry is not immune to a pandemic. Peter Sand. *BIMCO*. 19 March 2020. Available from: https://www.bimco.org/news/market_analysis/2020/20200319_shipping_industry_is_not_immune BIMCO expects that the strict containment measures imposed by governments around the world will result in substantially lower global economic growth and consequentially, lower demand for shipping.

How cruising's coronavirus crisis alters marine-fuel equation. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/how-cruisings-coronavirus-crisis-alters-marine-fuel-equation> Cruising is part of the hospitality industry — it's all about keeping guests happy. Commercial shipping is part of the global logistics sector — it's about moving cargo from A to B.

COVID-19: shipping and sea ports guidance. *UK Government*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-shipping-and-sea-ports-guidance> This information will assist ships (including cargo vessels, ferries and cruise ships) and sea ports in providing advice to staff on addressing coronavirus (COVID-19), on ships and in sea ports. [Guidance for shipping and sea ports on coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

IN THE KNOW Podcast 14: The Impact of COVID-19 on Global Shipping. *Maritime Executive*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/podcast/in-the-know-podcast-14-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-global-shipping> The outbreak and the public health response have had a serious impact on every sector of the maritime industry: global cruise lines have halted operations, container carriers have had to blank dozens of sailings, and offshore operators are looking at a severe downturn in the oil market.

Carnival offering local governments ships as floating hospitals. Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/carnival-offering-local-governments-ships-as-floating-hospitals/2-1-777823> The Miami-based, New York-traded cruise line said on Thursday that if the Covid-19 pandemic leads to a hospital bed shortage, "governments and health authorities" could use certain Carnival vessels for non-coronavirus patients.

MSC statement on MSC JOANNA fuel carriage UAE. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 19 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/msc-statement-on-msc-joanna-fuel-carriage-uae/> In relation to the 16 March 2020 Circular from the Federal Transport Authority (FTA) in the United Arab Emirates, MSC is discussing the matter with the FTA and would like to provide the following context to our customers and partners.

Maersk Suspends 2020 Earnings Guidance on Coronavirus Pandemic. *Ship & Bunker*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/251783-maersk-suspends-2020-earnings-guidance-on-coronavirus-pandemic> Container shipping giant Maersk will suspend full-year earnings guidance because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on freight markets, the company said Friday.

Unions slam Stena Line for calling off sick pay amid coronavirus crisis. Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/unions-slam-stena-line-for-calling-off-sick-pay-amid-coronavirus-crisis/2-1-777848> Stena Line has come under attack after suspending its sick-pay policy during the coronavirus pandemic.

Asia's maritime trade torpedoed. Nehginpao Kipgen and Ankit Malhotra. *Bangkok Post*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/1882665/asias-maritime-trade-torpedoed> The declaration of Coronavirus (Covid-19) as a global pandemic by the World Health Organisation has prompted China to issue a record number of force majeure certificates in an attempt to exempt local exporters from fulfilling contracts with overseas buyers.

Coronavirus Panic Causes More Crude Losses as Analysts Readjust Downward Demand Forecasts. *Ship & Bunker*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/am/405808-coronavirus-panic-causes-more-crude-losses-as-analysts-readjust-downward-demand-forecasts> About the only good thing that can be said about Friday's crude trading in the face of the spreading coronavirus is that had not the two major benchmarks enjoyed the single best day on record in the previous session, the performance would have been all the more devastating for industry.

Directorate General of Shipping lays down rules to combat coronavirus. Aditi Divekar. *Hindu BusinessLine (India)*. 21 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2XmAnyB> At a time when the world is readying to take the necessary precautions to fight the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, the Directorate General of Shipping has come out with rules to ensure that trade goes on amid the coronavirus scare.

Shipping industry in choppy waters as coronavirus evokes 2016 slump and Hanjin bankruptcy. Ryan Swift. *South China Morning Post*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/business/companies/article/3076117/shipping-industry-choppy-waters-coronavirus-evokes-2016-slump> The shipping industry is expected to remain under pressure in 2020, as freight rates and profits in the container and dry bulk sectors slide, with the coronavirus outbreak pushing the global economy closer to a recession.

Don't leave the shipping industry high and dry. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 23 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/dont-leave-shipping-industry-high-and-dry/> At a time when the expertise of seafarers is needed more than ever, the Government must not stand idly by.

The triple shock of Coronavirus in shipping: will it last? *Hellenic Shipping News*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/the-triple-shock-of-coronavirus-in-shipping-will-it-last/> Transport capacity shortages, disruptions to supply chains and inability to plan since late January have been a dangerous combination. But will all 3 major problems last for shippers?

Joint call for the G20 to support the maritime sector and global supply chains.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2UVHdJW>
The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) have joined forces to call on G20 leaders to act quickly to protect global supply chains from the impact of COVID-19.

Decarbonisation in the aftermath of corona. Sofia Fürstenberg Stott. *ShipInsight*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/decarbonisation-in-the-aftermath-of-corona> Another virus has now reached our shores, and this time around, it is a virus in its true sense.

Major shipping companies see no need for layoffs. Mathias Blædel Lorenzen. *ShippingWatch*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12033693.ece> As such, major shipping lines like Maersk, Torm and Norden do not expect to fire employees, according to a survey conducted by ShippingWatch.

Decarbonizing Shipping: What role for flag states? Jan Hoffmann, Torbjörn Rydbergh and Alastair Stevenson. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2309> The International Maritime Organization (IMO) member states agreed in 2018 “to reduce the total annual GHG emissions by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008” as part of the “initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships”.

Ships’ emissions create measurable regional change in clouds *University of Washington (US)*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.washington.edu/news/2020/03/24/ships-emissions-create-measurable-regional-change-in-clouds/> A container ship leaves a trail of white clouds in its wake that can linger in the air for hours.

Joint industry statement on COVID-19: Transport keeps us going. *European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA)*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/joint-industry-statement-covid-19-transport-keeps-us-going> The transport sector has a crucial role to play in the supply of goods, in particular medicines, medical devices, food and other essential commodities needed to overcome this crisis.

Coronavirus: Let's keep ships moving, ports open and cross-border trade flowing. Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2311> As the world battles the coronavirus pandemic, the global maritime transport industry is playing a critical role in the response.

CSA 2020 executive director comments on bunker prices. *VPO Vessel Performance Optimization*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://vpoglobal.com/2020/03/24/csa-2020-executive-director-comments-on-bunker-prices/> Ian Adams, executive director of the Clean Shipping Alliance 2020 has released a statement on current bunker prices and the use of marine scrubbers, also known as exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS).

Shipowners seek sulfur cap deferment. Genivi Factao. *Manila Times*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/25/business/maritime-business/shipowners-see-sulfur-cap-deferment/705884/> Several ship owners sought for the temporary shelving of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)’s cap on the sulfur emission of ships, as the global shipping industry suffers from the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid- 19) outbreak.

March 25 updates: More lines extend suspension, Costa/MSC challenges, Alaska season delay, RMI supports seafarers. *SeaTrade Cruise News*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-cruise.com/news/march-25-updates-more-lines-extend-suspension-costamsc-challenges-alaska-season-delay-rmi> P&O Cruises Australia extended its voluntary pause in operations across Australia and New Zealand.

Coronavirus downturn will be worse than 2008, WTO says. Emma Farge. *Reuters*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-trade/coronavirus-downturn-will-be-worse-than-2008-wto-says-idUSKBN21C3B0> The World Trade Organization's chief said on Wednesday that projections show the economic downturn and job losses caused by the coronavirus pandemic would be worse than the 2008 recession.

Green LNG Seen as a Way to Meet IMO Emissions Targets, Study Shows. *gCaptain*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/green-lng-seen-as-a-way-to-meet-imo-emissions-targets-study-shows/> Bio-methane, produced from biomass, and synthetic methane made using renewable energy could emulate liquefied natural gas as a marine fuel, according to a study conducted by Dutch researcher CE Delft and commissioned by industry group SEA-LNG.

Availability and costs of liquefied bio- and synthetic methane *CE Delft*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.cedelft.eu/en/publications/2431/availability-and-costs-of-liquefied-bio-and-synthetic-methane> Currently, a small but growing number of ships are LNG-fuelled, owing mainly to stricter air pollution regulation for maritime shipping.
[Availability and costs of liquefied bio- and synthetic methane: The maritime perspective](#) 

Wärtsilä advances future fuel capabilities with first ammonia tests. *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/25-03-2020-wartsila-advances-future-fuel-capabilities-with-first-ammonia-tests-2669590> The research will help the company to prepare for the use of ammonia as a fuel that can contribute to reducing both the shipping's and energy sectors' greenhouse gas emissions.

Ocean container volumes are about to fall off a cliff. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/ocean-container-volumes-are-about-to-fall-off-a-cliff> The new market outlook of U.K.-based consultancy Maritime Strategies International (MSI) reads like a Stephen King novel geared toward container-line executives.

Wallenius Wilhelmsen lays off 2,500 employees temporarily. Christian Carlsen. *ShippingWatch*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12038237.ece> Norwegian car carrier Wallenius Wilhelmsen has temporarily dismissed more than half its production staff in the US and Mexico due to the corona crisis.

Lay-up and re-activation revisited. *Gard*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29419233/lay-up-and-re-activation-revisited> The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the maritime industry in previously unthinkable ways.

Wallem's Frank Coles on 'Reality' of Covid-19. *Ship Management International*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <http://shipmanagementinternational.com/wallems-frank-coles-on-reality-of-covid-19/> Our response to the epidemic [more than the virus itself] has the potential to permanently alter the balance of the global economy.

RESEARCH

Wilcox C, Hardesty BD, et al. **Abundance of Floating Plastic Particles Is Increasing in the Western North Atlantic Ocean.** *Environmental Science & Technology*. 18 November 2019. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.9b04812> Since the start of commercial plastics production in the 1940s, global production has rapidly accelerated, doubling approximately every 11 years.

Olivelli A, Hardesty D, et al. **Coastal margins and backshores represent a major sink for marine debris: insights from a continental-scale analysis.** *Environmental Research Letters*. 20 February 2020. Available from: <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ab7836> Marine debris represents a major threat for the environment and plastic production is increasing exponentially and causing an unprecedented growth of plastic pollution entering the marine environment.

Ranasinghe R, Mentaschi L, et al. **Sandy coastlines under threat of erosion.** *Nature Climate Change*. 2 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-020-0697-0> Sandy beaches occupy more than one-third of the global coastline and have high socioeconomic value related to recreation, tourism and ecosystem services.

Lelieveld J, Pozzer A, et al. **Loss of life expectancy from air pollution compared to other risk factors: a worldwide perspective.** *Cardiovascular Research*. 3 March 2020. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1093/cvr/cvaa025> Long-term exposure of humans to air pollution enhances the risk of cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.

Viana M, Rizza V, et al. **Estimated health impacts from maritime transport in the Mediterranean region and benefits from the use of cleaner fuels.** *Environment International*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S016041201934423X> Ship traffic emissions degrade air quality in coastal areas and contribute to climate impacts globally.

Diamond MS, Director HM, et al. **Substantial Cloud Brightening From Shipping in Subtropical Low Clouds.** *AGU Advances*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/2019AV000111> Commercial shipping constitutes a large and concentrated aerosol perturbation in a meteorological regime where clouds have a disproportionately large effect on climate.

O'Leary BC, Hoppit G, et al. **Options for managing human threats to high seas biodiversity.** *Ocean & Coastal Management*. 1 April 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S096456912030020X> Areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) constitute 61% of the world's oceans and are collectively managed by countries under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email with your contact details to:
maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org

About the cover

The CAB Cover is a photograph of the international memorial to the world's seafarers, past, present and future which graces the entrance to IMO Headquarters in London. The memorial, a seven-metre high, ten-tonne bronze representation of the bow of a cargo ship with a lone seafarer on the deck, is the work of internationally renowned British sculptor Michael Sandle.