



**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION**

**MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)**

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## About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

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

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

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

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

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## IMO NEWS & EVENTS

### WHAT'S NEW

#### **Seafarers and aircrew need priority COVID-19 vaccination**

##### **UN organizations issue joint call for seafarers and aircrew to be prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination.**

The heads of five UN organizations have called for maritime and air transport workers to be prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination, given their key role in supporting global trade and mobility, which is essential for a sustainable socio-economic recovery. Maritime and air transport rely on seafarers and aircrew. They are key workers, required to travel across borders, which may – though contrary to WHO recommendations – result in the need for them to present proof of a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition for entry in some countries. [More...](#)

#### **COVID-19 crew change crisis still a challenge - IMO Secretary-General**

##### **Crew change crisis is far from over and issues around vaccination need to be resolved.**

The crew change crisis caused by COVID-19 restrictions continues to cause challenges, despite some improvement in the numbers, the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has warned.

In a statement, Secretary-General Kitack Lim said that based on [industry analysis](#), the numbers of seafarers requiring repatriation after finishing their contracts had declined - from a high of around 400,000 in September 2020 - to around 200,000 as of March 2021, with a similar number waiting to join ships. However, this number could rise again. But the crew change crisis is far from over. Importantly, issues around vaccination need to be resolved. [More...](#)

#### **Calling for a Fair Future for Seafarers**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, seafarers have faced difficult working conditions including uncertainties about port access, re-supply, crew changeovers and repatriation. Seafarers' rights to be treated fairly remain at the forefront of IMO's work.

The 2021 Day of the Seafarer campaign is calling for a fair future for seafarers.

The campaign will discuss issues that will still be relevant to seafarers after the pandemic, such as fair treatment of seafarers, fair working conditions, fair training, fair safety, etc. [More...](#)

#### **Gender equality and leadership in a COVID-19 maritime world**

##### **IMO celebrates role of women in maritime on International Women's Day 2021 and highlights pathways to a more inclusive future.**

The International Maritime Organization welcomes this year's United Nations theme for [International Women's Day](#) 2021 of "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world."

This important message aligns with the various activities undertaken by IMO over the years to make the maritime sector more gender inclusive and to enhance the contribution of women as key maritime stakeholders. [More...](#)

**Programme of Meetings for 2021 (issued 8 December 2020) can be downloaded [here](#)**

**Previous Meetings (REMOTE)**

Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW 7) – 15-19 February

Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 8) – 22-26 March

IOPC Funds – 29 March – 1 April

**Forthcoming Meetings (REMOTE)**

IMO Council (Extraordinary Session 33) – 8 April

Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR 8) – 19-23 April

**LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS**

[Digital ship clearance project seeks pilot port](#)

17 March 2021

[GreenVoyage2050: States accelerate action to decarbonize shipping](#)

5 March 2021

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

[9th International Maritime Conference - Development of Blue Economy under a Secure and Sustainable Environment](#), Pakistan, 13–15 February 2021

**IMO NEWS MAGAZINE**     [\(Autumn/Winter 2020\)](#)

**IMO PUBLISHING**     [Just Published 2021](#)

## **UNITED NATIONS**

**Key workers in 145 countries to receive COVID vaccines under UN-backed initiative.** *UN News.* 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1083722> The aim of Wednesday's announcement by the World Health Organization and partners, is to help Governments to prepare their vaccine distribution programmes, by providing details about which vaccine they can expect to receive, between now and the end of June.

**2021 a 'crucial year' for climate change, UN chief tells Member States.** *UN News.* 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1084132> António Guterres was speaking to Member States meeting as part of the preparations towards the latest annual UN climate conference, known as COP26, which will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, in November.

**UN Environment Assembly concludes with an urgent call for action to solve planetary emergencies.** *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).* 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/un-environment-assembly-concludes-urgent-call-action-solve-planetary> Ministers of environment and other leaders from more than 150 nations today concluded a two-day online meeting of the Fifth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5) in which the Assembly warned that the world risks new pandemics if we don't change how we safeguard nature.

## CASUALTIES

**Crew of Filipino sailors recovering in Halifax after member killed, 3 injured.** *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/filipino-sailors-recovering-halifax-1.5896613> A crew of Filipino sailors was recovering in Halifax on Monday, after a harrowing weekend at sea left one member dead and three others injured.

**MSC latest liner to suffer box spill in the Pacific.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/msc-latest-liner-to-suffer-box-spill-in-the-pacific/> Cargo claims specialist WK Webster has details of yet another box spill in the north Pacific – the fifth reported lost overboard incident in less than two months.

**Seafarers killed in separate incidents during storms.** Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd's List*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135659/Seafarers-killed-in-separate-incidents-during-storms> At least five seafarers have perished in two separate incidents over the past few weeks. Both incidents were related to rough weather.

**Japan submarine collides with commercial ship off Shikoku, 3 injured.** *Kyodo News (Japan)*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/02/c6d195c63371-breaking-news-japan-submarine-collides-with-private-vessel-off-kochi-govt.html> A Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force submarine collided Monday with a commercial vessel in the Pacific Ocean off the western main island of Shikoku, with three crew members on the submarine slightly injured but no major damage reported, government officials said.

**Seafarers avoid jail as MSC continues to probe Venice cruiseship crash.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/seafarers-avoid-jail-as-msc-continues-to-probe-venice-cruiseship-crash/2-1-961455> A master and four other seafarers have avoided jail in Italy after their MSC Cruises vessel smashed into a dock and a river cruiseship in Venice in 2019.

**A black day for Pembrokeshire - Sea Empress oil disaster recalled 25 years on.** Paul Evans. *Tenby Observer (UK)*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tenby-today.co.uk/article.cfm?id=130527> Twenty-five-years-ago, Pembrokeshire was at the heart of one of the worst environmental disasters to hit Britain's coastline.

**Findings from investigation into cargo ship collision worries Southern Gulf Islands residents.** Chad Pawson. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 14 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/findings-from-investigation-into-cargo-ship-collision-worries-southern-gulf-islands-residents-1.5912900> Findings from an investigation into how two bulk carrier vessels collided in the waters of the Southern Gulf Islands highlight the dangers of having cargo vessels anchor in the area, say local groups.

**DRC: Dozens killed, hundreds missing in Congo River boat disaster.** Alain Uaykani. *Al Jazeera*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/2/15/scores-killed-in-dr-congo-boat-accident> At least 60 people have died and hundreds are missing after a boat capsized in the Congo River in western Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), according to a government official.

**The Sea Empress: 25 years on since one of the biggest environmental disasters in the UK.** Jess Main. *ITV News*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itv.com/news/wales/2021-02-15/the-sea-empress-25-years-on-since-one-of-the-biggest-environmental-disasters-in-the-uk> Just after 8pm on 15 February 1996, an oil tanker called *Sea Empress* ran aground off the coast of Pembrokeshire.

**Wakashio captain takes aim at his chief officer.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*.

17 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/wakashio-captain-takes-aim-at-his-chief-officer/> There's a clear spat developing at a court in Mauritius between the captain of the *Wakashio* bulk carrier and his chief officer.

**Another Maersk ship loses hundreds of boxes overboard in the Pacific.** Sam Chambers.

*Splash 247.com*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/another-maersk-ship-loses-hundreds-of-boxes-overboard-in-the-pacific/> The 13,100 teu *Maersk Eindhoven* became the latest boxship casualty on the Pacific yesterday, suffering a blackout while en route to California and a subsequent loss of hundreds of containers overboard.

**Wakashio master: 'I was under the influence of alcohol'.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*.

19 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/wakashio-master-i-was-under-the-influence-of-alcohol/> Further bombshells have been unearthed in the ongoing court proceedings looking into the *Wakashio* grounding off Mauritius.

**Maersk Eindhoven Cargo Loss: Engine Oil Pressure Triggered Loss of Propulsion.**

Mike Schuler. *gCaptain*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/maersk-eindhoven-cargo-loss-engine-oil-pressure-triggered-loss-of-propulsion/> Maersk says a loss of propulsion led to some 260 containers falling overboard from the *Maersk Eindhoven* in severe weather off the coast of Japan this week.

**Maersk Eindhoven-103N encounters harsh weather Transpacific 6 service.** *Maersk*.

22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2021/02/18/maersk-eindhoven-103n-encounters-harsh-weather-transpacific-6-service> The *Maersk Eindhoven* is currently in Japanese waters, awaiting clearance by Japanese authorities for transit into APM Terminals Yokohama, Japan container terminal on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**CSSC Cape Town Explosion.** *Gibraltar Port Authority*. 20 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.gibraltarport.com/node/967> The Gibraltar Port Authority is now able to provide the following additional information in relation to the incident involving the CSSC CAPE TOWN.

**Two CSSC Cape Town crew members taken to Seville hospital with 40% and 25% burns following explosion.** *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 20 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.gbc.gi/news/two-cssc-cape-town-crew-members-taken-seville-hospital-40-and-25-burns-following-explosion> Two crew members aboard the CSSC Cape Town have been taken to Seville hospital burns unit suffering from 40% and 25% burns following an explosion aboard the vessel on Friday night.

**Two seafarers remain critical as repairs to damaged cargo ship are completed.** Priya Gulraj.

*Gibraltar Chronicle*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.chronicle.gi/two-seafarers-remain-critical-as-repairs-to-damaged-cargo-ship-are-completed/> Repairs to the Hong Kong-flagged cargo ship damaged by an explosion on Friday night are now completed, the Gibraltar Government confirmed on Monday, as two seafarers injured in the blast remained in critical condition in Seville.

**Another death reported as two more crews hit by mass poisonings.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/news/another-death-reported-as-two-more-crews-hit-by-mass-poisonings/2-1-967675> Two more cargo vessels have been hit by mass poisoning events, following a fatal incident on a Precious Shipping bulker earlier in February.

**Stolt tanker remains in hot water in Korea.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 25 February 2021.

Available from: <https://splash247.com/stolt-tanker-remains-in-hot-water-in-korea/> Seventeen months on from a very high profile explosion in the southeast of South Korea and the ship in question remains the source of much conjecture, still unable to leave the Asian nation.




**Damage being assessed after fire on Torm tanker in France.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/damage-being-assessed-after-fire-on-torm-tanker-in-france/2-1-970034> No injuries or pollution have been reported after a fire hit a Torm tanker in France.

## ENVIRONMENT


**Why the UN Decade of Ocean Science is for all of us.** *Marine Professional (IMarEST)*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/interactions/item/5954-why-the-un-decade-of-science-is-for-all-of-us> We ask IMarEST Ambassador for the UN Decade of Ocean Science, Professor Stephen de Mora, how IMarEST is getting involved – and what you can do.


**2021 Ocean report launch affirms value of the Blue economy - OPOC.** *Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC)*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://opocbluepacific.net/2021-ocean-report-launch-affirms-value-of-the-blue-economy/> The Pacific's leadership on sustainable management of the world's biggest ocean continues with a suite of Ocean reports launched in Suva this week. [Blue Pacific Ocean Report 2021](#) 


**New NOAA ship to explore, study the oceans.** Nick Austin. *Freight Waves*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/new-noaa-ship-to-explore-study-the-oceans>  Newport, Rhode Island, has been chosen as the future homeport for a new National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research vessel being built for the agency.

**Edging Away From Ocean Disaster.** Peter Thomson. *Maritime Executive*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/edging-away-from-ocean-disaster> Peter Thomson, the United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy for the Ocean and Nor-Shipping's latest Ocean Action Hero, has an idea for a new Netflix series.

**New UNEP synthesis provides blueprint to urgently solve planetary emergencies and secure humanity's future.** *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/new-unep-synthesis-provides-blueprint-urgently-solve-planetary>  The world can transform its relationship with nature and tackle the climate, biodiversity and pollution crises together to secure a sustainable future and prevent future pandemics, according to a new report by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) that offers a comprehensive blueprint for addressing our triple planetary emergency. [Making peace with nature](#)

**Deep Seabed Mining Must Benefit All Humankind.** *Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (Germany)*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.iass-potsdam.de/en/news/deep-seabed-mining-must-benefit-all-humankind> As investors set their sights on the mineral resources of the deep seabed, the International Seabed Authority is developing regulations that will govern their future exploration and possible exploitation. [A Comprehensive Approach to the Payment Mechanism for Deep Seabed Mining](#) 


**A 10-step plan to save our seas.** Douglas McCauley. *World Economic Forum*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/02/a-10-step-plan-to-save-our-oceans/>  2050 is predicted to be a bleak milestone for the oceans - but it's not too late to avert disaster.

**Fin, blue whales getting tangled in fishing gear in Gulf of St. Lawrence more often than thought: study.** Paul Withers. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/drones-gear-entanglement-blue-fin-whales-1.5920713>  Between 41 and 57 per cent of fin whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence are getting entangled in fishing gear, a problem previously identified mainly in right whales and humpbacks, according to new research that relied on drones.



## ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

**Why ocean pollution is a clear danger to human health.** Jacqueline McGlade and Philip Landrigan. *The Conversation*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/why-ocean-pollution-is-a-clear-danger-to-human-health-152641> Ocean pollution is widespread, worsening, and poses a clear and present danger to human health and wellbeing.

**Canada's shipping laws weaker than neighbouring jurisdictions, leading to massive pollution dumping.** *Stand.earth*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.stand.earth/latest/protect-arctic/canadian-shipping/canada%E2%80%99s-shipping-laws-weaker-neighbouring-jurisdictions> From California to Alaska, coastal jurisdictions are leading the way protecting Pacific waterways from cruise ship pollution—except Canada, where cruise ships annually dump more than 31 billion litres of ocean pollution. [Regulating the West Coast cruise industry: Canada at the low water mark](#) 

**Noise pollution is penetrating further into our oceans, endangering marine animals.** Nick Kilvert. *ABC (Australia)*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2021-02-05/marine-life-oceans-noise-pollution-environmental-impact/13109596> Human-generated noise pollution is increasingly dominating our oceans and drowning out marine life, with potentially negative consequences for our marine ecosystems.

**The devastation of the Mauritius oil spill is still unaddressed.** *Al Jazeera*. 6 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/2/6/we-must-make-sure-the-mauritius-oil-spill-does-not-repeat> Mauritius is known to most people as a popular holiday destination because of its gorgeous beaches, volcanic rocks, its fragile ecosystems of mangrove forests, coral atolls, underwater coral reefs, seagrass, and historic forts.

**Fossil fuel air pollution responsible for 1 in 5 deaths worldwide.** *University College London*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/news/2021/feb/fossil-fuel-air-pollution-responsible-1-5-deaths-worldwide> An estimated 1 in 5 deaths (18 to 21.5%) every year can be attributed to fossil fuel pollution, a figure much higher than previously thought, according to research co-authored by UCL.

**Failed valve on cargo ship causes oil spill in bay.** *Gibraltar Chronicle*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.chronicle.gi/failed-valve-on-cargo-ship-causes-oil-spill-in-bay/> A valve problem on a bulk carrier anchored in British waters in the Bay of Gibraltar caused an oil spill on Friday, some which drifted into the harbour basin.

**Clean-up underway as oil spill drifts into harbour.** Eyleen Gomez. *Gibraltar Chronicle*. 13 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.chronicle.gi/clean-up-underway-as-oil-spill-drifts-into-harbour/> A clean-up operation was under way inside the harbour on Saturday morning after an oil spill from a cargo ship drifted into the basin, threatening wildlife and boats inside marinas.

**Oil spill ship detained as clean-up continues.** *Gibraltar Chronicle*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.chronicle.gi/oil-spill-ship-detained-as-clean-up-continues/> The ship that caused an oil spill last Friday will be detained in Gibraltar waters until the Gibraltar Government can recover the costs of a clean-up operation over the bank holiday weekend.

**Vanuatu a lead partnering country in international project to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from ships.** *Daily Post (Vanuatu)*. 16 February 2021. Available from: [https://dailypost.vu/news/vanuatu-a-lead-partnering-country-in-international-project-to-prevent-and-reduce-marine-plastic-litter/article\\_22325600-6fe4-11eb-a23d-ff0c68c84c41.html](https://dailypost.vu/news/vanuatu-a-lead-partnering-country-in-international-project-to-prevent-and-reduce-marine-plastic-litter/article_22325600-6fe4-11eb-a23d-ff0c68c84c41.html) The International Maritime Organization (IMO), with the funding support of Norway, and in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization will implement a Global Programme entitled GloLitter Partnerships Project which aims to assist developing countries prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from the maritime transport and fisheries sectors.

**Graciosa Bay oil spill deliberately done, assessment revealed.** Sharon Nanau. *Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC)*. 16 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.sibconline.com.sb/graciosa-bay-oil-spill-deliberately-done-assessment-reveled/>

The Solomon Islands Maritime Authority revealed they have concrete evidence that the oil spill in Graciosa Bay in Temotu Province was committed deliberately.

**ArcelorMittal confirms bulker involved in Gibraltar spill.** Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*.

17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/arcelormittal-confirms-bulker-involved-in-gibraltar-spill/2-1-964202> ArcelorMittal Shipping has confirmed one of its ships was involved in a bunker spill in Gibraltar Bay.

**Most of the oil from weekend spill now collected.** Jonathan Sacramento. *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/most-oil-weekend-spill-now-collected>

Most of the oil from the weekend spill in the Bay has been cleaned up, with the Port and Environmental Agency now moving to clean up harbour walls and revetments.

**For whales, underwater noise is pollution too.** WWF. 19 February 2021. Available from:

<https://wwf.ca/stories/for-whales-underwater-noise-is-pollution-too/> Far from being the “silent world” of Jacques Cousteau’s famed documentary, the ocean actually abounds with natural sound.

**Israel’s beaches blackened by tar after offshore oil spill.** Ari Rabinovitch. *Reuters*.

21 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/31eNoLq> Israel is trying to find the ship responsible for an oil spill that drenched much of its Mediterranean shoreline with tar, an environmental blow that will take months or years to clean up, officials said.

**Mystery surrounds oil spill washing up on Israel and Lebanon’s shores.** Sam Chambers.

*Splash 247.com*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/mystery-surrounds-oil-spill-washing-up-on-israel-and-lebanons-shores/> The oil slick plaguing Israel’s shoreline has spread north, washing up on beaches across southern Lebanon.

**Protective ship coatings as an underestimated source of microplastic pollution.** *EurekAlert!*

23 February 2021. Available from: [https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2021-02/uoo-psc022321.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2021-02/uoo-psc022321.php) Shipping traffic can be a major source of tiny plastic particles floating in the sea, especially out in the open ocean.

**A Few Fixes Could Cut Noise Pollution That Hurts Ocean Animals.** Joseph Polidoro.

*Scientific American*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-few-fixes-could-cut-noise-pollution-that-hurts-ocean-animals/> Shipping noise and other sounds from human activity in oceans harm numerous marine species, according to a broad new assessment of existing research.

**Hidden pollution from shipping threatens sustainable ocean efforts.** *Phys.org*.

24 February 2021. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-hidden-pollution-shipping-threatens-sustainable.html> Ships are the polluting ‘elephants in the room’ nobody is talking about despite a global drive to make oceans cleaner, according to new research.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

**MSIB: COVID-19 Safety Requirements in the Maritime Transportation System.** Kurt Fredrickson. *US Coast Guard Maritime Commons*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2021/02/01/msib-covid-19-safety-requirements-in-the-maritime-transportation-system/> The Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy has published Marine Safety Information Bulletin 02-21 "COVID-19 Safety Requirements in the Maritime Transportation System" to provide information related to the requirement of all persons traveling on all commercial vessels to wear a mask.

**Blocked Ponant cruise ship cancels New Zealand season.** Thomas Bywater. *New Zealand Herald*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/travel/blocked-ponant-cruise-ship-cancels-new-zealand-season/GGR42FOJFVKJNQ46VF7NUO5O3U/> A French, luxury cruise liner stopped at the New Zealand border has cancelled its summer season.

**Unless COVID is suppressed everywhere, we'll be 'back at square one', Tedros warns.** *UN News*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1084002> The number of people who have received a COVID-19 vaccination now exceeds those reportedly infected, the head of the UN's health agency said on Friday, while warning that after inoculating their own health workers and older people, countries must share doses with others, to eradicate the deadly coronavirus.

**All Harbour Craft Crew Tested COVID-19 Negative in One-Time Sweep.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/9408dbd8-47a4-45bd-889f-74c22259745c> The harbour craft sector plays an important role in supporting operations in the Port of Singapore.

**Cyprus calls for global approach to seafarer vaccinations.** David Glass. *Seatrade Cruise News*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/cyprus-calls-global-approach-seafarer-vaccinations> With the need to class seafarers as key workers gaining support, Cyprus has gone one step further in suggesting the foundation of a feasible solution to inoculations.

**How high levels of sugar can impact seafarers' behaviour and productivity.** *Splash 247.com*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/how-high-levels-of-sugar-can-impact-seafarers-behaviour-and-productivity/> Poor nutrition is not about how much food is being consumed but more about what food we are putting into our bodies.

**Feeling at sea, sailors clutch on to helplines.** *Times of India*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/feeling-at-sea-sailors-clutch-on-to-helplines/articleshow/80799048.cms> A fortnight ago, Indian seaman Bhupendra reportedly died by suicide on a ship in the Middle Eastern waters because he was upset over not being able to go home despite completing a year on board.

**IOSH joins calls to better protect seafarers.** *Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://iosh.com/more/news-listing/seafarers-mental-health-iosh-calls/> Concerns have been raised about hundreds of thousands of seafarers – who have been "pivotal" in keeping trade flowing during the Covid-19 pandemic – being stranded at sea and unable to return home.

**Manning group seeks priority vaccination for seafarers.** Genevi Factao. *Manila Times*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/02/17/business/maritime-business/manning-group-seeks-priority-vaccination-for-seafarers/841735/> The country's manning agencies and seafarer groups have asked President Rodrigo Duterte to prioritize the seafarers in the administration's coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) vaccination program.

**COVID-19 vaccination ‘wildly uneven and unfair’: UN Secretary-General.** *UN News.*

17 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1084962> International partners working to achieve equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines appealed on Wednesday for the UN Security Council to ensure people caught in conflict have access to these lifesaving treatments.

**COVID-19: Government must prioritise vaccination of seafarers, dockworkers — STOAN.**

Godwin Oritse. *Vanguard (Nigeria)*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/02/covid-19-government-must-prioritise-vaccination-of-seafarers-dockworkers-stoan/> In order to keep international trade unhindered, the Federal Government has been urged to prioritise access to COVID-19 vaccination for Nigerian seafarers and dockworkers.

**Bangladesh crew test positive for Covid-19 at Imabari Shipbuilding.** Adam Corbett.

*TradeWinds*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/bangladesh-crew-test-positive-for-covid-19-at-imabari-shipbuilding/2-1-966219> A team of Bangladesh seafarers assigned to a newbuilding delivery from Imabari Shipbuilding has tested positive for Covid-19.

**Calls for vets to be sent to cattle ships stranded at sea since December.** Sophie Kevany.

*The Guardian*. 20 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/feb/20/calls-for-vets-to-be-sent-to-cattle-ships-stranded-at-sea-since-december-italy-cyprus> Thousands of cattle remain stranded at sea on two livestock ships that left Spain in mid-December, as campaigners desperately seek veterinary support for the animals.

**Maritime union petitions French government on Covid vaccine.** *Nautilus International.*

22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/maritime-union-petitions-french-government-on-covid-vaccine/> Union Fédérale Maritime (UFM), part of the French CFDT union and an affiliate of the Nautilus Federation, is calling on the French government to prioritise seafarers for Covid-19 vaccinations.

**Suicides at sea go uncounted as crew change crisis drags on.** Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*.

22 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135870/Suicides-at-sea-go-uncounted-as-crew-change-crisis-drags-on> The crew change crisis may well be increasing the numbers of seafarers taking their lives at sea.

**Vaccinating the world.** Thomas Stubler. *Splash 247.com*. 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://splash247.com/vaccinating-the-world/> The lucrative prospect of transporting Covid-19 vaccines by sea has intensified the spotlight on the maritime industry's cold supply chain and its ability to carry high-value pharmaceuticals.

**Cattle stranded at sea ‘face immediate slaughter’ if ship docks in Spain, says manager.**

Sophie Kevany. *The Guardian*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/feb/25/cattle-stranded-at-sea-face-slaughter-if-ship-docks-in-spain-says-manager> The manager of a ship that has spent months at sea with hundreds of cattle on board has accused Spanish officials of failing to answer his call for help and of threatening to kill all the livestock if the ship enters port.

**The Mission launches new WeCare e-learning modules for seafarers.** *Mission to Seafarers.*

25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/the-mission-to-seafarers-launches-new-e-learning-modules-for-seafarers> The goal of this ambitious new initiative was to address an issue at the very heart of seafarers' mental health and wellbeing: relationships and emotions. [WeCare Programme](#)



**Danica welcomes Russian seafarer vaccination.** *Danica Maritime Services.* 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.danica-maritime.com/2021/02/25/danica-welcomes-russian-seafarer-vaccination/> Russia, a major hub for seafarers, has now recognised seafarers as keyworkers and begun giving them Covid-19 vaccinations as a priority group – a move welcomed by Danica Crewing Services, a leading supplier Russian seafarers.

**How has seafarer wellbeing been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?** *Lloyd's Register.* February 2021. Available from: <https://info.lr.org/seafarer-wellbeing-survey-expert-voice-podcast> Our discussion is framed by the recent survey Lloyd's Register undertook with the UK Chamber of Shipping and the Mission to Seafarers that assessed the impact of COVID-19 on the maritime workforce.

## IMO

**CSA: Scrubbers played a crucial role in the smooth transition to IMO 2020.** *Clean Shipping Alliance 2020.* 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.cleanshippingalliance2020.org/latest-news/csa-scrubbers-played-crucial-role-smooth-transition-imo-2020> Commenting on the latest news release issued by the International Maritime Organization on the one-year anniversary of the IMO Low Sulphur Regulation (IMO2020) that came into effect on 1 January 2020, the Clean Shipping Alliance 2020 highlights the crucial role of the Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems in the smooth transition as noted by the IMO.

**Maersk pushes IMO to take lead on green regulations.** *Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd's List.* 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135738/Maersk-pushes-IMO-to-take-lead-on-green-regulations> Maersk has called on IMO to begin talks on market-based measures for shipping in 2021 as it considers accelerating its own decarbonisation strategy.

**IMO pays tribute to former communications chief.** *Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd's List.* 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135789/IMO-pays-tribute-to-former-communications-chief> The International Maritime Organization has paid tribute to Lee Adamson, its long-time head of public information services, who has died, aged 62.

**IMO's norms on cutting carbon in merchant ships likely from Oct 2022.** *Sameer C Mohindru. S&P Global Platts.* 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3fdA1TY> The draft amendments to the International Maritime Organization's mandatory rules on reducing carbon emissions in all ships globally, if adopted, are likely to be implemented from October next year and will be applicable to the world's entire commercial fleet, the IMO said Feb. 18.

## LAW & POLICY

**First BlueInvest fund agreements secure €45 million for the blue economy.** *European Commission.* 26 January 2021. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_222](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_222) The European Commission is partnering with the European Investment Fund, to announce €45 million of BlueInvest fund financing into 2 funds targeting the blue economy across Europe.

**Sea to plate: how the EU is stopping any fishy business in our oceans.** *Denis Loctier. Euronews.* 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2021/01/26/sea-to-plate-how-the-eu-is-stopping-fishy-business-in-our-fishing-industry> On a fine winter day in the Vigo estuary in Galicia, Spain, José Manuel Sotelo Durán, a local fisherman, will spend most of his time on a fishing boat with his coworkers.

**EU security, defence missions in Africa do not translate into ‘real political influence’, says minister.** Tiago Almeida. *EurActiv*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/defence-and-security/news/eu-security-defence-missions-in-africa-do-not-translate-into-real-political-influence-says-minister/> The financial efforts and missions of the EU’s Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in Africa do not translate into “real political influence”, Portugal’s defence minister, João Gomes Cravinho, argued on Thursday (28 January).


**Probe into seized vessels to continue for one more week.** *MEHR News Agency (Iran)*. 30 January 2021. Available from: <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/169231/Probe-into-seized-vessels-to-continue-for-one-more-week> The Indonesian Maritime Security Agency said on Friday that it will take seven more days to prove a series of alleged violations committed by two international oil tankers in the country’s waters.

**Nigeria set for major shift in economic competitiveness with Maritime Transport Policy – Minister.** *Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)*. 31 January 2021. Available from: <https://nimasa.gov.ng/nigeria-set-for-major-shift-in-economic-competitiveness-with-maritime-transport-policy-minister/> Minister of State for Transportation, Senator Gbemisola Saraki, says the National Maritime Transport Policy being developed by Nigeria would lead to improved Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow and enhance the ability of the Nigerian maritime sector to compete internationally.

**To End Illegal Fishing, Authorities Must Improve Transparency and Cooperation.** Dawn Borg Costanzi. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2021/02/02/to-end-illegal-fishing-authorities-must-improve-transparency-and-cooperation> Although the 2020 deadline has passed to end illegal fishing, which United Nations (UN) member governments agreed to in 2015 under Sustainable Development Goal 14, countries are making progress to stem this illicit activity.

**Libyan rebels seize another ship as exports come under threat again.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/libyan-rebels-seize-another-ship-as-exports-come-under-threat-again/2-1-954724> The rebel Libyan National Army has detained another cargoship that allegedly entered its no-sail zone.

**UfM Ministers commit to strengthen the blue economy sector and promote sustainable growth in the Mediterranean.** *Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://ufmsecretariat.org/news-ministerial-meeting-blue-economy-2021/> Ministers from the 42 Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) countries have agreed to intensify their efforts towards a sustainable blue economy in the Mediterranean. [UfM Ministerial declaration on Sustainable Blue Economy](#) 

**Will the *Wakashio* wreck improve Africa’s ability to respond to maritime disasters?** *Institute for Security Studies (ISS)*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://issafrica.org/events/will-the-wakashio-wreck-improve-africas-ability-to-respond-to-maritime-disasters>  The shipwreck of the *Wakashio* in July 2020 caused one of Mauritius’ worst environmental catastrophes.

**U.S. seeks to seize suspected Iranian oil aboard foreign tanker.** *Reuters*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3vSmCqI> The United States has filed a lawsuit to seize a cargo of oil it says came from Iran rather than Iraq, as stated on the bill of lading, and contravenes U.S. terrorism regulations.

**Complaint Seeks Forfeiture of Iranian Oil Aboard Tanker Based on Connection to Terror Group.** *US Department of Justice*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/complaint-seeks-forfeiture-iranian-oil-aboard-tanker-based-connection-terror-group> The United States filed a forfeiture complaint in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia alleging that all oil aboard a Liberian-flagged vessel, the *M/T Achilleas* is subject to forfeiture based on U.S. terrorism forfeiture laws.



**Government of Canada announces one-year ban for pleasure craft and cruise vessels.**

Government of Canada. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3fmDDTE> The Government of Canada continues to monitor the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it is having on the marine and tourism sectors.

**António Guterres calls for preparatory UN climate negotiations to be held online.**

Chloé Farand. *Climate Home News*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2021/02/08/antonio-guterres-calls-preparatory-un-climate-negotiations-held-online/> Critical negotiations to prepare for November's Cop26 climate summit will need to take place virtually as the coronavirus pandemic is still not allowing in-person meetings and further delay is not an option, according to UN chief António Guterres.

**Pacific Islands Forum in crisis as one-third of member nations quit.**

Bernadette Carreon and Ben Doherty. *The Guardian*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/feb/09/pacific-islands-forum-in-crisis-as-one-third-of-member-nations-quit> The Pacific Islands Forum – the Pacific's most influential regional body – is in disarray after nearly one-third of its member countries quit en masse.

**Government refuses to exclude seafarers from quarantine measures.**

*Nautilus International*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/government-refuses-to-exclude-seafarers-from-quarantine-measures/> From Monday 15 February all travellers entering England from 'red list' countries in the last 10 days will be required to quarantine in a hotel, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Matt Hancock said.

**U.S. sells illicit Iranian fuel, another seized cargo on the way.**

Timothy Gardner and Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3INdLkY> The United States has sold more than a million barrels of Iranian fuel seized under its sanctions program last year, a Department of Justice official said, as another ship with intercepted Iranian crude oil sails to a U.S. port.

**Investigation after 'stowaways' arrested from *Chise* Bulker ship at Portland Port.**

Ellie Maslin. *Dorset Echo (UK)*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/19080888.investigation-stowaways-arrested-chise-bulker-ship-portland-port/> An investigation is underway after seven 'stowaways' believed to be of Albanian nationality were arrested from a cargo ship at Portland Port.

**Transport Innovation for Sustainable Development: A Gender Perspective.**

*International Transport Forum*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/transport-innovation-sustainable-development-gender-perspective> This compendium assembles voices from the transport sector that highlight positive examples of how women as transport users can benefit from the innovations that are transforming the transport sector.


**Amaechi: Maritime Can't Spur Growth Without Environment Management.**

*This Day (Nigeria)*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2021/02/12/amaechi-maritime-cant-spur-growth-without-environment-management/> The Minister of Transportation, Rotimi Amaechi, has identified marine environment management as a crucial factor that will enable the maritime sector to contribute to economic growth in the country.

**Greener pastures: Shell plans steady drop in oil business.**

Danica Kirka. *Associated Press*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/shell-plans-steady-drop-oil-business-ab6647b370ed1420862b457847274395> Royal Dutch Shell, one of the multinationals that has defined the oil industry, is slowly turning away from the fossil fuel that made its fortune over the decades but also worsened a global climate crisis.

**The seafood sector and governments must join forces to combat illegal fishing.** Jim Leape. *World Economic Forum*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/02/the-seafood-sector-and-governments-must-join-forces-to-combat-illegal-fishing/> Around the world, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is putting fish stocks, human rights and marine ecosystems in peril.

**Second Outlaw Ocean Report Tackles Illegal Fishing and Labor Abuses from a Business and Technology Perspective.** Hanna Payne. *Stanford University Center for Oceans*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://oceansolutions.stanford.edu/stories-events/second-outlaw-ocean-report-tackles-illegal-fishing-and-labor-abuses-business-and-technology-perspective/> Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is a complex, systemic issue with impacts that resonate through global supply chains and can particularly harm those most vulnerable: the workers on fishing vessels. [The Outlaw Ocean: Business and Technology Solutions that Address Illegal Fishing and Labor Abuses in Seafood Supply Chains](#) 

**New Chief of Naval Staff warns Criminals on the Sea.** Shiela Satori Mensa. *Ghana News Online*. 13 February 2021. Available from: <https://ghananewsonline.com.gh/new-chief-of-naval-staff-warns-criminals-o/> The newly appointed Chief of Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Issah Yakubu, has sent a word of caution to criminals that operate on and around the sea because his administration is coming seriously after them.

**Iran says U.S. move to seize oil shipment is ‘act of piracy’.** *Reuters*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3fdzMs2> Iran said on Monday that a U.S. move this month to seize a cargo of oil on the grounds that it came from Tehran was an act of piracy, adding that the shipment did not belong to the Iranian government.

**Bahrain’s new Maritime Law to attract shipping.** *Zawya*. 15 February 2021. Available from: [https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/business/story/Bahrains\\_new\\_Maritime\\_Law\\_to\\_attract\\_shipping-SNG\\_200618016/](https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/business/story/Bahrains_new_Maritime_Law_to_attract_shipping-SNG_200618016/) Stricter maritime laws under discussion are aimed at attracting more shipping to Bahrain, the Shura Council heard yesterday.

**Sanctions-busting shipowners exploit ‘vulnerable’ P&I Clubs.** Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd’s List*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135791/Sanctionsbusting-shipowners-exploit-vulnerable-PI-Clubs> Owners of tankers linked to shipping sanctioned Iranian and Venezuelan crude are exploiting vulnerabilities in P&I clubs outside the International Group to secure insurance covering third-party liability.

**Government strengthens the Maritime Sector in T&T.** *Government of Trinidad and Tobago*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <http://www.news.gov.tt/content/government-strengthens-maritime-sector-tt> This month the Ministry of Trade and Industry under the strengthening of the Single Electronic Window for Trade and Business Facilitation Programme, in partnership with the Ministry of Works and Transport began work to develop a National Maritime Policy and Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago.

**Fighting against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing: Commission notifies Cameroon with a yellow card.** *European Commission*. 17 February 2021. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_621](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_621) The Commission, leading the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing worldwide, has issued a warning (so-called yellow card) to Cameroon that it should step up its actions against IUU fishing.

**Government Takes Next Step Towards Marine Protected Areas forming 30% of Ireland's Maritime Area.** *Government of Ireland*. 17 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/22f3a-government-takes-next-step-towards-marine-protected-areas-forming-30-of-irelands-maritime-area/> The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien, and the Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan, today launched a public consultation on the process of expanding Ireland's network of marine protected areas (MPAs).

**Blue Economy An Economic Driver For Barbados.** Julia Rawlins-Bentham. *Government of Barbados*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/blog/blue-economy-an-economic-driver-for-barbados/> Barbados' blue economy should be seen as an economic driver that can contribute to job creation and new technological advancements going forward.

**Government of Canada outlines its 2021 measures to protect North Atlantic right whales.**

*Government of Canada*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2PB8Jfl> With only approximately 366 remaining in the world, it is imperative that Canada continues taking strong action to help support the species' recovery.

**Reversing restrictive maritime trade policies would boost global economic recovery.**

Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135894/Reversing-restrictive-maritime-trade-policies-would-boost-global-economic-recovery> COVID-19 may have given politicians a chance to overtly indulge their protectionist instincts, but open markets have been under attack from trade wars and tariffs in various guises for several years.

**Croatia's Big Step on Vessel Safety Could Also Help Stem Illegal Fishing.** Peter Horn and Tahiana Fajardo Vargas. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 24 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2021/02/24/croatias-big-step-on-vessel-safety-could-also-help-stem-illegal-fishing> Commercial fishing remains one of the most dangerous professions in the world.

## MARINE TECHNOLOGY

**Q&A: using fuel cell technology to decrease shipping emissions.** Ilaria Grasso Macola.

*ShipTechnology*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/qa-using-fuel-cell-technology-to-decrease-shipping-emissions/> Swedish technology provider Alfa Laval has launched a research project that aims to accelerate the development of solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) technology, using it to produce green fuel for the shipping industry.

**Bearing and MOL team up to bring Artificial Intelligence to the maritime shipping industry - GHG Reduction, Shipping meets Artificial Intelligence.** *Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (MOL)*.

9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.mol.co.jp/en/pr/2021/21009.html> Through various trials and intensive discussions concerning ship modelling, a range of products including a newly announced AI-powered Smart Routing Engine, has been developed by combining MOL's maritime expertise and Bearing's artificial intelligence (AI) technology infrastructure.

**The evolving world of inspection technology.** *Lloyd's Register*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/evolving-world-of-inspection-technology/> Inspection providers are making tank inspections safer and maintenance and survey schedules more effective with each innovation.

**Damen Partners with Sea Machines to Bring Autonomy and Wireless-Helm Technology to Ship-Build Customers.** *Sea Machines*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3fokKjq> Boston-based Sea Machines Robotics, a leading developer of autonomous command and control systems for commercial vessels, announced today that it has entered a strategic alliance with Damen Shipyards Group, of the Netherlands, to incorporate the company's autonomous and wireless-helm systems as standard features in Damen's global vessel build catalogue.

**Fugro launches MASSPeople international working group for remote and autonomous training standards.** *Fugro*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3fkoK4p> In partnership with SeaBot XR, a leading agency for next-generation cutting-edge learning products and services, and the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Fugro has launched MASSPeople, the Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) International Training Standards Working Group.

**The rapid pace of autonomous technology applications in shipping.** Tony Boylen. *Lloyd's Register*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3cxUqBv> LR's Principal Specialist, Assurance of Autonomy, Tony Boylen examines some of the opportunities and challenges in assuring autonomous systems as the technology develops.

**How Measuring and Reducing Emissions Has Become Its Own Business.** Ellen Huet. *Bloomberg*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/how-measuring-and-reducing-emissions-has-become-its-own-business> A new startup run by former employees of the payment processor Stripe Inc. will help companies analyse the full range of their carbon emissions and figure out the best way to reduce and offset them.

**Autonomous Ships: MASS Mutations.** *Holman Fenwick Willan LLP*. February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hfw.com/Autonomous-Ships-MASS-Mutations-Feb-2021> Our bulletin published in September 2020 last year considered the developments of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) as the shipping industry continued to suffer the impacts of the global spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

## MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

**RMU commences training programme on Maritime Affairs and Security.** *News Ghana*. 30 January 2021. Available from: <https://newsghana.com.gh/rmu-commences-training-programme-on-maritime-affairs-and-security/> The Regional Maritime University (RMU) has commenced a six-week Support for West Africa Integrated Maritime Strategy (SWAIMS) training programme on Maritime Affairs and Security in Accra.

**Laurea is co-ordinating a notable EU project for Arctic shipping.** *Laurea University of Applied Sciences (Finland)*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.laurea.fi/en/current-topics/news/laurea-is-coordinating-a-notable-eu-project-for-arctic-shipping/> AI-ARC, a project related to maritime security in the Arctic region, coordinated by Laurea University of Applied Sciences, has received funding from the EU programme Horizon 2020.

**MARINA has high hopes for new Bacolod City training institute.** Alexandria Dennise San Juan. *Manila Bulletin*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/02/15/marina-has-high-hopes-for-new-bacolod-city-training-institute/> The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has launched in Bacolod City a training institute that aims to provide global leadership training to all maritime professionals.



**Project seeks to cut crew on coastal ship as young reject on-board jobs.** Paul Berrill.

*TradeWinds*. 16 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/technology/project-seeks-to-cut-crew-on-coastal-ship-as-young-reject-on-board-jobs/2-1-963871> Seafar, a Belgian ship manager for remotely controlled inland vessels, has started a semi-autonomous shortsea service between Zeebrugge and Antwerp that aims to progressively reduce the number of crew on board.

**Minister Blade Nzimande: Inaugural Ocean Economy Skills Summit 2021.** *Government of South Africa*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.za/speeches/skills-summit-2021-24-feb-2021-0000> This inaugural Oceans Economy Skills Summit is being held at an opportune time in the history of our country, to look into practical measures, from the perspective of skills development to unblock blockages associated with skills development in our oceans economy.

## MARITIME SAFETY

**UN inspection of abandoned oil tanker off Yemen delayed until March.** *France 24*.

28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210127-un-inspection-of-abandoned-oil-tanker-off-yemen-delayed-until-march> A UN mission to inspect a long-abandoned fuel tanker off the coast of Yemen, which threatens to rupture and cause a massive oil spill, has been pushed to March, the body said Wednesday.

**Is box shortage at root of overboard loss increase?** Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*.

1 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/is-box-shortage-at-root-of-overboard-loss-increase/> In describing its methodology of compiling statistics, the WSC says it used to class losses as either catastrophic involving 50 or more boxes, or non-catastrophic where smaller numbers were involved.

**Concern over Shetland ‘parking lot’ for floating oil storage.** Jen Stout. *BBC News*.

2 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-55887344> The *Hovden Spirit* - carrying hundreds of thousands of barrels of Brent crude - is the latest vessel to hug the coast while awaiting a destination.

**Yemen rebels ‘ready’ for UN mission to repair tanker, deny delay.** *France 24*. 3 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210203-yemen-rebels-ready-for-un-mission-to-repair-tanker-deny-delay> Yemen’s Huthi rebels said Wednesday they are “ready” to allow a UN mission to inspect a long-abandoned fuel tanker which threatens to cause a massive oil spill, denying UN allegations of new delaying tactics.

**Opinion - Safety of fishing vessels in spotlight.** *New Era (Namibia)*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://neweralive.na/posts/opinion-safety-of-fishing-vessels-in-spotlight> The international conference on safety of fishing vessels took place in Torremolinos, Spain in March –April 1977, pursuant to resolution A. 369 (IX) adopted by the IMO assembly in 1975.

**What happens to containers lost overboard? How long do they float?** *Gard*. 8 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31171690/what-happens-to-containers-lost-overboard-how-long-do-they-float> We reviewed the typical causes and legal aspects of container collapse cases in June.

**RightShip’s new Platform and Safety Score are now live.** *RightShip*. 8 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.rightship.com/resources/news/the-safety-score-and-platform-are-now-live/> The new Safety Score and Platform launched at 8am Singapore time on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**The fatal price of failing to comply with pilot ladder rules.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/the-fatal-price-of-failing-to-comply-with-pilot-ladder-rules/2-1-954336> Nick Cutmore, secretary general of the International Maritime Pilots' Association (IMPA), has voiced his frustration that many vessel operators do not comply with safety regulations for pilot ladders.

**Making tanks cleaner and safer.** Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/making-tanks-cleaner-and-safer-63442> In many areas of tanker operation, dangerous practices on board have gradually been replaced or made significantly safer, but tank cleaning and inspection remain something of a anomaly.

**Is lifeboat accessibility being taken seriously enough?** *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)*. 10 February 2021. Available from: [https://www.rina.org.uk/Is\\_lifeboat\\_accessibility\\_being\\_taken\\_seriously\\_enough.html](https://www.rina.org.uk/Is_lifeboat_accessibility_being_taken_seriously_enough.html) Lifeboat and liferaft provision has been at the heart of the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) convention ever since the first treaty was signed in 1914, in the aftermath of *Titanic*.

**Mauritius oil spill: questions mount over ship fuel safety.** Isabelle Gerretsen. *Climate Home News*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2021/02/19/mauritius-oil-spill-raises-concerns-ship-fuel-safety/> Over six months ago, Japanese cargo ship *MV Wakashio* ran aground on a coral reef off the coast of Mauritius, leaking up to 1,000 tonnes of heavy oil into a pristine lagoon.

**Africa's support of Cape Town Agreement on fishing vessel safety crucial to implementation in 2022: IMO.** *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2021/02/25/africas-support-of-cape-town-agreement-on-fishing-vessel-safety-crucial-to-implementation-in-2022-imo/> With 14 countries now already on board and needing just eight (8) more to bring to 22 the number of States required for implementation of the IMO sanctioned Cape Town Agreement on fishing vessels safety globally, support by African countries in particular has never been more necessary, according to the London based United Nations body.

**German investigators call for handhold rules review.** *Nautilus International*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/german-investigators-call-for-handhold-rules-review/> An accident which left a canal helmsman with terrible injuries has shed light on shocking safety deficiencies around handholds for pilot boarding.

## MARITIME SECURITY

**A Transatlantic Approach to Address Growing Maritime Insecurity in the Gulf of Guinea.** Pierre Morcos. *Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/transatlantic-approach-address-growing-maritime-insecurity-gulf-guinea> The recent news headline said it all: "Pirates kidnap 15 Turkish sailors in attack on container ship" off the Nigerian coast in the Gulf of Guinea.

**Warning the maritime industry against digital attacks.** Dag Inge Århus. *Norwegian Maritime Authority*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.sdir.no/en/news/news-from-the-nma/warning-the-maritime-industry-against-digital-attacksitim-naring-mot-digitale-angrep/> After a number of virus attacks on Norwegian companies, including maritime companies, the Norwegian Maritime Authority (NMA) would like to warn against the various digital threats out there, and give a reminder of the importance of being well prepared when an attack comes.



**Greek tanker escapes attack in Gulf of Guinea.** *Lloyd's List*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135702/Greek-tanker-escapes-attack-in-Gulf-of-Guinea> Pirate attacks in the Gulf of Guinea are continuing, with this latest attack being the fourth recorded offshore boarding this year.

**NATO Focused Security Patrols in Western Mediterranean.** *NATO*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2021/nato-focused-security-patrols-in-western-mediterranean> Spanish offshore patrol vessel *Meteoro*, supported by maritime patrol aircrafts from Portugal and Spain, has deployed to the Western Mediterranean as part of NATO's maritime security operation, Operation Sea Guardian (OSG).

**UN Security Council initiatives urgently needed to tackle Gulf of Guinea piracy hotspot, says Indian maritime union.** *Nautilus International*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/un-security-council-initiatives-urgently-needed-to-tackle-gulf-of-guinea-piracy-hotspot-says-indian-maritime-union/> The Maritime Union of India (MUI) has said that increasing piracy in the Gulf of Guinea needs 'urgent initiatives' from the United Nations Security Council to protect seafarers.

**ECSA welcomes pilot launch of new security concept in Gulf of Guinea but highlights continuing severity of piracy threat.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/index.php/news/ecsa-welcomes-pilot-launch-new-security-concept-gulf-guinea-highlights-continuing-severity> The European shipping industry welcomes the EU's political commitment to a first pilot of the new Coordinated Maritime Presences concept in the Gulf of Guinea off the coast of West Africa, but cautions that the situation remains very precarious for European and international merchant vessels and more needs to be done urgently.

**Singapore beefs up maritime security in face of growing threats against shipping.** Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/singapore-beefs-up-maritime-security-in-face-of-growing-threats-against-shipping/2-1-959533> Singapore its bolstering security in its territorial waters in the face of increasing levels of armed robbery against ships.

**'Bridge Cards' for use in high-risk areas.** *Gard*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31182529/bridge-cards-for-use-in-high-risk-areas> A set of quick reference 'Bridge Cards' can be a useful safety aide memoire for masters and crews on vessel transiting a high-risk area - particularly during times of tension caused by piracy attacks or other security threats.

**Stowaways 'try to take control' of bulker off south coast of England, arrested by police.** Holly Birkett. *TradeWinds*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/stowaways-try-to-take-control-of-bulker-off-south-coast-of-england-arrested-by-police/2-1-960329> Stowaways who turned violent onboard a bulker off the south coast of England on Tuesday have been arrested by police.

**Accurate data mitigates fire risk and container losses.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/accurate-data-mitigates-fire-risk-and-container-losses-63556> The container shipping sector is seeing more incidents involving onboard fires, engine failures and container cargo losses.

**Iran-Russia naval drill to help boost maritime security.** *MEHR News Agency (Iran)*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/169965/Iran-Russia-naval-drill-to-help-boost-maritime-security> A senior Iranian military official said the upcoming joint naval drill with Russia is aimed at contributing to maritime security and combating piracy and terrorism.

**Cyber Security Isn't Expensive - It's Priceless.** Simon Hodgkinson and Chris South. *Maritime Executive*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/cyber-security-isn-t-expensive-it-s-priceless> Widespread digitalization has brought many benefits to shipping.

**Distinguishing Rice from Wrong: Important Lessons from the Hamburg Port Drug Bust of 2020.** Ian Ralby. *Center for International Maritime Security (CIMSEC)*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://cimsec.org/distinguishing-rice-from-wrong-important-lessons-from-the-hamburg-port-drug-bust-of-2020/> On June 26, a container arrived in Hamburg carrying 1.5 tons of cocaine worth roughly \$353 million USD.

**DNV GL warns of looming 'safety gap' from new technologies.** Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/technology/dnv-gl-warns-of-looming-safety-gap-from-new-technologies/2-1-964128> Rapid decarbonisation and digitalisation pose a "looming safety gap" for shipping unless the industry collaborates better in systems performance and supporting seafarers, class society DNV GL warned on Tuesday.

**HMS Montrose deals double blow to drug runners in £11m busts.** *Royal Navy*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/news-and-latest-activity/news/2021/february/17/20210217-montrose-drugs> Drugs worth £11m will never reach the streets – or fund terrorist activities – after the Royal Navy swooped on traffickers twice in two days in the Middle East.

**Stakeholders build capacity to fight maritime crime.** *GhanaWeb*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Stakeholders-build-capacity-to-fight-maritime-crime-1186846> The Yaoundé Architecture Regional Information System (YARIS), a capacity-building programme, opened in Accra, Thursday as part of efforts to enhance the fight against maritime crime in Ghana and the Gulf of Guinea at large.

## MIGRANTS

**How the Covid-19 pandemic impacted migration through the Mediterranean.** Katherine Hearst. *Middle East Eye*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/covid-europe-mediterranean-migration-impacted> On 1 January, Frontex, the European Union's border force, tweeted a video celebrating their work in 2020 - a photo montage of masked border guards in bullet proof vests, with a caption boasting "the lowest number of illegal border crossings since 2013".

**'One of the busiest days in a long time' as hundreds flee Libya.** Marion MacGregor. *InfoMigrants*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30091/one-of-the-busiest-days-in-a-long-time-as-hundreds-flee-libya> More than 1,000 people have tried to leave Libya in boats during the past 24 hours.

**Europe's vain attempt to monitor migration routes at sea.** Ben Heubl. *Engineering & Technology (E&T)*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2021/02/europe-s-vain-attempt-to-monitor-migration-routes-at-sea/> 2020 gave ample cause for concern about the re-emergence of one of the most lethal at-sea migration crossings between Africa and Europe, via the Alboran Sea which makes up the westernmost portion of the Mediterranean between the Iberian Peninsula and the north of Africa.

**Mission report starting on February 2<sup>nd</sup> (2021): Disembarkation of survivors from Ocean Viking in Augusta, Sicily, completed.** *SOS Mediterranee*. 7 February 2021. Available from: <https://sosmediterranee.com/mission-report-starting-on-february-2nd-2021/> 374 people were brought to safety by Ocean Viking teams in January.

**Sicily offers safe haven to 422 migrants.** *France 24.* 7 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210207-sicily-offers-safe-haven-to-422-migrants>

A vessel carrying 422 migrants rescued off the coast of Libya has been given permission to dock in Italy after issuing an urgent appeal for shelter from a looming storm, its operator said Sunday.

**More than 1,500 migrants intercepted off Libya and returned.** *InfoMigrants.* 11 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30213/more-than-1-500-migrants-intercepted-off-libya-and-returned> During the past week Libyan coast guards intercepted more than 1,500 Europe-bound migrants, according to a non-governmental organization.

**Mediterranean: 146 migrants rescued, one shipwreck at weekend.** Emma Wallis. *InfoMigrants.*

15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30264/mediterranean-146-migrants-rescued-one-shipwreck-at-weekend> The Spanish rescue organization Open Arms said that it had picked up 146 migrants in two separate rescue operations.

**Over 100 migrants disembark from Aita Mari rescue ship in Sicily.** Leslie Carretero.

*InfoMigrants.* 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30410/over-100-migrants-disembark-from-aita-mari-rescue-ship-in-sicily> 102 migrants, including two pregnant women and a seven-month-old baby, were disembarked from the *Aita Mari* rescue ship at the Sicilian port of Augusta on Monday.

**Europe-bound migrants found amid broken glass, toxic ash.** Renata Brito and Aritz Parra.

*Associated Press.* 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/spain-migrants-found-in-bags-toxic-ash-289fcedcc200e22aeb63028a49fa846> Something seemed wrong to the guard inspecting sealed bags of toxic ash in the port of Melilla, one of Spain's two small territories in North Africa.

**EU expects to hold first meeting in migrant contact group in March.** Trine Vestergaard.

*ShippingWatch.* 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12783790.ece> It is up to the member states themselves to come up with a long-term solution to ensure that migrants do not end up stranded on board merchant vessels, but the Commission is working to create a contact group to help with the work.

**'Deadly sea crossings': 41 migrants drown in the Mediterranean.** *Al Jazeera.* 24 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/2/24/un-says-41-europe-bound-migrants-drown-in-mediterranean> The shipwreck was latest along central Mediterranean route where about 118 migrants have died this year and over 17,000 since 2014.

## NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

**BIMCO Seeks to Take on Ships' Abuse of AIS Satellite Tracking.** *Ship & Bunker.*

2 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/318260-bimco-seeks-to-take-on-ships-abuse-of-ais-satellite-tracking> Industry group BIMCO is seeking to take on the problem of ships tampering with satellite tracking to avoid being spotted breaking sanctions.

**Poor Bridge Resource Management Led to Natural Gas Tanker Hitting Puget Sound Wharf.**

*US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).* 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/mr20210204b.aspx> The National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday a ship carrying liquefied petroleum gas struck a Washington State wharf in 2019 because the pilot approached with excessive speed and at too steep an angle, resulting from poor bridge resource management by the Puget Sound pilot and the ship's bridge team.

[Contact of Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier \*Levant\* with Mooring Dolphin](#)

**Northern Sea Route Transit Traffic Remains Modest.** Peter B. Danilov. *High North News (Norway)*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/northern-sea-route-transit-traffic-remains-modest> Scientists, journalists, and others have written extensively about shipping and transit along the Northern Sea Route (NSR) for the past twenty years.

**Coming of Age.** John Minetola. *Maritime Executive*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/magazine/coming-of-age> Satcoms today are all grown up and mature, occupying a central place in the maritime landscape.

**LNG carrier *Christophe de Margerie* completing her experimental round trip voyage.** *Port News*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.portnews.ru/news/309116/> During an official meeting with the government of the Russian Federation, Igor Tonkovidov, President and CEO of PAO Sovcomflot, reported to Yury Trutnev, Deputy Prime Minister of Russia, on progress with the experimental round trip voyage of the LNG carrier *Christophe de Margerie* from Sabetta (Russia) to Jiangsu (China) and back, using the Northern Sea Route.

**2021 measures to protect North Atlantic right whales.** *Gard*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31247782/2021-measures-to-protect-north-atlantic-right-whales-> Masters and crews operating along the US/Canadian East Coast must maintain a good lookout for right whales and follow the speed restrictions in force at any given time.

**Russian tanker cuts a previously impossible path through the warming Arctic.** Alexandra Odynova. *CBS News (US)*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/russian-tanker-cuts-a-previously-impossible-path-through-the-warming-arctic/> A Russian natural gas tanker has completed an experimental round trip along the Northern Sea Route — the first time the path across the Arctic has been forged at this time of year.

**Government of Canada launches international program to track illegal fishing using satellite technology.** *Government of Canada*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/02/government-of-canada-launches-international-program-to-track-illegal-fishing-using-satellite-technology.html> Internationally, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is a major contributor to the decline of fish stocks and marine habitat destruction.

## PIRACY

**Maritime piracy hotspots persist during 2020.** *Gard*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31112144/maritime-piracy-hotspots-persist-during-2020> Adding to the COVID19 hardships already faced by seafarers, 2020 saw a year-on-year increase in global piracy, with a record 130 crew kidnapped in the Gulf of Guinea, a continuing rising trend of armed robberies against vessels in the Singapore Strait, and no improvements for robbery incidents in South America.

**Shipping industry seeks govt help to deal with piracy in Gulf of Guinea.** *Hindu Business Line (India)*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/shipping-industry-seeks-govt-help-to-deal-with-piracy-in-gulf-of-guinea/article33683538.ece> The Indian National Shipowners' Association (INSA), the local shipping industry lobby group, has sought the government's help to deal with pirate attacks in the Gulf of Guinea.



**Eagle Bulk ultramax crew safe following boarding by pirates off Ghana.** Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/eagle-bulk-ultramax-crew-safe-following-boarding-by-pirates-off-ghana/2-1-954480> Eagle Bulk has confirmed that one of its ultramax bulkers that was boarded by pirates off Ghana has been released and the crew unharmed.

**Authorities are trying free kidnapped seafarers from Hapag-Lloyd-chartered vessel.** Ida Jacobsen. *ShippingWatch*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12728735.ece> The 15 crew members kidnapped from container ship *MV Mozart* in the Gulf of Guinea on Jan. 23 are unharmed.

**Pirates Board Product Tanker off Cameroon.** *Maritime Executive*. 7 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/pirates-board-product-tanker-off-cameroon> On Saturday night, the product tanker *Sea Phantom* was boarded by pirates about 115 nm off the coast of Cameroon in the Gulf of Guinea.

**Shipowners call for China's intervention in Gulf of Guinea piracy.** Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135720/Shipowners-call-for-Chinas-intervention-in-Gulf-of-Guinea-piracy> Maersk, Mediterranean Shipping Co, BIMCO and International Chamber of Shipping have asked Beijing to throw its weight behind international efforts to deter rising piracy attacks in the region.

**Three piracy incidents in Singapore Strait in January, all took place off Bintan.** Fabian Koh. *Straits Times*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/three-piracy-incidents-in-singapore-strait-in-january-all-took-place-off-bintan> Pirates have continued to launch attacks in the Singapore Strait, with three reported incidents last month in the 105km-long stretch of water south of Singapore that serves as a key waterway for trade.

**Gulf of Guinea piracy: a symptom, not a cause, of insecurity.** Ifesinachi Okafor-Yarwood, Timothy Walker and Denys Reva. *Institute for Security Studies (ISS)*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/gulf-of-guinea-piracy-a-symptom-not-a-cause-of-insecurity> Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea appears to be worse than ever, judging by recent headlines.

**MEA should make sincere efforts to enhance global cooperation on maritime piracy: Parl panel.** *Times of India*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/mea-should-make-sincere-efforts-to-enhance-global-cooperation-on-maritime-piracy-parl-panel/articleshow/80867248.cms> The Ministry of External Affairs should make sincere efforts to enhance international cooperation on maritime piracy and ensure the welfare of Indian seafarers captured by pirates, a parliamentary panel said on Thursday.

**How History Predicts COVID-19's Impact on Maritime Piracy, and What America Can do to Help.** Brandon Prins. *Homeland Security Today*. 13 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/transportation/how-history-predicts-covid-19s-impact-on-maritime-piracy-and-what-america-can-do-to-help/> The global number of sea-piracy incidents rose by over 20% from 2019 and West Africa experienced the highest number of attacks and attempted attacks since data collection began in the early 1990s at the International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting Center.

**Pirates of the Gulf of Guinea.** Sam Eckett, Charlotte Bucchioni and Chris To. *S&P Global Platts*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/31ar6uk> Rising levels of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea are having a direct impact on tanker owners' preferences, altering both crude and refined trade flows in and out of the West African coast.

**Dolls on deck is one of Teekay's measures to keep pirates away.** Idha Toft Valeur.

*ShippingWatch*. 18 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12772486.ece> Teekay Tankers has opted to employ surprising measures on board its vessels to ensure that pirates leave its crew, cargo and vessels in peace when traveling in areas in Western Africa.

**Top diplomat wants network of ships in the Gulf of Guinea to fight piracy.** Dag Holmstad.

*ShippingWatch*. 19 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12773793.ece> Pirates attack international commercial vessels several times a week in the waters in the Gulf of Guinea off the coast of West Africa.

**Why is piracy increasing on the Gulf of Guinea?** *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 21 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/why-is-piracy-increasing-on-the-gulf-of-guinea/a-56637925>

Nowhere on Earth do pirates strike more often than the Gulf of Guinea, where more than 130 sailors were taken hostage last year.

**Drones, Choppers to Police Pirate-Infested Waters Off Nigeria.** William Clowes. *Bloomberg*.

22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloomberquint.com/business/drones-choppers-to-police-pirate-infested-waters-off-nigeria>

Nigeria will commission \$195 million worth of aircraft, boats and vehicles in the next three months to strengthen security in the pirate-infested Gulf of Guinea, Transport Minister Rotimi Amaechi said.

**Security firm rebukes EU for sluggishness in fight against pirates in Gulf of Guinea.**

Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 24 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12782925.ece> The situation with violent, criminal pirates that repeatedly attack international merchant vessels in the Gulf of Guinea off West Africa is "at breaking point".

**Pirate attacks more frequent in waters with destructive fishing practices.** *Phys.org*.

24 February 2021. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-pirate-frequent-destructive-fishing.html>

A new investigation of maritime piracy reveals that pirate attacks occur more frequently in locations where destructive and illegal fishing practices take place.

**Gulf of Guinea saw over 130 seafarers abducted in 2020 amid 'poor governance'.** Max Tingyao

Lin. *TradeWinds*. 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/gulf-of-guinea-saw-over-130-seafarers-abducted-in-2020-amid-poor-governance-/2-1-969601>

The Gulf of Guinea had the world's worst maritime security environment in 2020, with more than 130 seafarers kidnapped, often at gunpoint, according to consultancy Dryad Global.

## PORT STATE CONTROL

**Coup casts doubt over crew repatriation hopes.** Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd's List*. 1 February 2021.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135627/Coup-casts-doubt-over-crew-repatriation-hopes>

A military crackdown in Myanmar will imperil thousands of seafarers already on overdue contracts and wanting to be repatriated.

**Crew change hubs could address seafarer crisis, says MAJ.** *Hellenic Shipping News*.

2 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/crew-change-hubs-could-address-seafarer-crisis-says-maj/>

A global network of crew change hubs would help alleviate the humanitarian crisis seafarers face at present, according to the Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ).



**Crew trapped without pay on Xihe Group FPSO following arrest.** Adam Corbett and Irene Ang. *TradeWinds*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/crew-trapped-without-pay-on-xihe-group-fps0-following-arrest/2-1-955643> Seafarers onboard a Xihe Group-controlled ship under arrest at a Malaysian anchorage are becoming increasingly agitated after a three-month ordeal that has seen them trapped on the vessel without pay.

**Seafarers to return to pre-COVID-19 maximum period onboard.** *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/news-and-media-releases/seafarers-return-pre-covid-19-maximum-period-onboard> From 28 February 2021, the interim COVID arrangements which have permitted seafarers to serve longer than 11 months onboard ships will end.

**Risk of crew crisis worsening again: Euronav.** Will Collins. *Argus Media*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2183955-risk-of-crew-crisis-worsening-again-uronav> Many countries banned crew changes at times during 2020, while restrictions on international flights made it difficult for seafarers to be transported between ships and their home countries.

**China conveys their clearance on transfer of crew of MV Anastasia, says MEA.** *Asian News International (ANI)* 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://aninews.in/news/world/asia/china-conveys-their-clearance-on-transfer-of-crew-of-mv-anastasia-says-mea20210204201823/> After a sustained follow-up by the Indian embassy in Beijing, China has conveyed their clearance on transfer of the crew of cargo ship *MV Anastasia*, said the Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday.

**Bulk carrier detained at Antwerp's Liberation Dock highlights continued crew change difficulties.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/bulk-carrier-detained-at-antwerps-liberation-dock-highlights-continued-crew-change-difficulties/> The plight of the crew onboard the *Anhui* bulk carrier highlights both the ongoing crew change crisis and subsequent supply chain kinks.

**Covid 19 coronavirus: Seafarers say overloaded MIQ system treats them unfairly.** Jake McKee Cagney. *New Zealand Herald*. 7 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/covid-19-coronavirus-seafarers-say-overloaded-miq-system-treats-them-unfairly/6LAEPW3KEEIJ7YVV3FFERUE2NA/> Seafarers are finding they are caught in a snag when it comes to booking space in the managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) facilities and want change.

**China suspends crew changes for two shipmanagers.** Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/china-suspends-crew-changes-for-two-shipmanagers/> China's Ministry of Transport has announced a decision to suspend the crew change operations for all the vessels of two shipmanagers due to group coronavirus infections on vessels managed by the companies.

**MSC Ends "Anastasia" Cargo Ship ordeal with crew change in Japan.** Giles Broom. *Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.msc.com/gbr/news/2021-february/msc-ends-anastasia-cargo-ship-ordeal-crew-change> Following months of repeated appeals by MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company to allow a change of crew on *ANASTASIA*, a cargo ship which had been stuck off the coast of China since September, MSC has effectively resolved the matter, avoided a humanitarian crisis onboard and mitigated the related safety risks.

**Companies can step up to save seafarers stranded off China.** *ITF Seafarers*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/companies-can-step-save-seafarers-stranded-china> The crew of the *MV Christine Oldendorff* have been anchored at Caofeidian in Bohai Bay, near Beijing, since 26 August 2020.

**Covid Quarantine measures - Seafarers & Offshore Workers** *National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT)*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rmt.org.uk/about/policies/political-circulars-and-submissions/covid-quarantine-measures-seafarers-and-offshore-workers150221/> Further to Circular no. 310 of 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020, from today a new testing, self-isolation and quarantine regime comes into force for journey's to the UK from 'Red List' countries which have been affected by a spread of Coronavirus variant infections.

**Charterers and owners come under renewed pressure to resolve China coal carrier crewing crisis.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/charterers-and-owners-come-under-renewed-pressure-to-resolve-china-coal-carrier-crewing-crisis/> Charterers and shipowners are coming under renewed pressure to stump up cash to alleviate the anguish and monotony of the hundreds of crews caught up in China's coal spat with Australia.

**Crew changes cross 100,000 at Port of Singapore.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/6b4bc075-43c3-406d-ba61-50b52f8576f1> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) has crossed the 100,000 mark for crew change carried out in Singapore during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

**Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during January 2021.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-january-2021> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that six foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during January 2021 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

**Tackle the crew-change crisis or risk labour shortage, Jamaican official says.** Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/tackle-the-crew-change-crisis-or-risk-labour-shortage-jamaican-official-says/2-1-963284> Governments, banks and businesses need to recognise the role of seafarers in maintaining world trade amid the pandemic, or shipping could face a labour shortage, Jamaica's head of maritime warns.

**Indian cruise ship providing quarantine floatel for Sri Lanka crew change.** Shirish Nadkarni. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/indian-cruise-ship-providing-quarantine-floatel-sri-lanka-crew-change> Completely inactive all through 2020 due to the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic, India's first cruise ship *Angriya* is being currently used at the southern Sri Lankan port of Galle as a floating hotel to quarantine seafarers who are either leaving or joining duty.

**Focused inspection campaign - livestock ships.** *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/vessels-operators/port-state-control/focused-inspection-campaign-livestock-ships> We will undertake a focused inspection campaign (FIC) on livestock ships from 1 March to 31 August 2021.

**48 ships with Australian coal still stranded off China's coastline.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/48-ships-with-australian-coal-still-stranded-off-chinas-coastline/> The number of coal carriers stranded off China with banned Australian coal has ducked under the 50 mark, but still around 1,000 seafarers remain marooned thanks to the ongoing spat between Australia and China.

## PORTS & HARBOURS

**Maritime Blue, Port of Seattle Launch Second Wave of Maritime Innovation Accelerator Projects.** *Port of Seattle*. 27 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.portseattle.org/news/maritime-blue-port-seattle-launch-second-wave-maritime-innovation-accelerator-projects> 📰 Maritime Blue, a statewide organization of maritime stakeholders, the state Department of Commerce, and the Port of Seattle, has launched

its second group of Maritime Innovation Accelerator start-up companies.

**Egypt steps up efforts to maintain Suez Canal's transport advantage.** Mohammed Abu Zaid. *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 30 January 2021. Available from: <https://arab.news/mqv6t> The head of the Egyptian Suez Canal Authority, Osama Rabie, has said that new incentives, projects and services are being provided to ensure the canal remains superior to its alternatives.

**Singapore: coping with Covid-19 while growing as a maritime centre.** Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/singapore-coping-with-covid-19-while-growing-as-a-maritime-centre-63266> In early January 2021, Singapore become one of the first countries in the world to prioritise Covid-19 vaccinations for frontline maritime personnel.

**Panama Canal sets new monthly record in January for LNG transits: operator.** Harry Weber. *S&P Global Platts*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3cj6gPX> Fifty-eight LNG vessels transited through the Neopanamax Locks last month, breaking the previous monthly record of 54 transits in January 2020, the Panama Canal Authority said in a statement Feb. 3.

**80% of ports missing out on the benefits of digitalisation, creating last mile risks.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/80-of-ports-missing-out-on-the-benefits-of-digitalisation-creating-last-mile-risks/> Of the 4,900 ports in the world, the majority are not yet using digital technology for even the most basic processes; 80% of ports continue to rely on manual, legacy solutions such as whiteboards or spreadsheets to manage critical marine services such as towage, pilotage and launch boats, Innovez-One claims.

**WPCAP ports take new series of climate change actions.** *World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP)*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://sustainableworldports.org/wpcap-ports-take-new-series-of-climate-change-actions/> "A force for good, paving the way for building sustainable port operations".

**IBIA welcomes Port of Rotterdam bunker fuel transporter licence.** *International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA)*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://ibia.net/2021/02/05/ibia-welcomes-port-of-rotterdam-bunker-fuel-transporter-licence/> As of 1 February 2021, bunkering vessels operating in Europe's biggest bunkering port, and one of the top three in the world, are required to have a license.

**Maritime ports, businesses prepare for another year without cruise ship passengers.**

Nick Moore. *CTV News (Canada)*. 5 February 2021. Available from:

<https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/maritime-ports-businesses-prepare-for-another-year-without-cruise-ship-passengers-1.5298169> 📰 Another year of no cruise ship traffic comes as no surprise to officials at

Maritime ports of entry or local business owners who depend on international passengers.

**Aussie coal ban bites, Bohai Bay becomes the world's largest shipping parking lot.**

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/aussie-coal-ban-bites-bohai-bay-becomes-the-worlds-largest-shipping-parking-lot/> The Beijing ban on Australian coal is reshaping dry bulk trading patterns.

**The Ports of Antwerp and Zeebrugge to join forces** *Port of Zeebrugge*. 12 February 2021.

Available from: <https://portofzeebrugge.be/en/news-events/ports-antwerp-and-zeebrugge-join-forces> The City of Antwerp and the City of Bruges reached an agreement to merge their respective ports.

## REGULATIONS

### **MARINA sets rules, regulations for ballast water management.** *Government of Philippines.*

1 February 2021. Available from: <https://marina.gov.ph/2021/02/01/marina-sets-rules-regulations-for-ballast-water-management/> The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through its Circular No. SR-2020-05, has set rules and regulations for the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments to ensure that all Philippine Registered Ships plying in the international trade, as well as international ships plying Philippine waters, are compliant with the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention).

### **Up to 30,000 vessels may be non-compliant with the new EEXI regulation.** *Thomas Kristiansen.*

*ShippingWatch*. 4 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12735769.ece> Although the so-called EEXI index is not yet adopted and is still much debated in some shipping communities, tonnage providers have embarked on the rather complicated journey to qualify their vessels to comply with the rules.

### **Analysis: Draft amendments to IMO carbon rules to shake up freight markets.**

Sameer Mohindru and Vickey Du. *S&P Global Platts*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3cZP2Gp> Draft amendments to IMO's mandatory rules on reducing carbon in existing ships by 2023 are likely to result in new clauses in charter party agreements that could make hiring ships challenging.

### **Maersk Tankers steps up calls for regional carbon levies.** *Janet Porter. Lloyd's List.*

18 February 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135832/Maersk-Tankers-steps-up-calls-for-regional-carbon-levies> Maersk Tankers is stepping up pressure for immediate action to reduce ship emissions, even if that requires regional measures while waiting for a global decarbonisation strategy to be agreed.

### **Lack of regulatory framework holding up decarbonisation progress.** *Lloyd's Register.*

19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/latest-news/lack-of-regulatory-framework-holding-up-decarbonisation-progress/> Despite the need for speed, the shipping industry does not have the tools to decarbonise quickly enough to meet its own targets.

### **Ballast water management: practical implementation and regulatory insight** *William Burroughs.*

*The Motorship*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.motorship.com/news101/ballast-water-management/ballast-water-management-practical-implementation-and-regulatory-insight>

The COVID-19 pandemic has not spared vessel owners from compliance requirements with national and international ballast water management regulations.

### **Importers call for strict regulation of shipping industry.** *GhanaWeb.* 26 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Importers-call-for-strict-regulation-of-shipping-industry-1189855> The Importers and Exporters Association of Ghana is calling on the Minister-designate for Transport, Kwaku Ofori Asiamah to set up an Authority to regulate the operations of international shipping lines at the country ports.



## SALVAGE

**Council recruits international experts to advise on ghost ship off Cork coast.** Barry Roche. *Irish Times*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/council-recruits-international-experts-to-advise-on-ghost-ship-off-cork-coast-1.4486414> Cork County Council has recruited international experts to advise on what steps it should take to deal with the grounded 'ghost ship', *MV Alta* which washed up on the coast near Ballycotton a year ago today.

**Salvage update: second damaged Maersk ship loses containers overboard.** Martyn Wingrove. *Container Shipping & Trade*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/salvage-update-second-damaged-maersk-ship-losses-containers-overboard-63656> On 17 February, neo-Panamax container ship *Maersk Eindhoven* suffered an engine failure in harsh weather off Japan while en route from Xiamen, China, to Los Angeles, California.

**Chinese firm begins dismantling of *Wakashio*.** *Ships & Ports*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipsandports.com.ng/chinese-firm-begins-dismantling-of-wakashio/> Six months after the scuttling of the *Wakashio*'s bow, the dismantling of the stern has finally kicked off in Mauritius.

***Wakashio* stern salvage thwarted by bad weather.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/wakashio-stern-salvage-thwarted-by-bad-weather-63792> Chinese salvage company Lianyungang Dali Underwater Engineering Co is contracted to remove the stern section by deploying its *Hong Bang 6* crane barge and support vessels.

## SEAFARERS

**Kenya: Come and Buy Our Ship, Abandoned Syrian Sailors Plead.** Wachira Mwangi. *AllAfrica*. 24 January 2021. Available from: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202101250018.html> Living in a ship with no basic needs at the port of Mombasa is what 11 Syrian seafarers have endured for almost a year and a half.

**Mission to Seafarers Tuticorin – acting on behalf of stranded seafarers.** *Mission to Seafarers*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/mission-to-seafarers-tuticorin-family-support-network-programme> As COVID-19 continuously wreaks havoc on the lives of seafarers, many families and dependants of stranded seafaring men and women have equally needed assistance during their absence.

**'Human life means nothing for them': China shipping crisis deepens.** Nick Bonyhady and Eryk Bagshaw. *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)*. 29 January 2021 Available from: <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/human-life-means-nothing-for-them-china-shipping-crisis-deepens-20210129-p56xtu.html> 🇺🇦 Sailors stuck off the Chinese coast are complaining of callous treatment by local authorities, with some denied medical care for hours and even days despite symptoms including a broken hand and claims another sailor vomited blood.

**Crumbs of comfort for crew.** Steven Jones. *Splash 247.com*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/crumbs-of-comfort-for-crew/> It is a good sign for seafarers and the industry that there is so much rallying around behind the Neptune Declaration and pressure is being applied to ensure the messages about the importance of seafarers are being heard.

**Nautilus seeks clarity on seafarer exemptions from UK hotel quarantine.** *Nautilus International*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/nautilus-seeks-clarity-on-seafarer-exemptions-from-uk-hotel-quarantine/> Nautilus is seeking clarification from the UK Department for Transport (DfT) on seafarer exemptions from the latest mandatory Covid-19 inbound travel rules for England.

**[Updated] Tragic seafarer suicide on asphalt tanker vessel off UAE coast.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 30 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/01/30/updated-tragic-seafarer-suicide-on-asphalt-tanker-vessel-off-uae-coast/> With express permission, it is with great sadness that we report the tragic and premature death of a young seafarer onboard the *MT SEA PRINCESS* (IMO 8607634), an asphalt bitumen tanker owned by Global tanker Pvt Ltd India and operated by Prime Tankers (UAE), which occurred on the afternoon of 28 January 2021 off the UAE coast.

**Nigerian pirates release six Ukrainian sailors (Photo, video).** *UNIAN Information Agency (Ukraine)*. 30 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.unian.info/society/pirate-attack-nigerian-pirates-release-six-ukrainian-sailor-11303645.html> Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky says six Ukrainian sailors who were captured by Nigerian pirates in the Gulf of Guinea on December 16, 2020, have been released from captivity.

**How shipping firms realised they had humanitarian crisis on hand.** Alastair Marsh. *Al Jazeera*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/2/1/bb-howshippingfirms-realised-they-had-humanitarian-crisis-on-hand> Terence Tsai started hearing about the growing labor crisis in shipping in a roundabout way.

**Crew trapped at sea due to China's ban on Australian coal reunite with family after seven months.** Kai Feng. *ABC (Australia)*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-02-03/crew-caught-in-china-ban-on-australian-coal-returns-home/13111622> Forced to anchor in China's Bohai Sea for more than seven months, Indian seafarers on a cargo ship loaded with 160,000 tons of Australian coal have finally arrived home.

**Iran frees crew members of seized South Korean oil tanker.** *MEHR News Agency (Iran)*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/169422/Iran-frees-crew-members-of-seized-South-Korean-oil-tanker> Foreign Ministry Spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Tuesday that the decision to release the members of the crew aboard the South Korean ship was taken "on humanitarian grounds" and the released crew are now allowed to leave the country.

**Seafarers on hunger strike, hospitalised in Kuwait to stop families going hungry: the full story.** *ITF Seafarers*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://itfseafarers.org/en/news/seafarers-hunger-strike-hospitalised-kuwait-stop-families-going-hungry-full-story> After 11 months without pay for their families, 19 seafarers on board the *MV Ula* bulk carrier in the port of Shuaiba, Kuwait have gone on a hunger strike.

**On seafarers' rights, the pandemic and the climate crisis.** Carlos C. Salinas. *Manila Times*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/02/03/business/maritime-business/on-seafarers-rights-the-pandemic-and-the-climate-crisis/836335/> The year 2021 began well for the Filipino seafarer: last January 17, the House of Representatives unanimously approved on third and final reading a bill that will work for the benefit of seafarers and their families: the proposed Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers (House Bill 8057).

**Iran agrees to release sailors of seized S. Korean oil tanker except for captain for ship management.** Song Sang-ho. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210202009752315?section=national/diplomacy> Iran has agreed to release all sailors of a seized South Korean oil tanker except for the captain for its management, the foreign ministry confirmed Tuesday, capping weeks of tough negotiations between the two countries.

**Stella Maris joins calls for seafarer "key worker" status.** *Stella Maris*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/stella-maris-joins-calls-for-seafarer-key-worker-status/> Martin Foley, Chief Executive of Stella Maris, has joined growing international calls to give seafarers designated "key worker" status during the Covid-19 pandemic.



**Norway's Crown Prince meets seafarers to discuss pandemic impact.** *Odfjell*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.odfjell.com/about/our-stories/norways-crown-prince-meets-captain-and-coo/> Norway's Crown Prince Haakon praised seafarers and the global shipping industry's importance in an exclusive digital conversation hosted by the Norwegian Shipowners' Association on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Transport Secretary urged to exempt seafarers from 'red list' travel restrictions.** *Nautilus International*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/transport-secretary-urged-to-exempt-seafarers-from-red-list-travel-restrictions/> Nautilus International and the Chamber of Shipping have urged UK Transport Secretary Grant Shapps to exempt seafarers from quarantine when returning to the UK from 'red list' countries.

**Father tells of pain after son's death on tanker off Sharjah coast.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/transport/father-tells-of-pain-after-son-s-death-on-tanker-off-sharjah-coast-1.1158799> With express permission and at the direct request of the family of the seafarer tragically found hung onboard the *MT SEA PRINCESS* (IMO 8607634) off the UAE coast during a final voyage to a ship-breaking location in Alang, India.

**Father tells of pain after son's death on tanker off Sharjah coast.** Nick Webster. *The National (UAE)*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/transport/father-tells-of-pain-after-son-s-death-on-tanker-off-sharjah-coast-1.1158799> A family appealed for answers as to how their son died on board a shipping tanker, anchored off Khor Fakkan, days before he was expected to arrive home in India.

**Social Interaction Matters – Leading by example.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2021/social-interaction-matters-leading-by-example> Creating an environment on board which makes the crew feel comfortable enough and motivated to socialise is fundamental, and the influence of senior officers can have a significant impact.

**Wage theft, forgery and crew abuse on the *MV Onda* - Amin Shipping at it again.** *ITF Seafarers*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/wage-theft-forgery-and-crew-abuse-mv-onda-amin-shipping-it-again> Luis Alberto Veloso is one of four abandoned seafarers on board the Togo-flagged *MV Onda* who has gone one year without pay.

**Seafarers threatened with dismissal petition Maersk shareholders for help.** *Nautilus International*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/seafarers-threatened-with-dismissal-petition-maersk-shareholders-for-help/> Dutch seafarers facing job cuts at Maersk Line have petitioned its shareholders to hold the company to account and support the campaign to preserve their livelihoods.

**Runaway aframax crew sees relief after owner abandons ship.** Bob Rust. *TradeWinds*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/runaway-aframax-crew-sees-relief-after-owner-abandons-ship/2-1-957430> A humanitarian crisis on board a formerly fugitive aframax has been lifted but crew members, lenders, and creditors are still seeking financial relief from the High Court of Sri Lanka.

**Anastasia sailors to reach land after six months stranded off Chinese coast.** Eryk Bagshaw. *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/anastasia-sailors-to-reach-land-after-six-months-stranded-off-chinese-coast-20210209-p570t2.html> The operator of a ship carrying tonnes of Australian coal stranded off the coast of China is diverting the vessel to Japan in a high stakes dash that will see 18 sailors relieved after a six-month diplomatic stalemate.

**Seafarers and identifying key workers.** Michael Grey. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/seafarers-and-identifying-key-workers> It's become something of a matter for debate, as people jostle for a place in the pecking order for Covid tests, vaccines, privileged medical treatment and freedom from the various prohibitions that prevent us from doing what we once did.

**South Africa joins the world in declaring seafarers 'essential workers'; IMO.** *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2021/02/09/south-africa-joins-the-world-in-declaring-seafarers-essential-workers-imo/> With the siege by the Covid-19 pandemic still gripping firmly most parts of the world and disrupting world trade since its outbreak more than a year ago, South Africa has joined more than 50 countries globally in formally ratifying a resolution that declares seafarers as essential workers.

**Four years into voyage and metres from land, tanker crew still stuck aboard.** Jacob Greaves, Tarek Fahmy and Raya Jalabi. *Reuters*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3sjrJhd> Nearly four years into their odyssey at sea, the five-member crew of oil tanker *MT Iba* is tantalisingly close to shore, yet still unable to set foot on dry land.

**Sea Coral rescue spat shows why seafarers need a legal safety net.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/sea-coral-rescue-spat-shows-why-seafarers-need-a-legal-safety-net/2-1-959632> The Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006 looks like it has come to the rescue of 25 seafarers trapped on a Xihe Group-controlled converted VLCC arrested off Malaysia by HSBC.

**Seafarers Crisis: Shipping Workers Trapped, What Needs To Be Done?** *BFM 89.9 (Malaysia)*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bfm.my/podcast/morning-run/morning-brief/seafarers-crisis-shipping-workers-trapped-what-needs-to-be-done> A disaster is at hand in the seas as the fate of seafarers who play a crucial role in keeping global trade flowing is being labelled a "humanitarian crisis at sea," as hundreds of thousands of crew are spending extended periods at sea, far beyond the expiry of their contracts.

**Crew on suicide tanker had gone two months unpaid.** Bob Rust. *TradeWinds*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/crew-on-suicide-tanker-had-gone-two-months-unpaid/2-1-960127> Dubai-based Prime Tankers had not paid an inadequately provisioned crew on one of its vessels for two months at the time a seafarer took his own life late last month, an official at the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) told TradeWinds.

**Seafarers on abandoned bulker left with nowhere to turn.** Bob Rust. *TradeWinds*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/seafarers-on-abandoned-bulker-left-with-nowhere-to-turn/2-1-960470> Seafarers on a hunger strike in Kuwait for more than a month face a hard struggle to win repatriation - but the majority are insisting on staying and fighting for their rights.

**A closer look at government's efforts to protect Indonesian seafarers.** Yuni Arisandy Sinaga. *Antara News (Indonesia)*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/167876/a-closer-look-at-governments-efforts-to-protect-indonesian-seafarers> The news of three Indonesian sailors, who died aboard two Chinese fishing vessels, *Long Xin 629* and *Long Xin 604*, grabbed headlines in May 2020.

**SAMSA and Home Affairs Dept lock hands to unblock SA seafarers' passports renewal.** *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2021/02/11/samsa-and-home-affairs-dept-lock-hands-to-unblock-sa-seafarers-passports-renewal/> The South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) says problems encountered by South African seafarers at Department of Home Affairs relating directly to renewal of their expired or expiring passports are being attended to and hopefully soon, these will be resolved.

**Neptune Declaration: reality vs rhetoric.** *Nautilus International*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/neptune-declaration-reality-vs-rhetoric/> Seafarers caught up in the crew change crisis have called the Neptune Declaration 'empty rhetoric', telling the maritime world to stop patting itself on the back and understand the reality of travel restrictions and quarantines for seafarers.

**Kidnapped Turkish sailors rescued after pirate attack.** Yunus Turk, Mehmet Sah Yilmaz and Gokhan Varan. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/kidnapped-turkish-sailors-rescued-after-pirate-attack/2143025> All 15 remaining crew members of the Liberian-flagged ship *the Mozart* were rescued Friday after the cargo vessel had fallen victim to a pirate attack off Nigeria, two involved maritime companies announced.

**Nigeria: All 15 rescued sailors arrive at embassy.** Adam Abu-bashal. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 13 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/nigeria-all-15-rescued-sailors-arrive-at-embassy/2143759> All 15 rescued Turkish sailors were brought Saturday to the Turkish Embassy in Nigeria under strict security.

**Gov't urged to give vaccine priority to Malaysia's 40,000 seafarers.** Hana Naz Harun. *New Straits Times (Malaysia)*. 14 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2021/02/665686/govt-urged-give-vaccine-priority-malaysias-40000-seafarers> The Malaysian Maritime Professionals Association's Council (Ikmal) has urged the government to put seafarers on the priority list to be vaccinated against Covid-19.

**16 seafarers, including three from Mumbai, stuck at Chinese anchorage reached India.** V Narayan. *Times of India*. 14 February 2021. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/16-seafarers-including-three-from-mumbai-stuck-at-chinese-anchorage-reached-india/articleshow/80911921.cms> The 16 Indian seafarers of "MV Anastasia" merchant ship, who were stuck at the Chinese anchorage for more than six months, have finally reached Mumbai after they sailed to Japan on February 10.

**Sailors kidnapped off Nigeria return to Turkey, describe death threats and forest captivity.** *Reuters*. 14 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3f8d5Wj> Fifteen Turkish sailors kidnapped by pirates last month in the Gulf of Guinea arrived back in Turkey on Sunday and the ship's captain described how they faced death threats and were held in a forest during their three-week ordeal.

**Four years at sea, now just metres from shore: 'living hell' of stranded UAE ship.** Karen McVeigh. *The Guardian*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/feb/15/living-hell-of-stranded-uae-ship-iba> Tourists are more accustomed to seeing kite surfers or kayaks off the idyllic coast of Umm Al Quwain, in the United Arab Emirates.

**MSC Salutes ANASTASIA Seafarers on Safe Return Home.** *Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.msc.com/mrt/news/2021-february/msc-salutes-anastasia-seafarers-on-safe-return> The reunions are overdue, but we are glad to finally see the courageous crew of the cargo ship ANASTASIA repatriated to India after an extraordinarily challenging stint at sea.

**Update: Amin Shipping trick Onda crew in attempted wage coverup.** *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/update-amin-shipping-trick-onda-crew-in-attempted-wage-coverup> Since the ITF brought you the story of the crew of the MV Onda, it seems Mohamed Amin has plunged to new depths in his exploitation of the seafarers.

**Pandemic puts Philippines' crewing industry in crisis as placements collapse.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/pandemic-puts-philippines-crewing-industry-in-crisis-as-placements-collapse/2-1-962894> The deployment of Filipino crew, which make up more than half of the world's seafarers, has fallen dramatically due to the pandemic, according to official figures.

**Thousands of seafarers stuck at sea for months.** *Radio Islam International*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://soundcloud.com/radioislam/thousands-of-seafarers-stuck-at-sea-for-months> Interview with Frederick Kenney, Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations, IMO.

**Abandoned seafarers paid wages as stricken ship towed off Umm Al Quwain beach.** Nick Webster. *The National (UAE)*. 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/transport/abandoned-seafarers-paid-wages-as-stricken-ship-towed-off-umm-al-quwain-beach-1.1167051> Sailors abandoned for 43 months on board a tanker off the coast of Umm Al Quwain are finally set to return home after agreeing to a settlement on outstanding salaries.

**MAJ warns of potential seafarer shortages if crew change crisis isn't resolved.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/maj-warns-of-potential-seafarer-shortages-if-crew-change-crisis-isnt-resolved/> The global crew change crisis could lead to a shortage of seafarers if exhausted crew choose to leave the shipping industry rather than risk another long period trapped at sea, warns the Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ).

**DNV GL Maritime boss shocked and saddened by continuing seafarer crisis.** Paul Bartlett. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/dnv-gl-maritime-boss-shocked-and-saddened-continuing-seafarer-crisis> Speaking yesterday at the launch of a DNV GL white paper on ship safety in the context of digitalisation and decarbonisation, the classification society's maritime ceo Knut Ørbeck-Nilssen expressed shock that nearly 70% of IMO member states have still not recognised seafarers as "key workers".

**Pinoy seafarer wins IMO's exceptional 'Bravery Award at Sea'.** Carlos C. Salinas. *Manila Times*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/02/17/business/maritime-business/pinoy-seafarer-wins-imos-exceptional-bravery-award-at-sea/841734/> The late American poet Maya Angelou once said that "Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency.

**Tycoon's Downfall Pushes Trapped Seafarers to Hunger Strike.** K Oanh Ha. *Bloomberg*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloomberquint.com/business/tycoon-s-fallen-empire-pushes-trapped-seafarers-to-hunger-strike> When Turkish police arrested shipping magnate Mubarak Mansimov Gurbanoğlu at his Istanbul home one Sunday last March, his legal woes set off a chain of events that have decimated Palmali Shipping, his once-flourishing maritime empire.

**State revenues from Indonesian sailors projected to reach Rp151 T.** *Antara News (Indonesia)*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/168345/state-revenues-from-indonesian-sailors-projected-to-reach-rp151-t> The Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment expects state revenues from Indonesian sailors employed abroad to reach Rp151.2 trillion a year.

**Maritime consortium launch CrewCare App to improve seafarer well-being.** *Container Shipping Supporting Seafarers (CSSS)*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.containershippingsupportingseafarers.org/maritime-consortium-launch-crewcare-app-to-improve-seafarer-wellbeing> Marking a significant step forward in seafarer welfare, a group of established maritime entities have joined forces to build a digital platform aimed at improving the emotional well-being of the world's 1.7 million seafarers.



**Abandoned Palmali crew are caught in an inhumane trap - Turkey can free them.**

*ITF Seafarers*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/feature-abandoned-palmali-crew-are-caught-inhumane-trap-turkey-can-free-them> The humanitarian effort to feed, repatriate and fight for the seafarers' outstanding wages has been spearheaded by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) and its inspectors.

**Eleven new cases of crew abandonment in opening weeks of 2021.** Sam Chambers.

*Splash 247.com*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/eleven-new-cases-of-crew-abandonment-in-opening-weeks-of-2021/> While this week has seen some hard fought crew abandonment cases come to a merciful close there's no sign that this terrible shipping scourge is relenting.

**Stella Maris helps bring Mass live to Isle of Man registered ships.** *Stella Maris*.

19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/stella-maris-teams-up-with-isle-of-man-ship-register-to-live-stream-mass/> Fr Paulo Prigol, Stella Maris Manila Port Chaplain celebrated the first live-streamed Mass broadcast direct to seafarers on Isle of Man registered ships.

**After 3 years abandoned at sea without pay, this oil tanker crew is on cusp of going home.**

*Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-feb-22-2021-1.5922712/after-3-years-abandoned-at-sea-without-pay-this-oil-tanker-crew-is-on-cusp-of-going-home-1.5923521> When a shipping company from the United Arab Emirates hit financial trouble in 2017 and abandoned an oil tanker off the coast of Dubai, it left a small crew still aboard, stranded at sea without pay or a way home.

**Spike in ships abandoned at sea during the pandemic.** *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation*.

23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1864412739810> © The crew of the *MT Iba* — an oil tanker abandoned by its owners — are set to return home after years stranded aboard.

**Empathy at work: Ex-seafarer pays forward.** Yashika F. Torib. *Manila Times*. 24 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/02/24/business/maritime-business/empathy-at-work-ex-seafarer-pays-forward/844632/> Inability to help others can feel overwhelmingly difficult for people who made it a mission to alleviate the suffering of others.

**Seafarers in the UK Shipping Industry: 2020.** *UK Government*. 24 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/seafarers-in-the-uk-shipping-industry-2020> These annual statistics are compiled from certification data held by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, and data collected via the UK Chamber of Shipping Seafarer Employment Survey.

**Fiji government must step in over ferries scam, rights violations.** *International Transport*

*Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/fiji-government-must-step-in-over-ferries-scam-rights-violations> Seafarers have been made homeless and left stranded thousands of kilometres from their loved ones after a major Fijian ferry company scammed and underpaid them, and then fired the workers when they spoke to the union.

**70 days held hostage by pirates.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance*

*Network (ISWAN)*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/stories/70-days-held-hostage-by-pirates> In 2019, five Indian seafarers were kidnapped from their vessel in the Gulf of Guinea by Nigerian pirates and held hostage for more than two months.

**The World Tonight: Seafarers stranded at sea** *BBC Radio*. 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000sj91> Interview with Frederick Kenney, Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO. The interview starts at @38 minutes.



**Kiribati seafarers in Germany can go home.** Axel Hoffmann. *Canberra Times (Australia)*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/7142045/kiribati-seafarers-in-germany-can-go-home/> Germany's foreign ministry says 170 people from the Pacific island of Kiribati will be able to return home after being stranded in the country for several months.

**RMT demand Government action to stop shipowner exploitation of seafarers.** *National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT)*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rmt.org.uk/news/rmt-demand-government-action-to-stop-shipowner-exploitation-of-seafarers-union-rmt-today-responded-to-the-latest-government-statistics-on-the-number-of-uk-seafarers-working-in-the-shipping-industry-in-2020>

## SEARCH & RESCUE

**Ship adrift in high winds sparks rescue operation.** *BBC News*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-55893181> The *Valaris DS4* was moored at Hunterston Terminal, Fairlie, in the narrow waters between the mainland and the Isle of Cumbrae.

**UNHCR appeals for immediate rescue of Rohingya refugees in distress on the Andaman Sea.** *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.unhcr.org/asia/news/press/2021/2/603339354/unhcr-appeals-for-immediate-rescue-of-rohingya-refugees-in-distress-on.html> UNHCR received reports of an unconfirmed number of Rohingya refugees aboard a vessel in distress as of the evening of Saturday 20th February.

## SHIP RECYCLING

**Ship Recycling capacity to double by 2024, generate 1.5 lakh jobs.** *Deccan Herald (India)*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.deccanherald.com/business/ship-recycling-capacity-to-double-by-2024-generate-15-lakh-jobs-946065.html> Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said ship recycling capacity will be doubled by 2024 and efforts are being made to bring more ships from Europe and Japan.

**Platform publishes list of ships dismantled worldwide in 2020.** *NGO Shipbreaking Platform*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipbreakingplatform.org/platform-publishes-list-2020> According to new data released today by the NGO Shipbreaking Platform, 630 ocean-going commercial ships and offshore units were sold to the scrap yards in 2020.  
[Data Visualization](#) [Excel dataset of ships](#)

**Responsible ship recycling: standards or geography?** Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/eu-ship-recycling-capacity-may-not-be-what-it-seems-but-cost-is-still-the-main-factor-63262> Experts at Riviera's The end of the EU vessel owner recycling conundrum? webinar, sponsored by Wirana Shipping, dissected the major issues facing EU shipowners with end-of-life vessels.

**Frustrated Maersk wants EU speed up approval of shipbreaking in India.** Astrid Sturlason. *ShippingWatch*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12734185.ece> It is incomprehensible and surprising that the 25-year-old Basel Convention suddenly poses a challenge in terms of approving ship recycling in India.

### **Scrap yards disagree with Maersk: Plenty of space at approved EU shipbreakers.**

Astrid Sturlason. *ShippingWatch*. 4 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/suppliers/article12738523.ece> There is far from a shortage of space at European yards to scrap large vessels from, among others, Maersk at shipbreaking facilities that are included on the EU's list of approved yards, says Peter Wyntin, chairman of association European Ship Recyclers and head of ship recycling at Belgian yard Galloo.

### **Ship recycling in Alang: What is its capacity, and can it attract more ageing ships from Europe & Japan?**

Avinash Nair. *Indian Express*. 5 February 2021. Available from:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/ship-recycling-alang-capacity-ageing-ships-europe-japan-7174436/> In her Budget speech on Monday, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman spoke about doubling the ship recycling capacity by 2024 and attracting more ships to India from Europe and Japan.

### **First certified 'EU-equivalent' shipbreaking facility in Africa.**

Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 5 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/the-first-certified-Isquo-eu-equivalentrsquo-shipbreaking-facility-in-africa-63315> The 34South facility will target larger Panamax-sized vessels, and once approved, will be the first green, compliant, ship recycling centre in Africa, making South Africa one of the first non-OECD countries able to accept these end-of-life vessels.

### **Turkish EU-listed yards shaken by two fatal accidents.**

Ingvild Jenssen. *NGO Shipbreaking Platform*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipbreakingplatform.org/accidents-turkish-eu-listed-yards/> In the last four months, the Turkish ship recycling industry has been hit by two serious accidents.

### **Video: Fire and Explosion in Indonesian Shipyard Kills Three Workers.**

*Maritime Executive*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/video-fire-and-explosion-in-indonesian-shipyard-kills-three-workers> The fire appears to have broken out on the dock or a fuel barge that was astern of an LPG tanker that was at the PT Barokah Galangan Perkasa shipyard, Mahakam River in Samarinda, province of East Kalimantan in western Indonesia.

### **The Ship Recycling Regulations: Where we stand today and Which standard to follow?**

Nikos Mikelis and Anand M. Hiremath. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 23 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/the-ship-recycling-regulations-where-we-stand-today-and-which-standard-to-follow/> It all started with the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (The Basel Convention), which was adopted in March 1989 and entered into force in May 1992.

## **SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR**


### **Corvus Energy awarded battery for the world's first zero-emission tanker project.**

*Corvus Energy*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://corvusenergy.com/corvus-energy-awarded-battery-for-the-worlds-first-zero-emission-tanker-project/> Corvus Energy is pleased to announce that Kawasaki Heavy Industries has selected Corvus Energy to supply the energy storage system (ESS) for the first zero-emissions electric "e5 tanker" currently under construction for Asahi Tanker Co., Ltd. of Tokyo, Japan.

### **Korean shipbuilders forecast to suffer decline in 2<sup>nd</sup> half order backlogs.**

*Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 2 February 2021. Available from:

<https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210202008400320> South Korean shipbuilders, led by top player Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., are expected to undergo a temporary shortage of order backlogs in the second half of the year due to a decline in new orders last year.

**The fundamental binary decarbonisation choice facing owners.** *SEA-LNG*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://sea-lng.org/2021/02/the-fundamental-binary-decarbonisation-choice-facing-owners/> In 2021 Outlook for LNG, “A View from the Bridge” Peter Keller, our chairman outlines the fundamental binary choice facing newbuilds in 2021, as decarbonisation forces a choice between using LNG now, or retrofitting later. [2021 Outlook for LNG, “A View from the Bridge”](#) 

**Quick thinking needed as clock ticks down on EEXI compliance.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/technology/quick-thinking-needed-as-clock-ticks-down-on-eexi-compliance/2-1-954616> Shipowners have less than two years to decide if they want to slow down, invest in technology or scrap their vessels to meet upcoming rules on emissions.

**The ‘Tesla of the Seas’ – pioneering British company, Windship Technology unveils first True Zero Emission ship design.** *Windship Technology Ltd*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://windshiptechnology.com/windship-technology-unveils-first-true-zero-emission-ship-design/> With shipping now accounting for over 3% of global CO2 emissions, and still increasing, the innovative all-ship solution is set to revitalise an industry under pressure to reform.

**Samsung Heavy to demonstrate remote ship control system for large vessel.** Nam Kwang-sik. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210210005600320> Samsung Heavy Industries Co. said Wednesday that it will demonstrate whether its remote autonomous navigation system can autonomously steer a large ship in August.

**Two dominant engine makers will hasten fuel transition: Tsakos.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/two-dominant-engine-makers-will-hasten-fuel-transition-tsakos/> Shipping is in a fortunate position as the future fuel debate reaches its crescendo in that it has just two very dominant engine manufacturers.

**Michelin Commits to Shipping Tires on Sail-Powered Cargo Ships.** Mike Schuler. *gCaptain*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/michelin-commits-to-shipping-tires-on-sail-powered-cargo-ships/> Tire manufacturer Michelin has agreed to ship some of its tires using two sail-powered cargo ships being developed by French shipping line Neoline.

**Windsor Salt and Canada Steamship Lines to build self-unloading ship.** *ShipTechnology*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/news/windsor-salt-canada-steamship-lines-ship/> Windsor Salt and Canada Steamship Lines (CSL), a unit of The CSL Group, have entered a strategic partnership to build a new cutting-edge self-unloading ship.

**The First Battery-Powered Tanker is Coming to Tokyo.** Maria Galucci. *IEEE Spectrum*. 14 February 2021. Available from: <https://spectrum.ieee.org/energywise/energy/batteries-storage/first-battery-powered-tanker-coming-to-tokyo> A new ship powered only by lithium-ion batteries is coming to Japan’s coastline.

**Orcelle Wind: Wallenius Wilhelmsen’s first full-scale wind-powered RoRo ship.** *Wallenius Wilhelmsen*. 17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.walleniuswilhelmsen.com/news/orcelle-wind-wallenius-wilhelmsens-first-full-scale-wind-powered-ro-ro-ship> The transoceanic shipping industry might be the most carbon efficient mode of transport, but the fact remains that it still accounts for nearly 3% of global man-made greenhouse gas emissions.

**Newbuilding Ordering Activity Shows No Signs of Slowing Down.** Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/newbuilding-ordering-activity-shows-no-signs-of-slowing-down/> Ship owners are feeling more confident in terms of contracting more newbuildings, as evidenced by the activity of the past few weeks.

**French boat hauls luxury cargoes across Atlantic with sail power.** *Reuters*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://tmsnrt.rs/3sjiNIG> In a return to the age of the clipper, a French company is using a sailing boat to ply the trade routes that pre-dated steam power - and delivering wine and chocolate to environmentally conscious customers on either side of the Atlantic.

**Grimaldi inks order for six new G-5 ships to cut fleet CO2 emissions.** Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/grimaldi-inks-order-for-six-new-g-5-ships-to-cut-fleet-co2-emissions/> Italian ship operator Grimaldi Group has signed an agreement worth over \$500 million, for six new ro-ro multipurpose vessels with Hyundai Mipo.

## SHIPPING

**Ferry operator uses voyage optimisation to cut fuel consumption by 7%.** John Snyder. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/ferry-operator-uses-voyage-optimisation-to-cut-fuel-consumption-by-7-63113> Developed by Sweden's Qtagg, the voyage optimisation tool EcoPilot manages the entire voyage by calculating an optimum power plan and executing it automatically, with little or no manual intervention.

**New Carbon Intensity Monitoring (CIM) service aims to set the standard for emissions reporting and compliance.** *Weathernews Inc.* 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://global.weathernews.com/news/15853/> International shipping carries around 90% of world trade by volume, but as a major source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions it remains a major sustainability issue for global supply chains.

**The Lloyd's List Podcast: Can shipping move from digital laggard to leader?** *Lloyd's List*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135598/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Can-shipping-move-from-digital-laggard-to-leader> As part of a Lloyd's List special report on digitalisation in shipping we are looking at shipping's progress towards efficiency and integration on the podcast this week.

**Special report: Digitalisation & data.** *Lloyd's List*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/special-reports/2020/digitalisation-and-data> Digitalisation of processes was under discussion before Covid-19 struck, although there was a lack of urgency.

**Biorisk rules: New ship classification notations issued by Bureau Veritas** *Bureau Veritas*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://group.bureauveritas.com/newsroom/biorisk-rules-new-ship-classification-notations-issued-bureau-veritas> Bureau Veritas has released two new class notations – "BIORISK MANAGED" and "BIORISK SECURED". *MSC VIRTUOSA*, delivered on February 1<sup>st</sup>, is the first ship world-wide to receive the BIORISK notation.

**Shipowners split their fleets up in two according to new carbon efficiency requirements.** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12731584.ece> Some shipowners have already started to review their fleets in order to categorize ships according to new international rules, as the IMO's Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index, EEXI, is expected to receive final approval this summer.

**SMM DIGITAL: 'Maritime Transition' Ready for Kick-off.** *Port of Hamburg*. 2 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hafen-hamburg.de/en/news/smm-digital-maritime-transition-ready-for-kick-off---37100> Today marks the beginning of the leading international maritime trade event, SMM DIGITAL, for the first time held as a fully digital conference this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. [SMM DIGITAL 2021 Conference Videos](#)



**A “beggar-thy-neighbour” approach keeps seafarers stranded.** Sandra Tsui.

*Lowy Institute (Australia)*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/beggar-thy-neighbour-approach-keeps-seafarers-stranded> When a business manager is willing to spend US\$200,000 to send home five employees whose contracts have expired and bring five colleagues to replace them on the spot, later telling a reporter the cost was the least of their worries, you can be sure a crisis is involved.

**The Bahamas sees a positive future for shipping post COVID-19.** *Bahamas Maritime*

*Authority (BMA)*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bahamasmaritime.com/bma-news/the-bahamas-sees-a-positive-future-for-shipping-post-covid-19/> As the world draws its breath after the unprecedented challenges of 2020, The Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) outlines its goals for the coming year, with a focus on how shipping ensures a positive future as it moves on from COVID-19.

**Why should new crew change alliance make a difference in 2021 when politicians remained mute in 2020?** Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 3 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12729658.ece> Does the unity of some of the most influential global companies to secure the wellbeing of seafarers matter, when the world’s politicians heard their pledges loud and clear in 2020 and still did little to resolve it?

**Liberia Becomes The First Ship Registry To Join Neptune Declaration.** *Liberian Registry*.

3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.liscr.com/blog/liberia-becomes-first-ship-registry-join-neptune-declaration> The Liberian Registry joins over 300 owners, operators, and maritime organizations in this very important worldwide call to action to end the unprecedented crew change crisis caused by COVID-19.

**Revealed: The subterfuge tanker fleet keeping Venezuelan and Iranian crude flowing.**

Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd’s List*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135645/Revealed-The-subterfuge-tanker-fleet-keeping-Venezuelan-and-Iranian-crude-flowing> THE 21-year-old aframax tanker *Aurora* (IMO: 9183295) has changed flags and owners twice and gone by three different names since being sold last September by former Greek owner Thanassis Martinos.

**The Chinese/Australian trade wars and implications for shipping.** Ian Goulson and

Kelly Wagland. *Gard*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31144594/the-chineseaustralian-trade-wars-and-implications-for-shipping> In this article, we will take a brief look at some of the complications that can arise with respect to both voyage and time charterparties when there is significant delay, such as that experienced to laden vessels off shore China.

**Will the pandemic open new doors?** David Loosley. *Lloyd’s Register*. 4 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/will-the-pandemic-open-new-doors/> If our industry can adapt and innovate like we have done throughout COVID-19, imagine what we can do to accelerate decarbonisation efforts if we apply the right thinking and the right resources, says David Loosley, BIMCO Secretary General & CEO.


**Shipping decarbonisation lacks ambition and urgency, claim NGOs.** Gary Howard. *Seatrade*


*Maritime News*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/environmental/shipping-decarbonisation-lacks-ambition-and-urgency-claim-ngos> Representatives from the shipping industry and environmental NGOs exposed the gaps between their understandings of where the shipping industry currently stands on decarbonising and where it needs to get to.




**From vision to vessel - Stena Line plans to launch fossil free ships before 2030.** *Stena Line*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.cision.com/stena-line/r/from-vision-to-vessel---stena-line-plans-to-launch-fossil-free-ships-before-2030.c3279778> Ferry company Stena Line plans to start operating two fossil-free battery powered vessels on the route between Gothenburg and Frederikshavn in Denmark no later than 2030.

**Launch of in-water cleaning standard to reduce biofouling.** Bob Jaques. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 4 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/launch-water-cleaning-standard-reduce-biofouling> Bimco and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) have published the first industry standard on in-water cleaning of ships in order to prevent transfer of invasive species to local marine environments.


**Industry Standard on In-water Cleaning with Capture.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3f8bQGD> This industry standard helps to ensure that the in-water cleaning of a ship's hull, and niche areas including the propeller, can be carried out safely, efficiently and in an environmentally sustainable way.  
[Industry Standard on In-water Cleaning with Capture v1.0](#) 


**Profiles in Training - Mike Corrigan, CEO, INTERFERRY.** Greg Trauthwein. *Maritime Global News*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <http://maritimeglobalnews.com/news/video-profiles-training-corrigan-eemk81>  Mike Corrigan, the ubiquitous leader of Interferry, has a broad base of energy and maritime industry experience, including his stint as CEO of BC Ferries.

**The Lloyd's List Podcast: Is the crewing crisis getting worse?** Graham Westgarth. *Lloyd's List*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135695/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Is-the-crewing-crisis-getting-worse>  A year into the coronavirus pandemic and we are still reminding everyone that hundreds of thousands of seafarers from across the globe have been left stranded working on board ships beyond the expiry of their initial contracts.

**The EU is about to push the first-ever fuel carbon intensity measure on shipping.** Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135688/The-EU-is-about-to-push-the-first-ever-fuel-carbon-intensity-measure-on-shipping> Ships calling at European ports may soon have to source and operate on less carbon-intensive fuels under a new plan that actors across the board are warning will have major impacts while receiving insufficient attention.

**The oceans are becoming a large container terminal.** Javier Madieto. *Splash 247.com*. 6 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/the-oceans-are-becoming-a-large-container-terminal/> We continually read, see and hear news of hundreds of containers fallen into the sea from large containerships with their huge decks full of crumpled teu and feu.

**Business Daily - Stormy seas for global shipping.** *BBC World Service*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3csz7kn>  We explore the twin crises affecting the shipping industry.

**Diversity, Inclusion and Hope. A Reality Check in 2021.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/02/08/diversity-inclusion-and-hope-a-reality-check-in-2021/> Human Rights at Sea today publishes a case study by Advisory Board member and maritime professional, Joanne Rawley, providing a personal insight and commentary as a reality check to the issue of diversity and inclusion in the shipping industry.  
[We are All someone's Daughter. We chose to be Seafarers](#) 

**Sustainable Shipping Initiative sets out sustainability issues and principles surrounding marine fuels for the decarbonisation of shipping.** *Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI).*

8 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.sustainablesshipping.org/news/white-paper/>

The Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI) has published a white paper setting out sustainability issues and principles surrounding marine fuels under consideration for shipping's decarbonisation.

[White Paper](#) 

**Brexit consequences on the shipping industry.** *MediTelegraph (Italy).* 8 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.themeditelegraph.com/en/markets/regulation/2021/02/08/news/brexit-consequences-on-the-shipping-industry-1.39876740> The purpose of this brief insight is to analyze the problems inherent to customs operations, cabotage, navigation safety and the recognition of seafarers' qualifications following the end of the Brexit transition period.

**Subterfuge shipping investigation: The quiet class purge.** Michelle Wiese Bockmann.

*Lloyd's List.* 8 February 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135711/Subterfuge-shipping-investigation-The-quiet-class-purge> Subterfuge shipowners have exploited loopholes to flag their vessels in some of the world's poorest countries to evade US sanctions and ship Iranian and Venezuelan crude.

**Tanzania deflags four Iran-linked tankers.** Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List.*

8 February 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135709/Tanzania-deflags-four-Iran-linked-tankers> The tankers were regular flag hoppers, and form part of a subterfuge fleet of some 130 tankers that make up an opaque sub-sector of energy commodity shipping, which has evolved to keep Iranian and Venezuelan crude flowing despite US sanctions.

**Japan aims to boost ammonia fuel demand to 3 mln tonnes a year by 2030.** *Reuters.*

8 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3sht347> Japan has set a target to grow the nation's ammonia fuel demand to 3 million tonnes a year by 2030 from zero now and to create a new supply chain of the fuel in a bid to cut CO2 emissions and combat climate change, its industry ministry said on Monday.

**Exclusive: women occupy 5% of maritime leadership roles.** *Spinnaker Global Ltd.*

9 February 2021. Available from: [https://spinnaker-global.com/0\\_09-02-2021-women-in-maritime-leadership-salaries](https://spinnaker-global.com/0_09-02-2021-women-in-maritime-leadership-salaries) According to Spinnaker's Maritime HR Association data, the proportion of male and female employees within the global shore-based workforce remained largely stable in 2020 – 56% male, 41% female, and 3% unknown.

**Major container line deflates hopes of imminent resolution to container shortage.** Søren Pico.

*ShippingWatch.* 9 February 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12748816.ece> The significant challenges currently plaguing the container market with bottlenecks and equipment shortages will last several more months, says one of the world's biggest container lines, HMM.

**Low carbon transport at sea: Ferries voyage optimization in the Adriatic.** *EurekAlert!*

9 February 2021. Available from: [https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2021-02/cf-e-lct020921.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2021-02/cf-e-lct020921.php) Energy efficiency or carbon intensity (defined as CO2 emissions per transport work, ed.) is a possible point of convergence between the International Maritime Organization and EU regulations to cut GHG emissions and decarbonize shipping.

**ONE Conducts Successful Trial Use of Sustainable Biofuel for Decarbonisation.** *GoodFuels.*

10 February 2021. Available from: <https://goodfuels.com/one-conducts-successful-trial-use-of-sustainable-biofuel-for-decarbonisation/> Ocean Network Express (ONE) is pleased to announce the successful trial use of biofuel to power the *M/V MOL Experience*.

**Container shipping locked in a ‘significant bottleneck’ as demand surges back.** Elliot Smith. *CNBC (US)*. 10 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/02/10/maersk-q4-2020-earnings.html> Container shipping firms are locked in a “significant bottleneck” as resurgent global demand stretches capacity and drives up freight rates, Maersk CEO Soren Skou told CNBC.

**International Chamber of Shipping: Demand Level ‘Unexpected’.** *Bloomberg*. 10 February 2021. Available from: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDrzRB\\_j1xs&ab\\_channel=BloombergMarketsandFinance](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDrzRB_j1xs&ab_channel=BloombergMarketsandFinance) Esben Poulsson, chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping and executive chairman of ENESEL, a Singapore-based commercial management and ship owning entity, discusses the outlook for the industry amid the coronavirus pandemic.

**Former IMO Emissions Chief: We Have to Be Open-Minded About Nuclear Power** *Ship & Bunker*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/385647-former-imo-emissions-chief-we-have-to-be-open-minded-about-nuclear-power> The former IMO emissions official who helped draft the UN body’s initial strategy on decarbonisation has reiterated his support for nuclear energy, calling for the shipping industry to keep an open mind as it considers future power sources.

**Fuel oil markets show resilience after twin challenge of IMO 2020 and pandemic.** Beth Brown, Rajesh Nair and Tamara Sleiman. *S&P Global Platts*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39bb4Vm> Global fuel oil markets weathered choppy waters in 2020, contending with the monumental change brought by the International Maritime Organization’s global sulfur cap, but also demand destruction on the back of the coronavirus pandemic.

**Shipping facing ‘a brutal decade’ on its decarbonisation journey.** Lesley Bankes-Hughes. *ship.energy*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://ship.energy/2021/02/11/shipping-facing-a-brutal-decade-on-its-decarbonisation-journey/> Panellists at today’s UK Chamber of Shipping conference on Pathways to 2030 weighed up the tough challenges facing shipping over de-risking investment in decarbonisation technologies and fuels whilst keeping up the pace on its energy transition.

**Iran-linked shipowners list little-known ‘East of England’ P&I Club for tanker cover.** Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd’s List*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135759/Iranlinked-shipowners-list-littleknown-East-of-England-PI-Club-for-tanker-cover> A Seychelles-registered, Cyprus-managed association largely unheard of in mainstream insurance circles has emerged as the provider of third-party liability for shipping sanctioned Iranian crude.

**Can the shipping industry clean up its act? House on Fire podcast.** James Bray. *World Economic Forum*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/02/shipping-industry-carbon-clean-house-on-fire-podcast/> Episode 10 of House on Fire looks at how to decarbonise the shipping industry.

**Maersk points to four future fuels: Several barriers still need to be overcome.** Christian Carlsen. *ShippingWatch*. 12 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12758914.ece> Maersk has now identified four fuels that will help the container line achieve its ambition of become carbon-neutral by 2050.

**EU shipowners call for fund coupled with targets for fuel suppliers to decarbonise shipping.** *European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA)*. 15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/eu-shipowners-call-fund-coupled-targets-fuel-suppliers-decarbonise-shipping> The European Commission should address fuel suppliers by introducing sub-targets to make low- and zero carbon fuels available for shipping and by increasing the multiplier for renewable fuels used in the maritime sector under the Renewable Energy Directive (RED).

**Covid-19: Cruise industry ‘in a very different place’ to a year ago.** *BBC News.*

15 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/business-56071052> The cruise industry is now “in a very different place” than it was a year ago, Brian Salerno, senior vice-president of Maritime Policy, Cruise Lines International Association has said.

**Scope 3 emissions: how the freight industry will transition to net zero.** *Hellenic Shipping News.*

16 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/scope-3-emissions-how-the-freight-industry-will-transition-to-net-zero/> In February 2020, BP announced that it aims to be “net zero across its operations on an absolute basis by 2050 or sooner”.

**BIMCO drafts new Just in Time clause for voyage charters.** *Malcom Latarche. ShipInsight.*

16 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/bimco-drafts-new-just-in-time-clause-for-voyage-charters/> In response to debate in the industry over just in time (JIT) arrivals aimed at reducing emissions, BIMCO has drafted a new clause to cover possible agreements between charterers and carriers.

**Get Ready for Bunker Quality Problems as Prices Rise: KPI OceanConnect.** *Ship & Bunker.*

16 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/435769-get-ready-for-bunker-quality-problems-as-prices-rise-kpi-oceanconnect> Some of the bunker quality problems anticipated before the IMO 2020 transition may now come to pass as oil prices surge this year, according to marine fuel supplier KPI OceanConnect.

**Does shipping need its own ammonia rules?** *Lloyd’s List.* 16 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135800/Does-shipping-need-its-own-ammonia-rules> The safe development of alternative fuels and their supply chains should be a priority for everyone across their value chain, but when it comes to ammonia, reinventing the wheel may be unnecessary.

**Cruises to nowhere: a stuttering return to the seas.** *Luke Christou. ShipTechnology.*

17 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/cruises-to-nowhere-stuttering-return-to-the-seas/> The Covid-19 pandemic continues to thwart cruise lines’ return to the seas.

**A.P. Moller - Maersk will operate the world’s first carbon neutral liner vessel by 2023 – seven years ahead of schedule.** *Maersk.* 17 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2021/02/17/maersk-first-carbon-neutral-liner-vessel-by-2023> Fast-tracked by advances in technology and increasing customer demand for sustainable supply chains, A.P. Moller - Maersk accelerates the efforts to decarbonise marine operations with the launch of the world’s first carbon neutral liner vessel in 2023 - seven years ahead of the initial 2030-ambition.

**Propelling decarbonisation.** *Jeremy Gordon. Nuclear Engineering International.* 18 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.neimagazine.com/opinion/opinionpropelling-decarbonisation-8532212/> Back in 2021 I was in the habit of attending conferences where executives and engineers hashed out the potential issue of using small reactors instead of fuel oil to power commercial shipping.

**Is shipping ready to follow Maersk’s ‘carbon neutral’ lead?** *Anastassios Adamopoulos.*

*Lloyd’s List.* 18 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135836/Is-shipping-ready-to-follow-Maersks-carbon-neutral-lead> The biggest container shipping company in the world has sent a clear message of what should be expected by the industry in the near future.

**‘Every Ship That is Available is Sailing,’ Says Hapag-Lloyd CEO.** *Greg Trauthwein. Marine Link.*

19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/every-ship-available-sailing-says-485421> With historically high freight rates, fleet utilization and demand, there is no end in sight for the red-hot containership market.



**Maersk: Consumers can foot shipping's climate change bill.** Jonathan Josephs. *BBC News*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56126559> The boss of the world's biggest shipping firm has told the BBC people would be willing to pay a little bit more for their goods if it helps tackle climate change.

**Lifting the fog around shore-side electricity.** Boris Stolz. *Splash 247.com*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/lifting-the-fog-around-shore-side-electricity/> Initiatives to lower the climate impact of shipping are appearing all over the sector.

**It's time to bring some humanity to shipping.** Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135850/Its-time-to-bring-some-humanity-to-shipping> The future of shipping must be built on three pillars, not two.

**Shipping gets into wind power.** Dennis O'Neill. *Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)*. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/on-the-radar/item/5966-shipping-gets-into-wind-power> Advantages in maritime experience and expertise are encouraging leading shipping companies to diversify into the lucrative offshore energy sector.

**The Sustainability Imperative.** Watson Farley & Williams LLP. 19 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.wfw.com/reports/the-sustainability-imperative/> Sustainability concerns have rocketed up the shipping agenda over the past decade, with environmental, social and corporate governance issues already influencing financing decisions, fleet renewal and regulatory change across the industry.

**Iran to launch direct shipping lines for South Africa and Latin American states.** *Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran)*. 20 February 2021. Available from: <https://en.irna.ir/news/84235807/Iran-to-launch-direct-shipping-lines-for-South-Africa-and-Latin> Iran will launch direct shipping lines to South Africa and Latin American states in near future, Head of the Commission for Trade Development and Non- oil Export Development of Iran Chamber of Cooperatives Babak Afghahi said on Saturday.

**As shipping delays continue, NZ Inc looks for alternatives.** Dileepa Fonseka. *Stuff (New Zealand)*. 21 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/124275306/as-shipping-delays-continue-nz-inc-looks-for-alternatives> Anybody who doubted the far-reaching effects of the supply chain disruptions on jobs and our economy only had to tag along to an employment subsidy announcement in South Auckland two weeks ago to be convinced otherwise.

**Shipping looks set to escape Myanmar sanctions — for now.** Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipping-looks-set-to-escape-myanmar-sanctions-for-now/2-1-967097> Shipping companies trading with Myanmar look set to avoid the sanctions that have hampered similar activities in countries such as Venezuela and Iran.

**MSC topples Maersk at the top of the box rankings.** Grant Rowles. *Splash 247.com*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/msc-topples-maersk-at-the-top-of-the-box-rankings/> For the first time in more than a quarter of a century Maersk is on track to lose its mantle as the world's largest containerline.

**With EEXI looming, LNG as fuel gains interest.** John Snyder. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/with-eexi-looming-lng-as-fuel-gains-interest-63719> Speaking at Riviera's LNG Bunkering & Refuelling Americas conference, Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement (BSM) LNG technical expert Johan Lillieskold noted "a great deal of interest" emerging in the shipping market to convert ships to dual-fuel, LNG propulsion.



**Task force to ensure more women in Norway's maritime industry.** Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12779320.ece> It has long been a stated wish from the maritime industry to get more women to join the industry in Norway, but so far there has not been much progress.

**Large damages in shipping make Skuld and other insurers increase premiums.** Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/suppliers/article12777402.ece> It will be more expensive to insure the world's commercial vessels for the next twelve months.

**Driving data collaboration? The state should pave the way.** Jack Donnelly. *Port Technology International*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.porttechnology.org/news/driving-data-collaboration-the-state-should-pave-the-way/> The long-lamented issue of global shipping stakeholders' apprehension towards data sharing could be unlocked by greater direction from state actors, argues an industry expert.

**Maritec recommends onboard bunker samples for compliance amid high sulphur warning.** *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/maritec-recommends-onboard-bunker-samples-for-compliance-amid-high-sulphur-warning/> Singapore-based marine fuel testing and marine surveying business Maritec Pte Ltd (Maritec), now a subsidiary of Shenzhen-listed Centre Testing International Group (CTI), published some advice for shipowners on how best to meet IMO 2020 fuel testing requirements following reports of excessive sulphur in some very low sulphur fuel oils.

**Foreship Ready for Scrubber Clean Up.** Olli Somerkallio. *Ship & Bunker*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/424997-feature-foreship-ready-for-scrubber-clean-up> Expectations are high that exhaust gas scrubber technology demand will soon be resurgent.

**Why the Shipping Industry Is Betting Big on Ammonia.** Maria Gallucci. *IEEE Spectrum*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://spectrum.ieee.org/transportation/marine/why-the-shipping-industry-is-betting-big-on-ammonia> Ammonia engines and fuel cells could slash carbon emissions.

**DFDS and Maersk will use carbon-free ammonia from new huge facility.** Maz Plechinger. *ShippingWatch*. 23 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12780268.ece> Shipping companies DFDS and Maersk together with the agricultural sector are prepared to buy the production of up to 90,000 tons green ammonia from a large production facility, which could be ready in western Denmark five years from now.

**ESG is forcing change, but some still have their heads in the sand.** Julian Bray. *TradeWinds*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/esg-is-forcing-change-but-some-still-have-their-heads-in-the-sand/2-1-968501> How fast-moving and deep-rooted are the changes to business practices apparently sweeping across the maritime sector today?

**MPA joins industry in Ammonia Fuelled Tanker Joint Development Project.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/69113e8b-0d26-4e44-90d0-21ee387c58c0> Ammonia-fuelled tanker Joint Development Project (JDP) partners - MISC Berhad (MISC), Lloyd's Register (LR), Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI) and MAN Energy Solutions (MAN) announced the entry of two new partners – the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and Yara International ASA (Yara) at a recent webinar focused on Ammonia as a Shipping Fuel which was organized by the Getting to Zero Coalition's Fuels & Technologies workstream.

**Liberia's Fisheries Boss Speaks at IMO-United Nations Webinar on the Need for Ratification of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement for Africa.** *Liberian Observer*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.liberianobserver.com/news/liberias-fisheries-boss-speaks-at-imo-united-nations-webinar-on-the-need-for-ratification-of-the-2012-cape-town-agreement-for-africa/> The Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), Madam Emma Metieh Glassco was honourably invited to serve as speaker at the International Maritime Organization (IMO)-United Nations Webinar for the Ratification and Implementation of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement that speaks to the safety of fishing vessels above 24 meters.

**Protectionism in Maritime Economies Study.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2QvI2cB> ICS' global trade Protectionism in Maritime Economies Study outlines the protectionist trade policies being implemented by governments worldwide. [Summary Report](#)

**Norwegian shipping wants money from carbon levy returned to the sector.** *Idha Toft Valeur*. *ShippingWatch*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12783310.ece> The many millions of dollars pouring into the Norwegian state coffers from a rising carbon levy should be used to facilitate the green transition, says the Norwegian shipping sector.

**CII's impact on engines remains unclear.** *The Motorship*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.motorship.com/news101/regulation-and-classification/ciis-impact-on-engines-remains-unclear> Uncertainty about the impact of IMO's proposed Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII) on ship operations was voiced in *The Motorship* in December by Lars Robert Pedersen, deputy secretary general of the international shipowners organisation BIMCO.

**ESG survey confirms broad industry support for decarbonisation.** *Richard Clayton*. *Lloyd's List*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135911/ESG-survey-confirms-broad-industry-support-for-decarbonisation> Reducing shipping's carbon footprint is the industry's main challenge, according to a survey carried out on behalf of law firm Watson Farley & Williams.

**EU shipowners welcome Parliament's call for a comprehensive approach under FuelEU Maritime.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/index.php/news/eu-shipowners-welcome-parliaments-call-comprehensive-approach-under-fueleu-maritime> The Transport Committee of the European Parliament adopted today the Delli Report on more efficient and cleaner maritime transport.

**Transport MEPs set their vision of clean maritime transport.** *European Parliament*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210219IPR98228/transport-meps-set-their-vision-of-clean-maritime-transport> Climate neutral transition of the maritime transport should be followed by a notable reduction of emissions, clean ports and giving up of heavy fuel oil usage, said MEPs on Thursday.

**Accession to "Bunkers Convention" Critical to Pursue Oil Spill Compensation.** *Solomon Times (Solomon Islands)*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.solomontimes.com/news/accession-to-bunkers-convention-critical-to-pursue-oil-spill-compensation/10661> The Solomon Islands recent accession to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage ('Bunkers Convention') is critical for pursuing compensation regarding the recent oil spill damages in the country.

**Female officer reveals experiences of discrimination and intimidation.** Adam Corbett.

*TradeWinds*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/female-officer-reveals-experiences-of-discrimination-and-intimidation/2-1-969534>  
Chief officer Joanne Rawley has turned a spotlight on the issue of discrimination in shipping by sharing her experiences of intimidation during her nine years at sea in an article entitled *We are all someone's daughter. We chose to be seafarers*.

**Predictive emissions index launches.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/predictive-emissions-index-launches/> Greece's METIS Cyberspace Technology has refined its cloud-based data acquisition and ship performance reporting solution to offer shipping's first tool to predict the trade-off between emissions reduction and debt servicing for ships financed under the Poseidon Principles.

## RESEARCH

Hassanali K. **Internationalization of EIA in a new marine biodiversity agreement under the Law of the Sea Convention: A proposal for a tiered approach to review and decision-making.** *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0195925521000044> Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is one of the four main elements of the package being negotiated in the Intergovernmental Conference to develop an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ agreement).

McDonald GG, Costello C, et al. **Satellites can reveal global extent of forced labor in the world's fishing fleet.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <http://www.pnas.org/content/118/3/e2016238117.abstract> Forced labor in fisheries is increasingly recognized as a human rights crisis.

Stolz B, Held M, et al. **The CO2 reduction potential of shore-side electricity in Europe.** *Applied Energy*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306261920317864> Shore-side electricity can drastically reduce the emissions from fossil fuel-powered auxiliary engines of ships at berth.

Trucco S, Demartini MC, et al. **The reporting of sustainable development goals: is the integrated approach the missing link?** *SN Business & Economics*. 1 February 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s43546-021-00046-9> This commentary argues that the integrated thinking could support the simultaneous consideration of different stakeholders' groups to ensure that the SDGs can be achieved as a whole.

Richir J, Bray S, et al. **Three decades of trace element sediment contamination: The mining of governmental databases and the need to address hidden sources for clean and healthy seas.** *Environment International*. 3 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412020323163> Trace elements (TEs) frequently contaminate coastal marine sediments with many included in priority chemical lists or control legislation.

Duarte CM, Chapuis L, et al. **The soundscape of the Anthropocene ocean.** *Science*. 5 February 2021. Available from: <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/371/6529/eaba4658> Sound is the sensory cue that travels farthest through the ocean and is used by marine animals, ranging from invertebrates to great whales, to interpret and explore the marine environment and to interact within and among species.

Vagale A, Bye RT, et al. **Path planning and collision avoidance for autonomous surface vehicles II: a comparative study of algorithms.** *Journal of Marine Science and Technology*. 6 February 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00773-020-00790-x> Artificial intelligence is an enabling technology for autonomous surface vehicles, with methods such as evolutionary algorithms, artificial potential fields, fast marching methods, and many others becoming increasingly popular for solving problems such as path planning and collision avoidance.

Grip K and Blomqvist S. **Marine spatial planning: Coordinating divergent marine interests.** *Ambio*. 7 February 2021. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-020-01471-0> Globally, ecosystem-based marine spatial planning has become a useful instrument to coordinate the planning of different authorities.

Bilgili L. **Life cycle comparison of marine fuels for IMO 2020 Sulphur Cap.** *Science of The Total Environment*. 9 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969721007865> Ships, which are the backbone of world trade, are also major emission generators.

van Tatenhove JPM. **COVID-19 and European maritime futures: different pathways to deal with the pandemic.** *Maritime Studies*. 11 February 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40152-021-00216-3#citeas> The aftermath of the Covid-19 crisis and the re-development of maritime sectors in the EU will be unprecedented.

Desai RM and Shambaugh GE. **Measuring the global impact of destructive and illegal fishing on maritime piracy: A spatial analysis.** *PLOS ONE*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0246835> Maritime piracy constitutes a major threat to global shipping and international trade.

Seddiek IS and Ammar NR. **Harnessing wind energy on merchant ships: case study Flettner rotors onboard bulk carriers.** *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11356-021-12791-3> Shipping faces challenges of reducing the dependence on fossil fuels to align with the international regulations of ship emissions reduction.

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## 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.