



INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)

“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”

CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN

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www.imo.org

[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

Maintaining connectivity during the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has created important challenges in terms of coordinating work on safety and security within the Central and West African common maritime space. To address this, IMO helped set up a new video conferencing service for the Interregional Coordination Centre (ICC) in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

The new system, fully installed since 18 December, allows regional stakeholders to continue their activities using web-based interactive video and maintain connectivity with partners in the region. This will enable the ICC to continue its work on the sustainable implementation of the [Yaoundé Code of Conduct](#) (YCOC). [More...](#)

Regional webinars: addressing challenges faced by seafarers in COVID-19 pandemic

IMO is running a series of regional webinars to discuss and develop best practices aimed at addressing the current challenges seafarers are facing during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Organized by IMO's Technical Cooperation Division, the events are aimed at governments, the industry, seafarers, seafarer-related charities and all government agencies involved in key issues such as crew changes and repatriation (e.g. port authorities, customs, immigration, ministries of health, foreign affairs, aviation, etc.). [More...](#)

Virtual training to empower port women

More women are joining the maritime ranks in a variety of professions within the industry. To encourage this trend and with a view to continuing the momentum to empower women in the maritime community, IMO is supporting a virtual training course aimed at female officials from maritime and port authorities.

Twenty-four women from developing countries*, with a focus on Africa, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), are undertaking a virtual Port Senior Management Programme, organized by the Galilee International Management Institute (GIMI) in Nahalal, Israel (24 November to 21 December). [More...](#)

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

Previous Meetings (REMOTE)

Technical Cooperation Committee (TC 70) – 7-11 December

Consultative Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Convention 1972) and Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996) (LC 42/LP 15) – 14-15 December

Forthcoming Meetings (REMOTE)

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

LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS

[IMO2020 fuel oil sulphur limit - cleaner air, healthier planet](#)

28 January 2021

[UN Special Rapporteur on Toxics and Human Rights visits IMO](#)

27 January 2021

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

3rd Virtual PSC meeting, ([Opening](#) remarks), 18 December 2020

Technical Cooperation Committee, 70th session, ([Opening](#) address), 7-11 December 2020

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

IMO PUBLISHING

[Just Published 2021](#)

[Newsletters](#)

UNITED NATIONS

New COVID-19 infections fall globally for first time since September; WHO chief urges 'extreme caution'. *UN News*. 30 November 2020. Available from:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/11/1078842> 📰 Last week saw the first global decline in newly reported cases of COVID-19 since September, the head of the UN World Health Organization said on Monday, advising that the news, while welcome, must be interpreted with "extreme caution".

Goal of the Month December 2020: Climate Action. *United Nations*. December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/goal-of-the-month/> As the world looks to recover and rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic, there is growing global recognition that the catalyst for transformational change is investment in a green and sustainable global economy that produces jobs, reduces emissions, and builds resilience to climate impacts.

The race to zero emissions, and why the world depends on it. *UN News*. 2 December 2020.

Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1078612> A host of countries have recently announced major commitments to significantly cut their carbon emissions, promising to reach "net zero" in the coming years.

UN makes progress on 'greening the blue'. *UN News*. 10 December 2020. Available from:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079732> 📰 In 2019, the UN system continued to make steady progress towards reducing its environmental footprint, recording decreases in emissions and implementing advanced environment management systems.

WFP chief uses Nobel speech as call for action to avert 'hunger pandemic'. *UN News*.

10 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079742> 📰

With 270 million people – more than the entire population of Western Europe – "marching toward starvation", the head of the World Food Programme (WFP) called for greater action to avert a "hunger pandemic", in accepting the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the UN agency on Thursday.

Greening the Blue report 2020. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*.

10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/greening-blue-report-2020> The 2020 Greening the Blue report-released on 10th December 2020 provides a snapshot of the UN System's environmental impacts throughout 2019 and the activities underway to reduce them. [Full Report](#) 📄

LIVE: Climate Ambition Summit. *UN News*. 12 December 2020. Available from:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079862> 📰 Live coverage of the Climate Ambition Summit 2020, an important step forward in the battle against the climate crisis, with several major economies announcing new commitments to cut their carbon footprints and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

CASUALTIES

Two boxships collide near Shanghai, three dead and five missing. Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/two-boxships-collide-near-shanghai-three-dead-and-missing/> Two containerships collided near the Yangtze River estuary off Shanghai late on Sunday night resulting in the sinking of one vessel.

Hafnia tanker at Jeddah becomes latest mine victim. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/hafnia-tanker-jeddah-becomes-latest-mine-victim/> *BW Rhine*, a Singapore-flagged LR1 product tanker belonging to the fleet of Hafnia, has been hit from an “external source” whilst discharging at Jeddah just after midnight today, according to a release from the BW subsidiary..

Panama-flagged cargo ship capsizes off Vietnam, 15 sailors missing. Khanh Vu. *Reuters*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3iPVthN> At least 15 sailors were missing on Thursday after a Panama-flagged cargo ship capsized in rough seas off Vietnam, Vietnamese state media said.

MOL’s Action towards the *Wakashio* Incident (Environmental Recovery and Social Contribution). Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (MOL). 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.mol.co.jp/en/sustainability/incident/index.html> An MOL-chartered bulk carrier ran aground in the Republic of Mauritius, resulting in an oil spill that had a serious impact on the marine and natural environment, affecting the site, the community, and its industries.

Shipping-Gate Timeline: How The Global Ship Fuel Controversy Came About. Nishan Degnarain. *Forbes*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nishandegnarain/2020/12/21/shipping-gate-explained-how-the-global-ship-fuel-scandal-came-about/?sh=2252eef61428> A set of global ship fuel issues are emerging, based on events that occurred in the Mauritius oil spill in August.

ENVIRONMENT

The outlook for oceans, seas and marine resources in Latin America and the Caribbean: Conservation, sustainable development and climate change mitigation. *United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)*. December 2020. Available from: <https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/46509-outlook-oceans-seas-and-marine-resources-latin-america-and-caribbean-conservation> Oceans are a vast source of solutions and opportunities which, unfortunately, are currently invisible, at risk or underutilized. [Report](#)

Oceans key to solving climate crisis, say world leaders. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/oceans-key-to-solving-climate-crisis-world-leaders/a-55789573> Co-chaired by Palau and Norway, the Ocean Panel of 14 coastal nations has declared its commitment to 100% ocean sustainability by 2025 under the guise of a ‘blue economy’.

World leaders are waking up to the ocean’s role in a healthy planet. *Nature*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03301-5> Important talks on the future of food and agriculture, biodiversity and climate will all happen in 2021, a year later than planned.

Guterres: UN will build global coalition for carbon neutrality in 2021. Chloé Farand. *Climate Home News*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/12/02/guterres-un-will-build-global-coalition-carbon-neutrality-2021/> The United Nations will make building a global net zero emissions club a priority in 2021, UN chief António Guterres has said.

2020 may be third hottest year on record, world could hit climate change milestone by 2024.

UN News. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079042>

This year is on track to be one of the three hottest on record, completing a run of six years that were all hotter than any year ever measured before, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said on Wednesday.

State of the Global Climate 2020: Provisional Report. *World Meteorological Organization (WMO).*

2 December 2020. Available from: https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=10444

Despite developing La Niña conditions, global mean temperature in 2020 is on course to be one of the three warmest on record.

Cut fossil fuels production to ward off ‘catastrophic’ warming: UN-backed report. *UN News.*

2 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079012>

Countries must decrease production of fossil fuels by 6 per cent per year, between 2020 and 2030, if the world is to avert “catastrophic” global temperature rise, a new UN-backed report has found.

Production Gap Report 2020. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).* 2 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/production-gap-2020> To limit warming to 1.5°C or well below 2°C, as required by the 2015 Paris Agreement, the world needs to wind down fossil fuel production.

Climate change now top threat to natural World Heritage – IUCN report. *International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).* 2 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.iucn.org/news/secretariat/202012/climate-change-now-top-threat-natural-world-heritage-iucn-report> Climate change is now the biggest threat to natural World Heritage, according to a report published today by IUCN [IUCN World Heritage Outlook 3](#)

Great Barrier Reef outlook worsens to ‘critical’ as climate change named number one threat to world heritage sites. Jason Dasey. *ABC (Australia).* 3 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-12-03/queensland-great-barrier-reef-listed-as-critical-climate-change/12947300> The condition of the Great Barrier Reef has worsened from “significant concern” to “critical” in a damning world heritage outlook report by a UNESCO advisory body.

It might be the world’s biggest ocean, but the mighty Pacific is in peril. Jodie L. Rummer.


The Conversation. 6 December 2020. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/it-might-be-the-worlds-biggest-ocean-but-the-mighty-pacific-is-in-peril-150745> The Pacific Ocean is the deepest, largest ocean on Earth, covering about a third of the globe’s surface.

Australian, Japanese companies study deep sea carbon capture project off Australia.

Sonali Paul. *Reuters.* 6 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3ctuHe3> An Australian company has lined up the country’s national science agency and Japanese firms to work on a plan to capture carbon dioxide, and liquefy and transport it to a site offshore Australia to be injected under the seabed.

Sea ice loss and extreme wildfires mark another year of Arctic change. *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).* 8 December 2020. Available from:


<https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/sea-ice-loss-and-extreme-wildfires-mark-another-year-of-arctic-change> NOAA’s 15th Arctic Report Card catalogs for 2020 the numerous ways that climate change continues to disrupt the polar region, with second-highest air temperatures and second-lowest summer sea ice driving a cascade of impacts, including the loss of snow and extraordinary wildfires in northern Russia. [Arctic Report Card: Update for 2020](#)

NRDC Report Determines LNG Exports Are a Climate Disaster. *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nrdc.org/media/2020/201207>
The export of U.S. liquefied natural gas poses an unacceptable risk to the climate, according to a landmark analysis that looks at the life-cycle emissions of producing, processing, shipping and burning the gas. [Sailing to Nowhere: Liquefied Natural Gas is Not an Effective Climate Strategy](#) 

New report exposes the global risks of deep sea mining. *Greenpeace International*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/press-release/45860/new-report-exposes-global-risks-deep-sea-mining/> For the first time, an exclusive Greenpeace report reveals who is behind the controversial deep sea mining industry, showing who stands to benefit and who is left at risk if governments allow deep sea mining exploitation to begin. [DEEP TROUBLE: The murky world of the deep sea mining industry](#) 

Not a 'Pacific' ocean at all. Michael Grey. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/not-pacific-ocean-all>
Winter in the North Pacific is not a place for the faint-hearted, but the scene of devastation aboard the *ONE Apus* after the loss or damage of a substantial portion of her deck load is the perfect illustration of what the sea can do to even the biggest ships.

'Green recovery' from COVID-19 can slow climate change: UN environment report. *UN News*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079602>  Despite a brief dip in global carbon dioxide emissions as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the planet is still heading for a global temperature rise in excess of 3 degrees Celsius this century, a new United Nations report has revealed. [Emissions Gap Report 2020](#)

The Top Ten Ocean Stories of 2020. Danielle Hall. *Smithsonian Magazine*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/top-ten-ocean-stories-2020-180976558/>  From the discovery of a giant coral reef pinnacle to a shocking estimate of plastics on the seafloor, these were the biggest marine moments of the year.

Beluga whistles and clicks could be silenced by an increasingly noisy Arctic Ocean. William Halliday. *The Conversation*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/beluga-whistles-and-clicks-could-be-silenced-by-an-increasingly-noisy-arctic-ocean-151065>  Under the sea ice, the Arctic Ocean is one of the quietest places on Earth.

Ivory Coast creates first marine protected area. *EurekAlert!* 20 December 2020. Available from: https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-12/uoe-icc121820.php The MPA will cover 2,600km² (1,000 square miles) of pristine ocean off the coast of Grand-Béréby, protecting marine biodiversity including threatened shark and turtle species.

2020's top ocean news stories (commentary). Callie Steffen, Emma Critchley and Douglas McCauley. *Mongabay*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.mongabay.com/2020/12/2020s-top-ocean-news-stories-commentary/> Marine scientists from the University of California, Santa Barbara, share their list of the top 10 ocean news stories from 2020.

2020 in review: Covid delayed climate action, but raised hopes of a green recovery. Chloé Farand. *Climate Home News*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/12/22/2020-review-covid-delayed-climate-action-raised-hopes-green-recovery/> As 2020 draws to a close, we look back at Climate Home News' reporting of a year defined by the coronavirus pandemic.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

'Message in a bottle' tracks plastic pollution. *University of Exeter (UK)*. 2 December 2020. Available from: https://www.exeter.ac.uk/news/homepage/title_829273_en.html Electronic tags released in the Ganges river show plastic pollution can travel thousands of kilometres in just a few months.

The commercial threat lurking below the waterline. Markus Hoffman. *Cruise & Ferry*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.cruiseandferry.net/articles/the-commercial-threat-lurking-below-the-waterline-1> As owners and operators welcomed in a new era of capped fuel sulphur limits at the start of this year, with less catastrophic disruption than originally anticipated, a flurry of other challenges for passenger vessels in the form of the global Covid-19 pandemic was arriving to the shore.

It will take 130 years for Kangava Bay to fully recover after the oil spill, recent study revealed. Charley Piringi. *Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC)*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.sibconline.com.sb/it-will-take-130-years-for-kangava-bay-to-fully-recover-after-the-oil-spill-recent-study-revealed/> The Kangana Bay oil-spill damages in Rennell Atoll will take a hundred and thirty years to completely recover, according to the latest report.

Scientists warn of likely massive oil spill endangering the Red Sea, region's health. *EurekAlert!* 15 December 2020. Available from: https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-12/sbu-swo120120.php A paper to be published in *Frontiers in Marine Science* on December 15 is calling for action to remove the oil from a decaying and inactive tanker in the Red Sea that holds approximately one million barrels of oil - four times the amount of oil contained in the Exxon Valdez, the tanker that had a disastrous environmental oil spill in 1989 - before its current seepage turns into a massive oil spill into the sea.

Marine researchers find trawling noise risk to protected mammals. *Phys.org*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2020-12-marine-trawling-noise-mammals.html> The noise of bottom trawling in or near underwater canyons can disturb protected mammals such as fin whales and beaked whales in important feeding grounds and along migratory paths, researchers at National University of Ireland Galway report.

Coast guard, First Nations work to contain oil leak from decades-old shipwreck in B.C.'s Nootka Sound. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/nootka-sound-shipwreck-update-1.5843160> The Canadian Coast Guard says they are looking at "all avenues right now" to stem leaking oil from a decades-old shipwreck off the coast of B.C.'s Bligh Island.

Report: Amazon's Plastic Problem Revealed. *Oceana*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://plastics.oceana.org/report-amazons-problem> Oceana released a report — based on an analysis of e-commerce packaging data — that found Amazon generated 465 million pounds of plastic packaging waste last year. [Report](#)

Amazon must stop flooding our oceans with plastic waste. Matt Littlejohn. *Aljazeera*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2020/12/16/amazon-must-stop-flooding-our-oceans-with-plastic-waste> Amazon's apparent embrace of plastic packaging is hindering its commitment to help the fight against climate change.


HEALTH & SAFETY


Coronavirus: Pandemic places further strain on sailors stranded at sea. Jennifer Bell. *Al Arabiya*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2M8wD0A> The COVID-19 pandemic may have left millions in isolation in 2020 during global lockdowns – but for sailors marooned at sea, being cut off from the world is far from new.


Seafarers' wellbeing in a 'COVID-Normal' world. *Clyde & Co LLP*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.clydeco.com/en/insights/2020/12/seafarers-wellbeing-in-covid-normal-world> Most seafarers, with little choice, have had to work for many months beyond what had been agreed to in their employment contracts or that is permitted under International law.


Seafarers must be a priority for Covid vaccine, say maritime organisations. *Nautilus International*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/seafarers-must-be-a-priority-for-covid-vaccine-say-maritime-organisations/> Key maritime organisations have asked the UK government to treat seafarers as a priority group for vaccination against Covid-19.

Fatal incident exposes the risk to seafarers from fumigated cargoes. *Nautilus International*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/fatal-incident-exposes-the-risk-to-seafarers-from-fumigated-cargoes/> An investigation into an incident in which one seafarer died and three others had to be evacuated from their ship after exposure to hydrogen phosphide gas has prompted calls for a radical overhaul of the rules governing fumigated cargoes.

New guidance aims to help companies devise and implement mental health policies for seafarers. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/new-guidance-aims-to-help-companies-devise-and-implement-mental-health-policies-for-seafarers> Policy and Practice to Promote Mental Health. An essential new guide *Mentally Healthy Ships* has been launched by ISWAN to provide shipping companies and ship operators with information to help devise and implement mental health policies and practices to promote and protect seafarers' mental health. [Health on Board](#) 

Passenger on Royal Caribbean cruise tests positive for COVID-19, ship returns to Singapore. *Channel News Asia*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/royal-caribbean-cruise-quantum-of-the-seas-covid-19-case-13731530>  A passenger on board a Royal Caribbean vessel tested positive for COVID-19 during a cruise to nowhere, prompting the ship to return to Singapore on Wednesday (Dec 9), a day ahead of schedule.

INTERCARGO calls for seafarers to receive COVID-19 vaccine as a priority. *International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO)*. 9 December 2020. Available from: https://www.intercargoo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/INTERCARGO-MEDIA-RELEASE_09_12_2020.pdf  Following the worldwide news that vaccines for COVID-19 are now a reality, it is paramount that authorities give priority to seafarers in their vaccination programmes, says INTERCARGO, the organisation representing the world's quality dry bulk shipowners.

Royal Caribbean passenger does not have Covid-19 after final test is negative: MOH. Jessie Lim. *Straits Times*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/health/6-new-covid-19-cases-in-singapore-all-imported-0>  The 83-year-old passenger who tested positive earlier while aboard the Royal Caribbean's *Quantum of the Seas* cruise ship tested negative on Thursday, said the Ministry of Health (MOH).

Seafarer morale tops list of growing safety concerns. *Tanker Operator*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tankeroperator.com/news/seafarer-morale-tops-list-of-growing-safety-concerns/12029.aspx> In Tanker Operator's reader survey of the biggest growing safety concerns, "crew morale" proved to be by far the biggest.

Protect and serve: are new Covid-19 protocols enough to keep cruise workers safe? Julian Turner. *ShipTechnology*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/covid-19-protocols-safety/> Cruise companies are revising and updating health and safety protocols in the wake of Covid-19, but do the rules protect the thousands of crew members on which the industry relies?

Asleep at the wheel — why shipping can no longer fake work hours. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135124> Technology companies have been using sensors to collect data and monitor performance for many years, but the application of these technologies within the context of seafarer health and safety has not been high on the agenda.

Conquering Christmas blues at sea. Yashika F. Torib. *Manila Times*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/12/16/business/maritime-business/conquering-christmas-blues-at-sea/811689/> Seafarers are tough and strong on the exterior with all their boisterous talks of adventures, booming voices, and burliness.

For Maritime Workers, 'Essential' Designation Should Include Access to Vaccine. *gCaptain*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/for-maritime-workers-essential-designation-means-access-to-vaccine/> As COVID-19 vaccines emerge, the importance of allowing travel and vaccinating maritime workers, who are viewed as "essential" in certain (but not all) cases, has come to the fore.

Why we should all be concerned about seafarer mental health. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135155> Traditional attitudes to dealing with seafarer stress must be reassessed in light of significant changes to the industry.

'We are in bad shape': marooned crews plead for rescue from coal ships. Anna Krien. *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/we-are-in-bad-shape-marooned-crews-plead-for-rescue-from-coal-ships-20201217-p56.html> Onboard the merchant ship the *Anastasia*, four crew members are on suicide watch.

Greek shipping minister reports for duty after recovering from Covid-19. Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/people/greek-shipping-minister-reports-for-duty-after-recovering-from-covid-19/2-1-935838> Greek shipping minister Yiannis Plakiotakis returned home on Tuesday and reported for duty nearly a month after being diagnosed with Covid-19.

Reinforcing the importance of Seafarer Wellbeing. *Standard Club*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3ppr2S1> Seafarer wellbeing has been a focal topic for the Standard Club's Loss Prevention team in recent years, the COVID-19 world pandemic only serves to reinforce the importance of the work that we do in this aspect.

ILO: Govts failed to protect seafarers amid Covid crisis. Genivi Factao. *Manila Times*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/12/23/business/maritime-business/ilo-govts-failed-to-protect-seafarers-amid-covid-crisis/815937/> The International Labor Organization (ILO) said governments around the world failed to comply with the provision of the Maritime Labor Convention, 2006 (MLC 2006) during the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic, which put in danger the health of seafarers and the safety of the navigation in general.

IMO

IMO needs to fill glaring holes in CO2 rules for shipping, analysts say. Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/imo-needs-to-fill-glaring-holes-in-co2-rules-for-shipping-analysts-say/2-1-922703> Shipping analysts are calling on the International Maritime Organization to fill the holes in its recently announced emissions regulation, which they claim will slow down the industry's transition to low-carbon shipping if left unchecked.

UN Agency Accused Of Risking Arctic Pollution With 'Greenwash' Oil Ban. Nishan Degnarain. *Forbes*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nishandegnarain/2020/12/04/un-agency-accused-of-risking-arctic-pollution-with-greenwash-oil-ban/?sh=1a5380a0242e> The embattled UN-affiliated agency responsible for global shipping (London-based International Maritime Organization) has been under attack from environmental NGOs who have accused it of greenwashing an oil ban in the Arctic.

The MEPC and climate emergency. Carlos C. Salinas. *Manila Times*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/12/09/business/columnists-business/the-mepc-and-climate-emergency/806894/> It was initially called Climate Change: the "sweeping change in global climate conditions, including weather phenomena, temperature, and sea levels... caused by an influx of greenhouse gases, mostly from fossil fuel emissions around the world".

Taking the measure of MEPC 75. Wärtsilä Corporation. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/insights/article/taking-the-measure-of-mepc-75> The year 2020 will be remembered for many reasons.

UN Opens Human Rights Investigation Into Global Shipping Over Use Of Toxic Fuels. Nishan Degnarain. *Forbes*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nishandegnarain/2020/12/23/un-opens-human-rights-investigation-into-global-shipping-over-use-of-toxic-fuels/?sh=1a0> The U.N.'s Human Rights Agency (UNOHCR) has begun an investigation into human rights abuses associated with the global shipping industry and exposure to toxic chemicals without prior consent.

LAW & POLICY

Ocean Protections Increasingly Seen as Key to Countering Climate Change. Thomas Hickey and Courtney Durham. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2020/12/01/ocean-protections-increasingly-seen-as-key-to-countering-climate-change> As science advances, more governments leverage safeguards to support Paris Agreement goals.

EU auditors: Overfishing in EU waters threat to marine environment. M. Apelblat. *Brussels Times*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/eu-affairs/143164/eu-auditors-overfishing-in-eu-waters-threat-to-marine-environment/> EU action has not led to the recovery of significant marine ecosystems and habitats, according to a special audit report published last week by the European Court of Auditors (ECA).

Federal Grand Jury Charges Dive Boat Captain with Seaman's Manslaughter in Fire off Santa Barbara Coast that Killed 34 People. *US Department of Justice*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/federal-grand-jury-charges-dive-boat-captain-seaman-s-manslaughter-fire-barbara> The captain of the *P/V Conception*, a Santa Barbara-based dive boat that caught fire last year near Santa Cruz Island, resulting in the deaths of 33 passengers and one crew member, was indicted today by a federal grand jury on 34 counts of seaman's manslaughter.

Singaporean Shipping Company Fined \$12 Million in a Multi-District Case for Concealing Illegal Discharges of Oily Water and Garbage and a Hazardous Condition. *US Department of Justice*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/singaporean-shipping-company-fined-12-million-multi-district> Pacific Carriers Limited, a Singapore-based company that owns subsidiaries engaged in international shipping, was sentenced today in federal court before U.S. District Court Judge Louise Flanagan in New Bern, North Carolina, after pleading guilty to violations of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, obstruction of justice, and for a failure to notify the U.S. Coast Guard of a hazardous condition on the Motor Vessel (M/V) *Pac Antares*.

Climate emergency declaration by New Zealand government includes commitment to 2025 targets. *Radio New Zealand*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/431942/climate-emergency-declaration-by-new-zealand-government-includes-commitment-to-2025-targets> Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has committed the government and the public sector to going carbon-neutral by 2025, as she declared a climate emergency.

Small island developing states do not have the luxury of time. Riad Meddeb. *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2020/small-island-developing-states-do-not-have-the-luxury-of-time-.html> The COVID-19 pandemic has turned Small Island Developing States (SIDS) economies and livelihoods on end. Many of these island states depend heavily on tourism to drive their development.

UK sets ambitious new climate target ahead of UN Summit. *UK Government*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-sets-ambitious-new-climate-target-ahead-of-un-summit> A new plan aims for at least 68% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the end of the decade, compared to 1990 levels.

Climate change: PM aims for world-leading UK emissions cuts. Roger Harrabin. *BBC News*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-55164231> The UK prime minister is set to declare one of the most ambitious targets in the world for tackling climate change.

Safeguarding Scotland's marine environment. *Government of Scotland*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.scot/news/safeguarding-scotlands> Minke whale, basking sharks and Risso's dolphins will be among a wide range of biodiversity and geological features to be safeguarded following the designation of four new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

Blue economy key to the attainment of Kenya's Vision 2030, says President Kenyatta. *Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC)*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.kbc.co.ke/blue-economy-key-to-the-attainment-of-kenyas-vision-2030-says-president-kenyatta/> President Uhuru Kenyatta has said Kenya has prioritized the sustainable utilization of its ocean and blue economy resources as an enabler of the Vision 2030 economic blueprint.

Vanuatu's graduation from Least Developed Country status a major development milestone, highlights regional UN arm. *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.unescap.org/news/vanuatus-graduation-least-developed-country-status-major-development-milestone-highlights> The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) today extended its congratulations to Vanuatu on its graduation from least developed country (LDC) status - 35 years after its inclusion in the category - calling it a major development milestone for the Asia-Pacific region.

EU lifts Kiribati's "yellow card" following reforms of its fisheries control system.

European Commission. 4 December 2020. Available from:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_2289 By lifting the card, the European Commission recognises the important progress of Kiribati in addressing the shortcomings in its fisheries governance.

Denmark introduces cutoff date of 2050 for oil and gas extraction in the North Sea, cancels all future licensing rounds.

Government of Denmark. 4 December 2020. Available from:

<https://en.kefm.dk/news/news-archive/2020/dec/denmark-introduces-cutoff-date-of-2050-for-oil-and-gas-extraction-in-the-north-sea-cancels-all-future-licensing-rounds> A broad majority in the Danish Parliament has reached a deal on the future of fossil extraction in the North Sea, leading to the cancellation of the ongoing 8th licensing round and all future rounds to extract oil and gas.

The Danish climate minister closing down the oil industry for good.

Richard Orange. 5 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/dec/05-the-danish-climate-minister-closing-down-the-oil-industry-for-good> Denmark's climate minister is fairly certain that the deal to close down the nation's oil industry by 2050, announced on Friday morning, marks the biggest moment in his career.

International departure restrictions and cruise ship bans will remain until mid-March.

Rachel Clun. *Brisbane Times (Australia).* 8 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/international-departure-restrictions-and-cruise-ship-bans-will-remain-until-mid-march-20201208-pgn.html> Restrictions on international travel departures and cruise ships will remain in place until at least March 17, with the government's sweeping biosecurity emergency powers set to be extended by another three months.

Stena Line calls for Brexit 'implementation phase'.

Ian Hampton. *All About Shipping.* 8 December 2020. Available from:

<https://allaboutshipping.co.uk/2020/12/08/stena-line-calls-for-brexit-implementation-phase/> Request for the EU to take a pragmatic approach to customs after Brexit transition period ends.

Libya's LNA says its forces have seized Turkish cargo ship.

Aljazeera. 8 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/12/8/eastern-libya-forces-seize-turkish-vessel%5d> Eastern-based Libyan forces have intercepted a Turkish ship under a Jamaican flag heading to the port of Misrata in western Libya, their spokesman said, in what could be a new flashpoint in the conflict after weeks of truce.

MPA extends aid for maritime industry, bringing cumulative support to \$33 million.

Lim Min Zhang. *Straits Times.* 8 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/mpa-extends-aid-for-maritime-industry-bringing-cumulative-support-to-33-million> Aid for the more affected sectors in the maritime industry will be extended under the MaritimeSG Together Package to tide them over the Covid-19 pandemic, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) said on Tuesday (Dec 8).

After five years, here are five things the Paris Agreement achieved — and didn't.

Megan Darby. *Climate Home News.* 9 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/12/09/five-years-five-things-paris-agreement-achieved-didnt/> The Paris Agreement has survived the US withdrawal and normalised net zero, but emissions are still rising and vulnerable people are suffering from climate disasters.

A fundamental transport transformation: Commission presents its plan for green, smart and affordable mobility.

European Commission. 9 December 2020. Available from:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_2329 The European Commission presented today its 'Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy' together with an Action Plan of 82 initiatives that will guide our work for the next four years. [Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy](#)

Fighting for the ocean: the story of tackling IUU. Virginijus Sinkevicius. *EurActiv*.

9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment-opinion-fighting-for-the-ocean-the-story-of-tackling-iuu/> The European Union is leading the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and has a lot to be proud of.

Small Island Developing State leaders join FAO Director-General to explore pathways to resilience. *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1363228/icode/> The world's Small Island Developing States (SIDS) face special food-security strains due to climate change, rising oceans, and high reliance on food imports and tourism, which have declined sharply due to the COVID-19 pandemic, leaders of island states said at a dialogue organized by the FAO.

ECSA welcomes European Commission's new Mobility Strategy and underlines competitiveness of the industry as prerequisite to achieving the goals. *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/index.php/news/ecsa-welcomes-european-commissions-new-mobility-strategy-and-underlines-competitiveness> Welcoming the new Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy published today by the European Commission, ECSA, underlines the importance of maintaining and improving the competitiveness of the sector as the prerequisite to attaining the ambitions set in the document.

European Commission sees maritime, aviation sector hardest to decarbonize amid fresh targets. Tom Washington, Frank Watson and Emma Thomas. *S&P Global Platts*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3pij10R> The European Commission has set out new targets for decarbonizing transport, highlighting that aviation and waterborne transportation face greater decarbonization challenges because of a lack of market-ready zero-emission technologies.

Norway sets out green shipping policies and budget. Martyn Wingrove. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/norway-sets-out-green-shipping-policies-and-budget-62252> A specialist director at the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment told attendees of Riviera's Maritime Hybrid & Electric, Europe virtual conference there would be "enhanced government spending on green shipping" over the coming years.

Treasury Sanctions Shipping Companies Transporting North Korean Coal. *US Department of the Treasury*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1204> Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control designated six entities and identified four vessels related to the transport of North Korean coal.

Lebanese judge charges PM, ex-ministers over Beirut port blast. Ellen Francis and Tom Perry. *Reuters*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3r45k6A> The judge investigating the Beirut port explosion has charged Lebanon's caretaker Prime Minister Hassan Diab and three former ministers with negligence over the blast that killed 200 people and devastated swathes of the capital.

PM Affirms Jamaica's Commitment To Protecting The Ocean's Resources. Alecia Smith. *Jamaica Information Service*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://jis.gov.jm/pm-affirms-jamaicas-commitment-to-protecting-the-oceans-resources/> Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Andrew Holness, has affirmed Jamaica's commitment to sustainably manage 100 per cent of the country's national waters to aid in protecting the ocean's resources globally.

EU leaders secure deal on raising 2030 climate ambition. *Climate Home News*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/12/11/eu-leaders-secure-deal-raising-2030-climate-ambition/> EU leaders negotiated through the night to convince eastern member states to agree an enhanced goal of cutting emissions by at least 55% between 1990 and 2030.

[Herald Interview] Korea kindles talks for eco-based ‘pan Yellow Sea’ economy. Kim Yon-se and Yoon Jung-hee. *Korea Herald (South Korea)*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20201213000093> South Korea has taken the initiative in pushing forward protecting the maritime ecosystem and biodiversity of the Yellow Sea -- also called the West Sea here -- as part of its efforts to achieve regional sustainable development for oceans via carbon neutrality.

Special vulnerabilities of SIDS remains paramount for Pacific futures, says Vanuatu. *Pacific Islands News Association (PINA)*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.pina.com.fj/index.php?p=pacnews&m=read&o=18163369655fd6f631cec175dac749> Vanuatu Prime Minister Bob Loughman has called on the United Nations and partners at the global Climate Ambition Summit over the weekend to ensure support for Small Islands Development States like his homeland.

Marine protection falls short of the 2020 target to safeguard 10% of the world’s oceans. A UN treaty and lessons from Antarctica could help. Natasha Blaize Gardiner and Cassandra Brooks. *The Conversation*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2YjsKID> Two-thirds of the world’s oceans fall outside national jurisdictions – they belong to no one and everyone.

EBRD signs up to Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles. Vanora Bennett. *European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ebrd.com/news/2020/ebd-signs-up-to-sustainable-blue-economy-finance-principles.html> Principles are benchmark for investing in a sustainable ocean economy.

Over 100 NGOs sound the alarm over ‘green’ finance rules. Eoin Bannon. *Transport & Environment*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/over-100-ngos-sound-alarm-over-%E2%80%99green%E2%80%99-finance-rules> The EU’s green finance rules must be grounded on science, 130 NGOs and experts have told the European Commission after it proposed to designate fossil-fuel powered ships, bioenergy, hazardous chemicals and other polluting activities as ‘sustainable’ investments.

UN-led carbon market suspends formal project registration after 2020. Chloé Farand. *Climate Home News*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/12/15/un-led-carbon-market-suspends-formal-project-registration-2020/> A group of technocrats have agreed not to approve any new projects under a UN-led carbon market until countries agree on common rules for global carbon trading – raising the stakes for a prompt resolution of the issue.

Supreme Court: It’s high time to recognize risk of sexual harassment against seafarers. Nicole-Anne C. Lagrimas. *GMA News Online (Philippines)*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/768227/supreme-court-it-s-high-time-to-recognize-risk-of-sexual-harassment-against-seafarers/story/> Ruling on the case of a Filipino seafarer, the Supreme Court said it is high time to recognize the risk of sexual harassment faced by male sailors.

Maersk Tankers-operated vessel aborts transfer of sanctioned Iranian cargo. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd’s List*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135161> The incident ensnares the reputable Danish shipping company in the subterfuge world of sanctions-busting after risk compliance measures failed to note *Ocean Schooner’s* tactics, widely used to evade sanctions.

What will Joe Biden’s election mean for shipping? Adele Berti. *ShipTechnology*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/biden-impact-maritime/> As the start of a new era in US politics hoves into view, here is a look at how the next President of the United States could impact the maritime industry.

Lessons to be learned from OSPAR's network of marine protected areas in areas beyond national jurisdiction, in light of the BBNJ negotiations. Bas Klerk. *NLCOS Blog (Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea)*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3sYwy02> The first steps toward the adoption of an international legally binding instrument (ILBI) on biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) were taken over fifteen years ago, with the establishment of the BBNJ Working Group by the UNGA.

Why the finance sector needs to catch the blue wave. Eric Usher. *World Ocean Initiative (WOI)*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.woi.economist.com/why-the-finance-sector-needs-to-catch-the-blue-wave/> Eric Usher, head of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), calls for a transformational shift in private finance to regenerate ocean health.

Republic of Palau coordinates with U.S Coast Guard, partners to detain illegal fishing vessel off Palau. *United States Coast Guard*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/2b29fe4> The crew of the Palau Division of Marine Law Enforcement patrol boat *PSS President HI Remeliik II* coordinated with the Coast Guard to apprehend a suspected illegal fishing vessel off Helen Reef, December 10th.

South Korea: Ministries unveil initiative to advance green tech for shipping & marine fuel. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 24 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/south-korea-ministries-unveil-initiative-to-advance-green-tech-for-shipping-marine-fuel/> The South Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries on Wednesday (23 December) said it has collaborated with the South Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy to jointly develop the "2030 Green Ship-K Initiative" which was unveiled at the 7th Ministerial Meeting on the Korean New Deal held on Wednesday morning.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Drones come to the rescue in Covid battle at sea. Panagiotis Galanis. *Splash 247.com*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/drones-come-to-the-rescue-in-covid-battle-at-sea/> Although Covid-19 has resulted in significant socio-economic impacts upon every nation, we have observed a relatively uninterrupted flow of commerce primarily due to seaborne transportation of goods and services.

Five challenges shipowners face in implementing digital strategy. John Snyder. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/five-challenges-shipowners-face-in-implementing-digital-strategy> Bandwidth, onboard connectivity, legacy IT systems, marine-specific smart devices and cyber security are among the hurdles shipowners face in developing a broader digital strategy for remote collaboration and engagement.

A New Mayflower: Fully Autonomous Ship Takes to the Seas. *Voice of America*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.voanews.com/episode/new-mayflower-fully-autonomous-ship-takes-seas-4518816> Like their counterparts on land, autonomous ships are emerging as a new way to traverse the world's oceans.

The robot that could help make the shipping industry greener. Stephanie Bailey. *CNN*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/robot-hullskater-biofouling-ship-cleaning-spc-intl/index.html> When a ship sails through the sea, barnacles, mussels, algae, and other organisms stick to the hull of the vessel.

Digitalisation proves its immense value to shipping. *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/shipping/20201222/digitalisation-proves-its-immense-value-shipping> Today, the data we create, access, and control is having an increasing impact both on how we live and on how industry performs.

Collaborative technologies for maritime transport at economies of scale. Mikael Lind, Almir Zerem, Adam Roark, Michele Sancricca, Hanane Becha, Erminio Di Paola and Henk Mulder. *Splash 247.com*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/collaborative-tech-for-maritime-transport-at-economies> Never has the need for digital data sharing and processing at scale been more apparent than now.

MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

Nautilus Council debates simulator training proposals ahead of UK trial. *Nautilus International*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/nautilus-council-debates-simulator-training-proposals-ahead-of-uk-trial/> The Nautilus Council hosted a debate on the Merchant Navy Training Board's proposed simulator training trial for UK cadets.

PH maritime education still faces deficiencies. *Manila Times*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/12/02/business/maritime-business/ph-maritime-education-still-faces-deficiencies/803744/> Filipino seafarers are in danger of losing jobs, as the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) saw deficiencies in the country's maritime education.

WMU PhD candidate Kristal Ambrose receives prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize 2020. *World Maritime University (WMU)*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/wmu-phd-candidate-kristal-ambrose-receives-prestigious-goldman-environmental-prize-2020> The prestigious Goldman Prize is the world's foremost environmental prize and honours outstanding environmental activism through community and citizen participation on critical sustainability issues facing the planet.

Coronavirus drives engineer training into the cloud. Martyn Wingrove. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/coronavirus-drives-engineer-training-into-the-cloud-62150> Travel restrictions are propelling shipping companies to use cloud-based simulation solutions for engineroom, bunkering and cargo-handling training.

Event focuses on Pacific marine sector careers. Marc Membrere. *Samoa Observer*. 6 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.samoaoobserver.ws/category/samoa/75695> The Australia Pacific Climate Alumni Network has successfully hosted an event in Samoa and Fiji last week to create more awareness around career opportunities in the Pacific islands' marine sector.

Joint Release by MPA and Shanghai Maritime University: MPA and Shanghai Maritime University sign MoU to Support Talent and Academic Exchange. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/053d3eec-4c85-468f-b433-05be57f3735b> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Shanghai Maritime University (SMU) today to support talent and academic exchange between Singapore and China in the maritime sector.

Is 2021 the year to move ashore? Rob Coston. *Nautilus International*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/is-2021-the-year-to-move-ashore/> Many seafarers are considering a career change due to the extra pressure of the crew change crisis.

Danica's annual Seafarer Survey shows crew training is benefiting from digital delivery. *Danica Maritime Services*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3qX8poR> Seafarer training has increased and improved this year – thanks to shipping companies embracing the use of digital technology. [Seafarers' Employment Condition Survey 2020](#) 📄

How we are recruiting the next generation of merchant navy seafarers - virtually. *South Tyneside College (UK)*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.stc.ac.uk/news/2020-12/how-we-are-recruiting-next-generation-merchant-navy-seafarers-virtually> South Shields Marine School's Principal has hailed the success of a 'virtual' recruitment day on Saturday, November 28, which saw 130 would-be mariners sign-up for careers at sea.

The impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the attraction of a seafaring career. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/impact-covid-19-pandemic-attraction-seafaring-career> The problems of attracting young people to take up a career as seafarers had been long debated, even before the Covid-19 pandemic and the crew change crisis left hundred of thousands of seafarers stranded onboard vessels.

Senate urges MAN to bridge Nigeria's seafaring deficit gap. Tola Adenubi. *Nigerian Tribune*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://tribuneonline.ng/senate-urges-man-to-bridge-nigerias-seafaring-deficit-gap/> The Senate has urged the Maritime Academy of Nigeria (MAN) to continue to bridge the deficit gap still noticeable in Nigeria's seafaring manpower.

MARITIME SAFETY

Dangerous cargo among more than 1,900 boxes lost from ONE vessel. Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/dangerous-cargo-among-more-than-1-900-boxes-lost-from-one-vessel/2-1-922740> Ocean Network Express (ONE) has suffered its second container collapse in less than a month with a "significant" number of containers lost overboard.

ONE Apus lost or damaged containers 'could exceed 1,900'. Kim Link-Wills. *Freight Waves*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/one-apus-lost-or-damaged-containers-could-exceed-1900> Ocean Network Express said Wednesday the number of lost or damaged containers from a vessel en route to the Port of Long Beach, California, "could exceed 1,900."

Questions after 1,900 containers lost from ONE boxship. James Baker. *Lloyd's List*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1134982> The loss of containers from ONE Apus could be the largest weather-related loss since more than 500 went overboard from the vessel Svendborg Maersk in 2014.

Container ship loses nearly 2,000 cargo carriers in Pacific storm. Aaron Sheldrick. *Reuters*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/39nS3zv> Nearly 2,000 containers aboard a ship managed by NYK Shipmanagement of Japan were lost or damaged when it hit by stormy weather in the Pacific Ocean, the company said, adding that the vessel was heading Japan for assessment.

Do box shipping's safety standards stack up? *Lloyd's List*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135009/> The loss of containers from ONE Apus is an unwelcome event.

Congress Passes New Passenger Vessel Safety Rules. *Maritime Executive*. 6 December 2020. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/congress-passes-new-passenger-vessel-safety-rules> The U.S. Congress is poised to pass new passenger vessel safety regulations that will fill in the gaps revealed by the disastrous *Conception* dive boat fire in September 2019, one of the worst maritime casualties in the United States in recent memory.

Why this box spill ought to spur change. *Splash 247.com*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/why-this-box-spill-ought-to-spur-change/> Regarding the calamitous state of the containership ONE Apus pictured on Splash last week, the practice of loading containers far forward, and so high across the deck, is simply a matter of greed.

ONE Apus Update: Photos Show Cargo Carnage as Containership Arrives in Kobe. Mike Schuler. *gCaptain*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/one-apus-update-new-details-on-dangerous-goods-cargo/> The *MV ONE Apus* sailed into Japan's Osaka Bay on Tuesday giving us a first good view of the devastation on board the ship after it lost nearly 2,000 containers in a Pacific Ocean storm.

Fishermen express concern over tankers sheltering too close inshore. Hans J. Marter. *Shetland News (UK)*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.shetnews.co.uk/2020/12/07/fishermen-express-concern-over-tankers-sheltering-too-close-inshore/> The local fishing industry has added its voice to concerns over the number of fully laden tankers "loitering" in the important and valuable fishing areas to the east of Shetland.

Muster 2.0: a new kind of safety drill. Frances Marcellin. *ShipTechnology*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/cruise-muster-drill/> Royal Caribbean recently launched Muster 2.0, which allows cruise guests to conduct muster drills via their own mobile devices instead of having to report to a muster station before the ship departs.

Two commendable aspects arising from the ONE Apus box collapse. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/two-commendable-aspects-arising-from-the-one-apus-disaster/> 📰 It's clearly the most talked about, eagerly viewed shipping story of the month, but there are two commendable things I'd like to alert readers to about the calamity onboard the *ONE Apus* boxship.

The dangerous practice of stowaways hiding in a vessel's rudder trunk. Heidi Høvik Hansen and Kristin Urdahl. *Gard*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/content> Over the years Gard has seen several cases where stowaways have hidden in the vessels' rudder trunks in an attempted journey to a better life.

Estonia was a casualty of 'organisational culture' failings. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135100> Norwegian safety consultancy SAYFR believes the official investigation report locked in its conclusions too early, and as a result the *Estonia* has been haunted by conspiracy theories for 26 years.

Ensuring safety in a greener age. Kevin Turner. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/ensuring-safety-in-a-greener-age-62334> The two most pressing issues facing shipping – safety and the green transition – were examined in detail during Riviera's Maritime Hybrid & Electric, Europe conference.

Mitsui O.S.K. vows to raise safety measures after Mauritius oil spill. *Japan Times*. 19 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/12/19/national/mitsui-osk-mauritius-oil-spill/> Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd., the operator of the Japanese freighter that spilled oil off the coast of Mauritius in July, pledged Friday to take measures to boost safety in operating both its own and chartered ships, saying its probe found the incident was due to a lack of safety awareness among crew members.

MARITIME SECURITY

Cargo ship attacked off Yemen under unclear circumstances. John Gambrell. *Associated Press*. 5 December 2020. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/bahrain-gulf-of-aden-dubai-united-kingdom-united-arab-emirates-65fc8730659acce8e375c698168cbd6f> A cargo ship traveling past Yemen in the Gulf of Aden came under attack in unclear circumstances, maritime authorities said Saturday.

Maritime Interdiction in North Arabian Sea, 4 December 2020. *Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)*. 6 December 2020. Available from: <https://combinedmaritimeforces.com/2020/12/06/maritime-interdiction-in-north-arabian-sea-4-december-2020/> The guided-missile destroyer USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114), deployed to U.S. Fifth Fleet and operating in support of the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), interdicted a shipment of more than 2,000lbs (900kgs) of suspected narcotics from a vessel in the international waters of the Arabian Sea, Dec. 4.

RECAAP and maritime governance in Southeast Asia: a catalyzing role. Marianne Péron-Doise. *Stable Seas*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.stableseas.org/international-cooperation/recaap-maritime-governance> Southeast Asia is often described as a “blue continent”.

Operation Sea Guardian ends action-packed patrol in Mediterranean Sea. NATO. 10 December 2020. Available from: https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/news_180025.htm NATO Operation Sea Guardian has finished its last focused security patrol for 2020 today (10 December).

Japan extends navy mission in Middle East by 12 months for maritime safety. Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/japan-extends-navy-mission-in-middle-east-by-12-months-for-maritime-safety/2-1-929953> Japan has approved a one-year extension of its navy mission in the Middle East to protect the country's oil shipments.

Hurtigruten Becomes Latest Shipping Company to Suffer Cyberattack. *Maritime Executive*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/hurtigruten-becomes-latest-shipping-company-to-suffer-cyberattack> The Norwegian shipping company Hurtigruten has become the latest maritime company to suffer a crippling cyberattack.

New tanker attack raises oil tensions in Red Sea. Wanda Wang, Mark Tan, Sameer Mohindru and Katie McQue. *S&P Global Platts*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2MsigUD> Tanker hit by ‘external source’ while discharging at Jeddah.

Saudi Arabia says explosives strike on oil tanker at Jeddah an act of ‘terrorism’. *France 24*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/middle-east/20201214-external-source-caused-explosion-of-oil-tanker-near-saudi-arabia-says> A blast rocked a Singapore-flagged oil tanker at the Saudi port of Jeddah Monday, the vessel's owner said, with the kingdom saying it was struck by an explosives-laden boat in a “terrorist” assault.

Saudi tanker blast sparks shipping security concerns. Declan Bush and Inderpreet Walia. *Lloyd's List*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135109> Suspicion will fall on Yemen's Houthi rebels, but Dryad Global says the incident was more likely an Iranian ploy to ‘send waves of panic through the shipping industry’.

ABB Marine & Ports opens new lab to stress-test cyber threats to shipping. *ABB*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://new.abb.com/news/detail/72129/abb-marine-ports-opens-new-lab-to-stress-test-cyber-threats-to-shipping> ABB Marine & Ports' cyber security laboratory opens at key moment in shipping's digital development as stricter maritime cyber security rules enter force on January 1, 2021.

Cyber Risk Management comes of age. *Campbell Johnston Clark Limited*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.cjclaw.com/site/news/cyber-risk-management-comes-of-age> With new International Maritime Organization requirements on cyber risk management imminent, CJC Senior Associate Richard Murray and IEIT Cyberlogic conclude that making ships truly cyber secure involves a marathon not a sprint.

Cybersecurity in the Maritime Sector: ENISA Releases New Guidelines for Navigating Cyber Risk. *European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/news/enisa-news/cybersecurity-in-the-maritime-sector-enisa-releases-new-guidelines-for-navigating-cyber-risk> The European Union Agency for Cybersecurity provides port operators with a set of good practices to help them identify and evaluate cyber risks, and effectively identify suitable security measures.

Risk remains in Red Sea/Gulf of Aden for commercial vessels. *Safety4Sea*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/risk-remains-in-red-sea-gulf-of-aden-for-commercial-vessels/> The US MARAD issued an advisory on December 14 concerning vessels operating in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, warning that Yemen remains a risk for commercial vessels.

Maersk calls for international action after new piracy attack in Gulf of Guinea. Tomas Kristiansen and Ida Jacobsen. *ShippingWatch*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12645429.ece> Following this weekend's attack on *Maersk Cadiz* in the Gulf of Guinea, Maersk calls on local governments and the international community to handle the escalating piracy threat in the region.

Canada buys Israeli drone for Arctic maritime surveillance. Levon Sevunts. *Radio Canada International (RCI)*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rcinet.ca/eye-on-the-arctic/2020/12/22/canada-buys-israeli-drone-for-arctic-maritime-surveillance/> Ottawa will shell out more than \$36 million to purchase an advanced Israeli drone to help the federal government keep an eye on the growing maritime activity in Canada's Arctic, federal officials announced Monday.

Industry publishes new and improved cyber security guidelines. Mette Kronholm Fraende. *BIMCO*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20201223-new-cyber-security-guidelines> The version 4 of the cyber security guidelines is published at a time when shipowners and ship managers are faced with a requirement to implement cyber risk management in their safety management systems (SMS) by the time of their first Document of Compliance audit after 1 January 2021. [The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships](#)

MIGRANTS

Dozens of migrants rescued in Channel at weekend. Emma Wallis. *InfoMigrants*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/28819/dozens-of-migrants-rescued-in-channel-at-weekend> The French coast guard rescued 64 migrants in the Channel at the weekend who were attempting to cross the stretch of water towards the UK.

Channel crossings: 'No agreement' on turning migrant boats back. *BBC News*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-55147809> Turning migrant boats in the Channel back to France could be a "critical component" in tackling the surge in crossings to the UK, a minister has suggested.

UNHCR and IOM saddened at deaths of refugees and migrants in shipwreck off Venezuela coast. *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.* 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2020/12/5fd7db764/unhcr-iom-saddened-deaths-refugees-migrants-shipwreck-venezuela-coast.html> UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) are deeply distressed by the death or disappearance at sea of up to 25 refugees and migrants from Venezuela, including children, after their boat capsized en route to Trinidad and Tobago.

Over 3,000 people die during migration journeys in 2020 despite COVID-19 pandemic. *International Organization for Migration (IOM).* 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/over-3000-people-die-during-migration-journeys-2020-despite-covid-19-pandemic> The International Organization for Migration (IOM)'s Missing Migrants Project has recorded over 3,000 deaths on migratory routes worldwide so far in 2020.

At least 20 die as migrant boat sinks off Tunisia. Tarek Amara. *Reuters.* 24 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-europe-migrants-tunisia/at-least-20-die-as-migrant-boat-sinks-off-tunisia-idUKKBN28Y0YZ?edition-redirect=uk> At least 20 African migrants died when their boat sank off Tunisia on Thursday as they tried to cross the Mediterranean to the Italian island of Lampedusa, a Tunisian security official said.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

ITU launches updated versions of the Maritime Manual and the Table of Frequency Allocations Software. *International Telecommunication Union.* 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.itu.int/en/mediacentre/Pages/pr28-2020-Maritime-Manual-Table-of-Frequency-Allocations-Software.aspx> The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) today published the Radio Regulations Table of Frequency Allocations Software as well as the Maritime Manual, which provides details on the modern maritime radio systems and the operational procedures to be followed by a ship or coast station in the event of a distress situation at sea.

It's Time to Listen [Whales & Cruiseships]. Louisa Gilbert. *Hakai Magazine.* 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.hakaimagazine.com/videos-visuals/its-time-to-listen/> 📺 Researchers capitalized on a summer without cruise ship traffic to hear how whales respond to a quieter underwater world.

How satellites track and help decipher ocean trade. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves.* 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/how-satellites-track-and-help-decipher-ocean-trade-with-video> 📺 Ships can't hide from satellites.

China to Launch Satellite to Monitor Arctic Shipping Routes. Malte Humpert. *High North News (Norway).* 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/china-launch-satellite-monitor-arctic-shipping-routes> China shared details about a new satellite providing Arctic waterways monitoring capabilities.

Ships make record number of sailings through Arctic in 2020. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters.* 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3a6XS3y> Ships sailing through the Arctic region's busiest lane along the Siberian coast made the highest number of trips on record this year as a quicker-than-expected melting of ice enabled more traffic, data showed.

Russia Moving Forward with Autonomous Navigation on Commercial Vessels. *Maritime Executive.* 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/russia-moving-forward-with-autonomous-navigation-on-commercial-vessels> The Russian maritime industry is moving forward aggressively with plans to deploy autonomous navigation systems on its commercial shipping fleet.

Longest Arctic Shipping Season Tops Off a Year of Climate Disasters. Anna Shiryayevskaya, Laura Millan Lombrana and Olga Tanas. *gCaptain*. 13 December 2020. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/longest-arctic-shipping-season-tops-off-a-year-of-climate-disasters/> Thinning ice in the Arctic Ocean made this year's navigation season for natural gas tankers the longest on record, the latest sign that the pace of climate change is accelerating in the Earth's northernmost latitudes.

Maritime Mesh Networks set to transform connectivity at sea. *Ericsson*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ericsson.com/en/news/2020/12/ericsson-maritime-mesh-network-success> For decades, satellite-based solutions have been the only option for communication at sea.

This Channel Isn't Big Enough for Two Behemoths. Casey Rentz. *Hakai Magazine*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.hakaimagazine.com/news/this-channel-isnt-big-enough-for-two-behemoths/> Ships killed at least 20 whales in California in 2018 and 2019.

World's First Truly Global, Real-Time Maritime Emergency Service Launched by Iridium. *Iridium Communications Plc*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2YmnyUh> Iridium Communications Inc. today announced a historic achievement with the launch of the Iridium® Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) service.

Inmarsat raises start-ups to Certified Application Provider status to fast-track decarbonisation innovation in maritime market. *Inmarsat*. 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.inmarsat.com/en/news/latest-news/maritime/2020/inmarsat-raises-start-ups-to-certified-application-provider-stat.html> Established maritime start-ups VesselBot and PortXchange join Certified Application Provider (CAP) programme after innovation potential is singled out in 'Decarbonising Shipping' initiative.

Whale road: how to keep marine mammals safe from speeding ships - House on Fire podcast. James Bray. *World Economic Forum*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/12/whale-road-shipping-collisions-house-on-fire-podcast/> Episode five of House on Fire asks how we can stop ships colliding with whales.

Thousands of ocean fishing boats could be using forced labor – we used AI and satellite data to find them. Gavin McDonald. *The Conversation*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/thousands-of-ocean-fishing-boats-could-be-using-forced-labor-we-used-ai-and-satellite-data-to-find-them-152166> Fishing on the high seas is a bit of a mystery, economically speaking.

Rules of the Road: Who needs LRIT? Jake DesVergers. *The Triton*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.the-triton.com/2020/12/rules-of-the-road-who-needs-lrit/> As we continue to push through the worldwide pandemic, the desire for recreation and vacation away from the masses has increased exponentially.

Russia Begins Construction on Fifth Nuclear Icebreaker as Arctic Sees Record Shipping Traffic. Malte Humpert. *High North News (Norway)*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/russia-begins-construction-fifth-nuclear-icebreaker-arctic-sees-record-shipping-traffic> Shipping activity in the Arctic continues to grow unabated even as shipping traffic in other parts of the world saw declining volumes as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Slowing down big ships not enough to protect right whales from fatal strikes: study. Emma Davie. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/ship-speed-size-right-whale-deaths-research-three-calves-1.5846906> Researcher says 80 per cent chance a ship strike would be fatal, even under current speed restrictions.

PIRACY

'Moment of truth' for Nigeria as dry season triggers piracy spike. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insight/moment-of-truth-for-nigeria-as-dry-season-triggers-piracy-spike/2-1-922207> Bimco's Jakob Larsen says now is the time for Nigeria to start making good on its promise to eradicate maritime gangs in 2021.

Greek tanker boarded twice in two days as piracy surge continues. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/greek-tanker-boarded-twice-in-two-days-as-piracy-surge-continues/2-1-925448> A Greek product tanker was boarded twice by pirate groups over the weekend, but the vessel and crew are reported to be safe.

Five seafarers reported kidnapped from cargoship off Nigeria. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/five-seafarers-reported-kidnapped-from-cargoship-off-nigeria/2-1-931141> Pirates have reportedly abducted five crew members from a general cargoship off Nigeria on Tuesday.

Eight More Crewmembers Abducted off Cargo Ship by Nigerian Pirates. *Maritime Executive*. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/eight-more-crew-abducted-off-cargo-ship-by-nigerian-pirates> The toll on seafarers continues to rise in the Gulf of Guinea with reports that eight crew members early this morning.

Ince warns of 'perfect storm' as exhausted crews face bigger pirate threat. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/ince-warns-of-perfect-storm-as-exhausted-crews-face-bigger-pirate-threat/2-1-931440> Seafarers are facing a perfect storm as crews exhausted by Covid-19 restrictions come under renewed piracy threat around the world.

Six Ukrainian sailors captured amid pirate attack on vessel off Nigeria. *UNIAN Information Agency (Ukraine)*. 19 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.unian.info/world/pirate-attack-six-ukrainian-sailors-captured-on-vessel-off-nigeria-11261756.html> Diplomats are taking measures to free the Ukrainian citizens.

Crew on board Maersk vessel safe after pirate attack. *ShippingWatch*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12644459.ece> Container vessel *Maersk Cadiz* was attacked by pirates on Saturday off the coast of Nigeria.

PORT STATE CONTROL

SG-STAR Fund Taskforce Develops CrewSafe Audit Programme and Attracts more Global Partners. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/6481098e-5af8-4f44-931a-6aadb4af67cf> The Singapore Shipping Tripartite Alliance Resilience (SG-STAR) Fund is the first global ground-up tripartite initiative with international partners including the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), the International Maritime Employers' Council (IMEC) and the International Chamber of Shipping, to work with stakeholders in seafaring nations on concrete solutions for safe crew changes, starting with the Philippines.

China to allow Australian coal cargo ashore despite ban. Alfred Cang and Aaron Clark. *ShippingWatch*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article> China is set to allow a shipment of Australian coal into the country, according to a person familiar with the matter, despite a ban on such imports remaining in place as tensions between Beijing and Canberra escalate.

Maritime Labour Calls on Transport Canada to Establish Firm Date for Enforcing Repatriations and Crew Changes under Maritime Labour Convention Regulations. *Seafarers' International Union of Canada*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3acJdUm>

We, the undersigned, as the labour representatives of the vast majority of marine sector workers in Canada, including most longshore workers and seafarers, are writing to you today to call on Transport Canada to establish a firm deadline on the crew change crisis that has resulted in more than 400,000 seafarers globally now serving on board vessels up to nine months longer than the maximum period of eleven months service on board permitted under the Maritime Labour Convention.

Manning agency defends quarantine of seafarers. Raymond Carl Dela Cruz. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1124331>
An official of a manning agency, accused of holding over 400 seafarers in hotels within the city for about two months, said it was merely following government policies introduced during the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic.

Singapore to grant shore leave for seafarers as Covid-19 restrictions ease. Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/singapore-to-grant-shore-leave-for-seafarers-as-covid-19-restrictions-ease/2-1-930800> Crew will have to meet strict conditions including providing negative Covid-19 tests, says maritime regulator.

Lois Zabrocky: 'Crew change challenges will continue well into 2021'. Lois Zabrocky. *TradeWinds*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/lois-zabrocky-crew-change-challenges-will-continue-well-into-2021/2-1-916870> Chief executive of International Seaways explains how keeping Covid-19 off its tankers is a 'constant battle'.

Canadian government under pressure to address crew change stance. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/canadian-government-under-pressure-to-address-crew-change-stance/> The Canadian government is refusing to address glaring holes in how it handles crew changes.

Canada urged to address crew change problem. *Safety4Sea*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/canada-urged-to-address-crew-change-problem/>
A letter from 12 trade unions was sent to Marc Garneau, the minister of transport, on December 7, urging Canada to address its crew change stance.

China reiterates its reluctance for change of crew of stranded Indian ship 'Jag Anand'. *Financial Express (India)*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.financialexpress.com/defence/china-reiterates-its-reluctance-for-change-of-crew-of-stranded-indian-ship-jag-anand/2156411/> The ship, 'Jag Anand', carrying a huge consignment of Australian coal to China, has been stuck at Jingtang port since June, with the crew members seeking immediate relief as the vessel remained in the queue since its arrival.

Anti-Virus Controls Strand Merchant Sailors Aboard Ships. Joe McDonald. *U.S. News & World Report*. 24 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2020-12-24/anti-virus-controls-strand-merchant-sailors-aboard-ships> The crew of the U.S.-owned *Horizon Spirit* expect to spend Christmas looking after their 800-foot-long (240-meter-long) container ship in a southern Chinese shipyard while they are barred, like thousands of sailors worldwide, from going ashore due to pandemic restrictions.

PORTS & HARBOURS

Autonomous ships: Coming soon to a port near you. Russell Hodge. *Splash 247.com*.

1 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/autonomous-ships-coming-soon-to-a-port-near-you/> Ocean Infinity's announcement that it will construct eight large (78 m long) autonomous ships brings the concept of large automated, remote controlled vessels suddenly closer.

New No Cruise Order Would Be Neutral for US Cruise Lines, Ports. *Fitch Ratings*.

4 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.fitchratings.com/research/corporate-finance/new-no-cruise-order-would-be-neutral-for-us-cruise-lines-ports-04-12-2020> Reimplementation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) No Sail Order would not result in immediate credit profile pressure on cruise operators and ports with sizable cruise operations, given we currently assume cruise operations will not meaningfully resume until 2H21, says Fitch Ratings.

IBM Works With Port of Los Angeles to Help Secure Maritime Supply Chain. *IBM*.

7 December 2020. Available from: <https://newsroom.ibm.com/2020-12-07-IBM-Works-With-Port-of-Los-Angeles-to-Help-Secure-Maritime-Supply-Chain> IBM Security announced a new agreement with the Port of Los Angeles to design and operate a Port Cyber Resilience Center (CRC).

Third quarter 2020 trade figures reflect unprecedented trade volatility. *British Ports Association*.

10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.britishports.org.uk/news/third-quarter-2020-trade-figures-reflect-unprecedented-trade-volatility> The UK's Q3 port freight statistics from the Department for Transport released today provide further evidence that 2020 continues to be an unpredictable year for global trade flows.

Ports gridlocked and retailers struggling as Brexit deadline looms. Zoe Wood and Sarah Butler.

The Guardian. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/dec/10/uk-ports-gridlocked-and-retailers-struggling-as-brexit-deadline-looms> The government is facing growing pressure to take action at the UK's gridlocked container ports, as the looming Brexit deadline is also resulting in thousands of extra truckloads of goods heading to the Channel ports in France, causing delays and traffic queues.

Quah Ley Hoon: 'We cannot merely be responding'. Quah Ley Hoon. *TradeWinds*.

13 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/people/quah-ley-hoon-we-cannot-merely-be-responding/2-1-914462> Chief executive of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore says the port is seeing signs of a rebound, but the country must remain prepared for another wave of coronavirus.

8-9% Fuel savings in Just-In-Time arrival trial. *Port of Rotterdam*. 14 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/8-9-fuel-savings-in-just-in-time-arrival-trial> Another desktop trial in 'Just-In-Time' (JIT) ship operations has yielded positive results, showing emissions can be cut considerably.

Britain's retail industry demands probe of disruption at ports. James Davey. *Reuters*.

17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-britain-retail-ports/britains-retail-industry-demands-probe-of-disruption-at-ports-idUKKBN28R009?edition-redirect=uk> Britain's retailers and food manufacturers have called on lawmakers to urgently investigate ongoing disruption at UK ports, warning that delays were hurting their plans to build stocks ahead of Christmas and the Dec. 31 end of the Brexit transition period.

Global Container Congestion: BPA Statement on calls for an inquiry. *British Ports Association*.

17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.britishports.org.uk/news/global-container-congestion-bpa-statement-on-calls-for-an-inquiry> The British Ports Association has today responded to calls for a Parliamentary inquiry into global container congestion affecting that is affecting some UK ports.

Deal or no deal: border checks in EU ports are starting as from 1 January 2021. *European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO)*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.espo.be/news/deal-or-no-deal-border-checks-in-eu-ports-are-starting-as-from-1-january-2021> As from 1 January 2021, businesses that conduct trade between the EU and the UK will need to deal with border controls, thereby ensuring they submit the right formalities and information to border authorities in order to gain clearance for their goods at the border.

Covid-19: 'Serious disruption' feared as Dover halts traffic to France. *BBC News*. 20 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-55389505> The government and trade groups have warned of "serious disruption" after France blocked arrivals of UK passengers for 48 hours over concerns about the new coronavirus variant.

Cruise control: pandemic gives locals chance to take ports back from tourists. *Jessica Glenza. The Guardian*. 20 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2020/dec/20/coronavirus-cruise-ships-lines-key-west-juneau> From Key West to Alaska, anti-cruise-ship activists have celebrated a silver lining to Covid as it halted travel.

IAPH-WPSP COVID19 survey : one quarter of ports responding have an increased share of empty container handling. *World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP)*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://sustainableworldports.org/iaph-wp-sp-covid19-survey-one-quarter-of-ports-responding-have-an-increased-share-of-empty-container-handling/> In addition to the updates on vessel calls, hinterland delays, capacity utilization and port personnel availability, the WPSP-IAPH Port Economic Impact Barometer report for week 50 asked the world's ports to indicate how the share of empty containers in total container throughput evolved in the past three months compared to the same period in 2019. [IAPH-WPSP Port Economic Impact Barometer](#)

Port of Los Angeles Plans Cyber Intelligence Facility as Maritime Threats Grow. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/port-of-los-angeles-plans-cyber-intelligence-facility-as-maritime-threats-grow/> The Port of Los Angeles is building a multimillion-dollar facility designed to share intelligence on cyber threats between the public and private sectors amid increasing attacks on the maritime and logistics industries.

REGULATIONS

Report on maritime automation legislation pays attention to ensuring safety. *Government of Finland*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.lvm.fi/en/-/report-on-maritime-automation-legislation-pays-attention-to-ensuring-safety-1244663> Maritime automation aims for safer, more efficient and more sustainable water transport.

Maersk and CMA CGM push EU for free emission allowances. *Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd's List*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com> As the European Commission prepares for its revision of the EU carbon market with shipping in it, two of the Europe's biggest companies make their claim for a less international and more lenient system, taking into consideration the industry's peculiarities.

Advanced hull coatings help meet emissions regulations. *Craig Jallal. Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/advanced-hull-coatings-help-meet-emissions-regulations-62087> As the vehicle for more than 80% of the world's trade – an oft-quoted fact – the critical role that shipping plays for every industry, for every nation and individual was laid bare this year; but so too was the impressive ability of the maritime industry to overcome unprecedented challenges.

Maersk and CMA CGM want EU to award free allowances to the most efficient ships.

Christian Carlsen. *ShippingWatch*. 1 December 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12596909.ece> The two major container lines Maersk and CMA CGM call on the EU to award free allowances to the shipping lines with the most efficient fleets, if the EU decides to include shipping in its Emission Trading System.

Dissent in European shipping circles over EU's green rules.

Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com> Once universally opposed and condemned, the EU's aspirations to regulate shipping greenhouse gas emissions have forced shipowners to compromise and begin acknowledging their impending reality.

Stopford and De Stoop look at bright side of new emission rules.

TradeWinds. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/stopford-and-de-stoop-look-at-bright-side-of-new-emission-rules/2-1-922710> While the International Maritime Organization's regulation on decarbonisation receives criticism from many stakeholders as being too lenient, some industry heavyweights reckon it is a step in the right direction.

China's shipping groups criticise EU carbon trading scheme.

Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL11349679> The associations suggest that Beijing should use bilateral diplomacy to influence Brussels' attempt to levy a carbon tax on international shipping.

A high tide of new regulations.

Craig Jallal. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/a-high-tide-of-new-regulationsnbsp-62174> It seems that every New Year brings with it a new set of regulations to challenge tanker owners and operators and while 2021 is no exception, the extraordinary events of 2020 may allow some breathing space.

Regulatory risks posed by green shipping are an issue for insurers.

Akshat Arora. *Standard Club*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2YmbemY> Year 2020 marked the implementation of the much anticipated global 0.5% m/m sulphur cap regulation, commonly referred to as 'IMO-2020'.

Top 10 in regulation in 2020.

Lloyd's List. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135048> The pandemic may have derailed the pace of regulatory proceedings, but efforts by the biggest players to shape those regulations did not stop.

Ships risk detention over cybersecurity.

Sulaimon Salau. *Guardian (Nigeria)*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://guardian.ng/business-services/maritime/ships-risk-detention-over-cybersecurity/> Ships that fail to comply with cybersecurity code of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) may face detention from January 1, 2021.

Mediterranean ECA plans fall short, conservationists warn.

Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/mediterranean-eca-plans-fall-short-conservationists-warn/2-1-925973> Tentative road map to cap sulphur emissions from shipping in the region should come faster and cover nitrogen oxide as well, pressure groups argue.

EU emissions trading move could spark wider trade conflicts, ICS warns.

Nigel Lowry. *Lloyd's List*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com> Preliminary comments from global shipowners' body highlights 'serious concern' over potential for international political backlash against Brussels' unilateral market measure, though potential damage to IMO remains top concern.

2021: Europe's year for shipping's regulations. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1134992/>
The International Maritime Organization will likely finalise its short-term GHG emissions measure in 2021; but it is the European Commission that will step forward with a market-based measure proposal that could alter maritime regulations as we know them.

2020's top stories in Ballast Water Treatment Technology. *Ballast Water Treatment Technology*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/stories-of-the-year-what-shaped-2020-in-ballast-water-treatment-technology-58948> We look back over our most read stories from 2020 to revisit the topics your reading habits revealed as key drivers in the maritime industry.

Debate: should shipping be regulated regionally or globally? *ShipTechnology*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/international-shipping-regulation/> Several industry stakeholders at 2020's virtual Global Maritime Forum claimed that greater regional regulation of the shipping industry would help speed up its decarbonisation process.

SALVAGE

Salvage update: tanker towed, container ships ground and three bulkers damaged. Martyn Wingrove. *Tug Technology & Business*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/salvage-update-tanker-towed-container-ships-ground-three-bulkers-damaged-6> The month did not end well for Panama-and Liberia-flagged tonnage, with ships of all ages suffering from engine failure, fire, cargo loss and damage.

SEAFARERS

POEA resolution grants additional pay to Pinoy seafarers sailing in Gulf of Guinea. Samuel Medenilla. *Business Mirror (Philippines)*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2020/11/30/poea-reso-grants-additional-pay-to-pinoy-seafarers-sailing-in-gulf-of-guinea/> Filipino seafarers sailing onboard ships passing at additional locations in the Gulf of Guinea will also soon be entitled with additional benefits, according to the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

Nautilus campaign aims to 'deliver seafarers home for Christmas'. *Nautilus International*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/nautilus-campaign-aims-to-deliver-seafarers-home-for-christmas/> With many seafarers facing a second December away from home, Nautilus is calling for government and industry to carry out as many crew changes as possible to 'deliver seafarers home for Christmas'.

Covid: Stranded seafarers 'must get Christmas leave'. Justin Parkinson. *BBC News*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-55106772>
It is estimated that 400,000 seafarers, up to 2,000 of them from the UK, are currently stuck on vessels.

ICS welcomes UN resolution on key worker status for seafarers. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/ics-welcomes-un-draft-resolution-on-key-worker-status-for-seafarers/> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has today welcomed a resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, which calls for all countries around the world to designate seafarers as key workers.

EU General Statement – United Nations General Assembly: Adoption of International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers. *European External Action Service (EEAS).* 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3t9FKir>

General Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States delivered by Ms Peggy Vissers, European Union Delegation to the United Nations, 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Agenda Item 128(a) on the Adoption of International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains.

Amid fight to curb coronavirus, U.N. urges designation of seafarers as key workers.

Michelle Nichols. *Reuters*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2KXqDr0>
The 193-member U.N. General Assembly urged all countries to designate seafarers and other marine personnel as key workers on Tuesday after travel restrictions to combat the spread of COVID-19 have left hundreds of thousands stranded at sea for months.

ITF wins back \$1.7 million in owed wages as more seafarers abandoned. *ITF Seafarers' Trust.*

2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/itf-wins-back-17-million-owed-wages-more-seafarers-abandoned> By the time the *MV Mako* was docked in the Port of Aden, Yemen, a seafarer had been on board for twelve months - nine of them unpaid.

ECSCA applauds UN resolution on seafarers as key workers and supports IMO call for priority vaccination. *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSCA).* 2 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-applauds-un-resolution-seafarers-key-workers-and-supports-imo-call-priority-vaccination> On behalf of the whole European shipping industry, ECSCA welcomes the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly, calling for all countries to designate seafarers and other maritime workers as key workers, to implement relevant measures to allow stranded seafarers to be repatriated and others to join ships, and for the priority vaccination of seafarers.

Pandemic has given exploited crew members a stronger voice. Jonathan Boonzaier.

TradeWinds. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/pandemic-has-given-exploited-crew-members-a-stronger-voice/2-1-923768> If anything positive has come out of the pandemic it is the strong voice that seafarers are using to fight back against the unacceptable conditions they are forced to endure.

14 Indian seamen fly back home from Dubai after being released by Houthis in Yemen.

New Indian Express. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2020/dec/07/14-indian-seamen-fly-back-home-from-dubai-after-being-released-by-houthis-in-yemen-2232900.html> Fourteen Indian seamen who were stranded in Yemen for over 10 months after their ship sank in the Gulf of Aden flew back to India on Saturday from Dubai.

Stranded at sea: the humanitarian crisis that's left 400,000 seafarers stuck on cargo ships.

Christiaan De Beukelaer. *The Conversation*. 7 December 2020. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/stranded-at-sea-the-humanitarian-crisis-thats-left-400-000-seafarers-stuck-on-cargo-ships-150446> It has been rightly described as a humanitarian crisis and a modern form of forced labour.

21 Indonesian seafarers stranded in Peru return home. *Jakarta Post*. 8 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/12/08/21-indonesian-seafarers-stranded-in-peru-return-home.html> Twenty-one Indonesian seafarers stranded in Peru for three months were repatriated over the weekend, the Indonesian Embassy in Lima has announced, amid difficulties arising from the COVID-19 pandemic that have put many livelihoods at stake.

ILO Governing Body calls for urgent action on seafarer COVID-19 crisis. *International Labour Organization (ILO)*. 8 December 2020. Available from: https://www.ilo.org/global/about-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_763542/lang--en/index.htm Its resolution addresses the plight of hundreds of thousands of seafarers who have been trapped at sea for as many as 17 months or longer because of pandemic restrictions.

[Resolution concerning maritime labour issues and the COVID-19 pandemic](#) 📄

‘The heat is on’: Landmark UN, ILO decisions put pressure on governments over crew change. *International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF)*. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/heat-landmark-un-ilo-decisions-put-pressure-governments-over-crew-change> Pressure is mounting on governments to designate seafarers as ‘key workers’ to avoid the prospect of forced labour and human rights abuses in major supply chains this holiday season, say representatives from the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF).

Labor group seeks help for hundreds of thousands of seafarers stranded by COVID.

Matthew Laviates. *Reuters*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2NGOlSX> Hundreds of thousands of seafarers around the world are stranded at sea due to coronavirus travel restrictions, unable to go home or get medical care, the International Labour Organization (ILO) said on Tuesday, calling on nations to address their plight.

PH seafarers first to be ‘whitelisted’ under ILO convention. Raymond Carl Dela Cruz. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1124249> The Philippines is now the first country to be officially ‘whitelisted’ under the International Labour Organization’s (ILO) revised Seafarers’ Identity Documents (SID) Convention, 2003 (ILO Convention No. 185) which permits the movement of seafarers all over the world.

Fidelity calls for urgent action to help stranded seafarers. Alastair Marsh. *ShippingWatch*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12620986.ece> Money manager Fidelity International now calls for urgent action to address the humanitarian crisis playing out at sea, where more than 400,000 seafarers remain stranded.

The plight of Philippine seafarers grounded amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Buena Bernal. *Channel News Asia*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/the-plight-of-philippine-seafarers-grounded-amid-the-covid-19-13744362> 📄 More than 250,00 Philippine citizens have been repatriated since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

MARINA further extends validity, revalidation of STCW certificates expiring in 1st sem of 2021. *Philippine Information Agency (PIA)*. 10 December 2020. Available from: <https://pia.gov.ph/news/articles/1061.amp> As part of its temporary contingency measure amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through its Advisory No. 2020-88, has issued further extension for the validity of one (1) year from the date of expiration, as well as the revalidation of STCW certificates of Filipino seafarers expiring from 01 January 2021 to 30 June 2021 - continuing its previous extension, which only covered 13 March 2020 to 31 December 2020.

The Top 100: Homage to Covid’s forgotten heroes. Linton Nightingale. *Lloyd’s List*. 11 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135075/The-Top-100-Homage-to-Covids-forgotten-heroes> While the coronavirus pandemic may have been 2020’s defining event, core issues on shipping’s long-term agenda, such as decarbonisation, remain.

Lloyd’s Register teams up with ISWAN to support its helpline – ‘SeafarerHelp’. *Lloyd’s Register*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en-gb/latest-news/lr-supports-seafarerhelp/> Lloyd’s Register is raising awareness of a free, multilingual, confidential helpline for seafarers this Christmas, called ‘SeafarerHelp’, and supporting the charity that runs it, the International Seafarers’ Welfare and Assistance Network.

Shipping companies and charities join forces for #SeafarersDeliveringChristmas 2020.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2M1ix1b>

The global shipping industry and welfare organisations have come together to support seafarers through the #SeafarersDeliveringChristmas campaign 2020.


From the News Desk: The Seafarer stands tall in our annual rankings. Adam Sharpe.

Lloyd's List. 15 December 2020. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135136> Selecting a list of the most influential people in shipping is never an easy task — there will always be those who disagree with certain inclusions, exclusions and positions within the top 100 and those disagreements will probably last until the following year.

General observation on matters arising from the application of the Maritime Labour

Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006) during the COVID-19 pandemic. *International*

Labour Organization (ILO). 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ilo.org/wcm5/groups> 

The Committee notes with deep concern the challenges and the impact that restrictions and other measures adopted by governments around the world to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the protection of seafarers' rights as laid out in the Convention.

India yet to designate seafarers as 'key workers'. P. Manoj. *Hindu BusinessLine (India)*.

16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/india-yet-to-designate-seafarers-as-key-workers/article33347186.ece> India, one of the top five suppliers of crew to the global shipping industry, is yet to designate its seafarers as "key workers".

Iro Gidakou: Out of the challenges for seafarers, some opportunities can emerge. Iro Gidakou.

TradeWinds. 16 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/gas/iro-gidakou-out-of-the-challenges-for-seafarers-some-opportunities-can-emerge/2-1-918124>


Maran Gas Maritime master mariner says seafarers are facing challenges in Covid-19, but some new procedures are positives.

SC: Sexual harassment is not gender-based. *Philippine Information Agency (PIA)*.

16 December 2020. Available from: <https://pia.gov.ph/press-releases/releases/1061868>

The Supreme Court held it was high-time to correct the society's notion that women are the weaker sex and the only victims of sexual harassment because this is discriminatory against men who have suffered the same plight.

Understanding the effects of COVID-19 on seafarers. *Australian Maritime Safety*

Authority (AMSA). 17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/campaigns/understanding-effects-covid-19-seafarers> 

The work of seafarers during the COVID-19 pandemic has been critical to ensure the global supply chain of essential goods and equipment.

Jamaica and Kenya sign MOU for Reciprocal Recognition of STCW Certificates for Seafarers by Nationals. *All About Shipping*. 17 December 2020. Available from:

<https://allaboutshipping.co.uk/2020/12/17/jamaica-and-kenya-sign-mou-for-reciprocal-recognition-of-stcw-certificates-for-seafarers-by-nationals/>

The Maritime Authority of Jamaica has today signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Republic of Kenya to enable reciprocal recognition of STCW certificates for seafarers for their nationals.

Seafarers abandoned by their bosses. Nicole Sy. *Bloomberg*. 17 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/videos/2020-12-21/seafarers-abandoned-by-their-bosses-video> 

Covid-19 has led to many shipping tycoons abandoning their vessels, leaving crew and hazardous materials on board. Bloomberg's K. Oanh Ha tells Nicole Sy that the humanitarian and environmental consequences can be tragic.

2020: Stories from the pandemic. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network* 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/stories/> Over the course of this extraordinary year, the strength and resilience of seafarers has shone through.

How Mission to Seafarers supported crews throughout 2020. *RightShip*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rightship.com/press-release/how-mission-to-seafarers-supported-crews-throughout-2020/> Our industry faced particularly difficult new challenges in 2020, but few were impacted more than our seafarers.

COVID-19 Pandemic Shows Mariners Are Essential Workers, Experts Say. John Grady. *US Naval Institute News*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.usni.org/2020/12/18/covid-19-pandemic-shows-mariners> The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted why mariners – from ferry crews to masters of Triple E-class container ships – are “essential workers,” while questioning future shipbuilding and threatening the survival of smaller shipping companies, two experts in maritime commerce told USNI News.

China's trade war with Australia is having very real consequences for stranded seafarers. Kai Feng. *ABC (Australia)*. 20 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-12-20/china-australia-trade-spat-coal-stranded-seafarers-anastasia/12998694> Intensifying trade tensions between China and Australia are now leaving seafarers in limbo, as dozens of ships remain stranded near the Chinese coast.

MSC calls for urgent solution for seafarers on chartered bulk carrier *Anastasia*. *Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)*. 20 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.msc.com/aus/press/press-releases/2020-december/msc-calls-for-urgent-solution-regarding-anastasia> MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company is calling for an urgent crew change solution for the bulk carrier “ANASTASIA”, which is stuck off the coast of northern China, and is among dozens of ships in a waiting line near the port of Caofeidian.

Union issues travel ban warning to members. *Nautilus International*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/union-issues-travel-ban-warning-to-members/> Nautilus is warning members seeking to join vessels in continental Europe that they may face disruptions caused by travel restrictions and border closures imposed by several European countries from midnight on Sunday.

Pope Francis voices concern for stranded seafarers. *Stella Maris*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/pope-francis-voices-concern-for-stranded-seafarers/> Pope Francis has voiced his concern for stranded seafarers affected by the crew change crisis and urged governments to do all they can to repatriate them.

ILO ruling says governments have failed in their duty of care to seafarers. *Seafarers' Rights International (SRI)*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://seafarersrights.org/iilo-ruling-says-governments-have-failed-in-their-duty-of-care-to-seafarers/> In the first ruling of its kind, the committee of 20 eminent jurists has found that governments have failed abjectly to protect the minimum standards for the protection of seafarers' rights, as set out in international law under the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006.

Major Shipping Line Gets the Ball Rolling for Latest Seafarers Charity Fund. *Handy Shipping Guide*. 22 December 2020. Available from: http://www.handyshippingguide.com/shipping-news/major-shipping-line-gets-the-ball-rolling-for-latest-seafarers-charity-fund_13409 The Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) was first in the queue to get the ball rolling in the latest fundraising drive from the Mission to Seafarers which aims to provide a Crew Welfare sustainability programme to ensure that support continues for seafarers as the trials of pandemic continue.

Seafarer abandonment cases at record high. Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd's List*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135170> Abandonment of seafarers is on the rise this year, exacerbated by the pandemic, with reported cases at a record high of more than double the 2019 levels.

China-Australia trade row leaves Indian seafarers stranded. Indrani Bagchi. *Times of India*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/china-oz-trade-row-leaves-indian-seafarers-stranded/articleshow/79905076.cms> Ritesh Kumar is second engineer on *MV Skopelos I* (vessel registered to Valletta, Malta, owned and operated by Seascout, Greece).

Merchant Navy, others make case for Nigerian seafarers. Adaku Onyenucheya. *Guardian (Nigeria)*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://guardian.ng/business-services/maritime/merchant-navy-others-make-case-for-nigerian-seafarers/> The National President of Nigerian Merchant Navy Officers and Water Transport Senior Staff Association (NMNOWTSSA), Comrade Bob Yousou, has lamented abandonment, repatriation, insecurity, unpaid wages and poor remuneration as challenges facing the Nigerian seafarers.

Annual Report: Year 6: Advancing Human Rights at Sea Internationally. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020> Human Rights at Sea today publishes its sixth annual report for reporting period between May 2019 – June 2020 continuing to assure transparency in all areas of its national and international work and its use of donor funds. [Annual Report](#) 

Cyprus shipping minister 'committed to wellbeing of seafarers'. *Financial Mirror (Cyprus)*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.financialmirror.com/2020/12/23/cyprus-shipping-minister-committed-to-wellbeing-of-seafarers/> The Cypriot junior minister for shipping visited several vessels anchored in Limassol port on Wednesday and gave presents to some 70 crew members, as a token of appreciation for the sacrifices made by seafarers throughout this year.

No Christmas cheer for bulkers stranded in China. Inderpreet Walia. *Lloyd's List*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135213> According to Lloyd's List Intelligence vessel tracking data, at least 31 panamaxs and post-panamaxs and three capesizes loaded with coal at eastern Australian ports since July through to November are at anchorages outside terminals at Caofeidian, Huanghua, Tangshan and Bayuquan.

South Pacific Seafarer Crisis Exposes Abandonment Challenge. *Daily Observer (Liberia)*. 24 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.liberianobserver.com> In the tiny Pacific island nation of Fiji, nearly a thousand men, mostly from Tonga, have been stranded for months, with no way to get home.

SEARCH & RESCUE

Containership Rescues Man Clinging to Capsized Boat. *MarineLink*. 29 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/containership-rescues-man-clinging-483549> A containership rescued a boater clinging to the hull of his capsized vessel approximately 86 miles east of Port Canaveral, Fla., Sunday.

MOAS returns to Mediterranean, partnering up with Sea-Eye. *Times of Malta*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/moas-returns-to-mediterranean-partnering-up-with-sea-eye.836591> MOAS, the first non-governmental organisation to operate in the Mediterranean, is returning to the central Mediterranean alongside its new partner Sea-Eye.

Migrant rescue ship *Ocean Viking* back at sea, block lifted. *InfoMigrants*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/29276/migrant-rescue-ship-ocean-viking-back-at-sea-block-lifted> The administrative detention of the ship *Ocean Viking* was lifted following an inspection by the Italian coast guard.

SHIP RECYCLING

Norway jails shipowner with ‘first ever’ prison sentence for beaching scrap sale. Bob Rust. *TradeWinds*. 27 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/norway-jails-shipowner-with-first-ever-prison-sentence-for-beaching-scrap-sale/2-1-920941> Norwegian shipowner Georg Eide has been sentenced to six months in prison over a 2017 attempt to sneak a ship out of the country for beaching.

BIMCO: EU ship recycling regime improved but gaps remain. Rasmus Nord Jorgensen. *BIMCO*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20201203-bimco-eu-ship-recycling-regime-improved-but-gaps-remain> An updated Report on the European list of ship recycling facilities, commissioned by BIMCO, shows progress in increasing the number of active yards on the list, but the rules still don’t reflect commercial realities and lags behind on capacity to scrap large commercial ships.

How The Recent NGT Verdict Is Going To Facilitate Sustainable Ship Recycling In India. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 5 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/how-the-recent-ngt-verdict-is-going-to-facilitate-sustainable-ship-recycling-in-india/> National Green Tribunal (NGT) has approved the ‘Beaching’ method of ship recycling in the world’s largest ship recycling cluster, at Alang, India, on Friday, 27th November 2020.

Coronavirus slows safety reforms in Bangladesh’s ship-breaking industry. Naimul Karim. *Reuters*. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3pjigox> The coronavirus pandemic has slowed efforts to make safer the often hazardous job of dismantling old ships in Bangladesh, officials said, following the latest worker fatality.

Norway’s police see beaching as a threat to the environment and have another case in their sights following prison sentence. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 8 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12614327.ece> A Norwegian shipowner was recently sentenced to unconditional imprisonment, and another company is currently under investigation by Norway’s financial police for possible illegal recycling.

EU criticizes shipowners for using controversial recycling manoeuvre. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12630139.ece> A shortage of EU-approved recycling yards leaves shipowners with no choice but to re-flag old European ships before sending them to be recycled, says shipping organization Bimco.

What happens when business tycoons abandon their giant cargo ships. K Oanh Ha and Bruce Stanley. *Business Standard (India)*. 18 December 2020. Available from: https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/what-happens-when-business-tycoons-abandon-their-giant-cargo-ships-120121800128_1.html Covid-19 has wrought havoc everywhere, but in the nominally regulated shipping industry it’s fuelling a worrying practice: the abandonment of ships, cargo and seafarers with no way to get home.

GMS: Demystifying Ship Recycling. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/gms-demystifying-ship-recycling-2/> International Maritime Organization (IMO), in its resolution MEPC.210(63), mentions that residual oil tanks should be protected against leakage, overflow, fire, and other potential accidents.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

Orderbook Analysis Hints at Importance of Drop in Bunkers, Retrofit Solutions to Meet IMO Emissions Targets. *Ship & Bunker*. 1 December 2020. Available from:

<https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/995011-orderbook-analysis-hints-at-importance-of-drop-in-bunkers-retrofit-solutions-to-meet-imo-emissions-targets> An Analysis of the current orderbook by Clarksons Research has hinted at the importance that retrofit and drop in fuel technologies could play as the industry looks at ways to meet its emissions reduction targets.

HFW: Are nuclear merchant ships making a comeback? Christopher Chan and Derek Tam. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 1 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/hfw-are-nuclear-merchant-ships-making-a-comeback/>

The shipping industry once hyped for nuclear merchant vessels back in the 1950s after the visually stunning *NS Savannah* first set sail.

Denmark and Norway team up to build world's largest hydrogen ferry. Sam Morgan. *EurActiv*. 7 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/news/denmark-and-norway-team-up-to-build-worlds-largest-hydrogen-ferry/> A Danish-Norwegian project aimed at building what will be the world's largest and most powerful hydrogen-fuelled ferry has applied for EU funding.

Back to the future: Swedish firm bets on wind-powered cargo ships. Alister Doyle. *Reuters*.

9 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3j6mzRZ> Two centuries after the first coal-powered steamships crossed the Atlantic Ocean, a Swedish company is designing a futuristic throwback: a huge, wind-driven cargo ship that could help end the fossil fuel era and limit climate change.

Hybrid newbuilds boost Colombo Dockyard's growing backlog. John Snyder. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 9 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/39l3lzg> While 2020 has been marked by a downturn in global shipbuilding, Colombo Dockyard Plc has bucked the trend, building its backlog with notable newbuilding contracts from European, Middle Eastern and Asian shipowners.

Mitsubishi Shipbuilding Participating in "Planning and Design Center for Greener Ships".

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. 12 December 2020. Available from:

https://www.mhi.com/news/201210.html?_ga=2.268410446.160734800208-1575615627 As one of the members, Mitsubishi Shipbuilding will develop advanced environmental performance-enhancing technologies and promote commercialization of next-generation greener ships.

HHI Group and DNV GL present green tankers of the future. *DNV GL*. 18 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/news/hhi-group-and-dnv-gl-present-green-tankers-of-the-future-193837> DNV GL, the world's leading classification society, and HHI Group, the world's largest shipyard, have teamed up to embark on the development of future-proof tanker designs.

US trade spat with China sees shipyards sanctioned. Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*.

21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/us-trade-spat-with-china-sees-shipyards-sanctioned/2-1-934595> The US Department of Commerce has sanctioned a further 29 Chinese shipbuilding-related companies for their purported role in helping China build a chain of artificial islands in the South China Sea.

Wärtsilä and Grieg to build groundbreaking green ammonia tanker. *Wärtsilä Corporation*.

18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/gbr/media/news/18-12-2020-wartsila-and-grieg-to-build-groundbreaking-green-ammonia-tanker-2836740> With Norwegian government support worth 46.3 million NOK (4.4 million EUR), the partnership aims to build the world's first green ammonia fuelled tanker.

Costa Rican hybrid sailboat aims to reduce shipping industry's carbon footprint.

Alvaro Murillo. *Reuters*. 19 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3qVbcij> 📰 Some 200 workers from 27 nations are building a hybrid sailboat on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica designed to carry 350 tons of goods, hoping to demonstrate that in the 21st century it is possible to transport cargo without polluting the environment.

Another step towards a zero-emission future. Jarle Fosen. *Gard*. 21 December 2020.

Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/30906149/another-step-towards-a-zero-emission-future> In our final Insight of 2020, Senior Loss Prevention Executive Jarle Fosen shares his exciting visit last week to the *Yara Birkeland*, the first fully battery operated container vessel designed for autonomous operation.

HySHIP: inside Europe's flagship hydrogen ship demonstrator project. Julian Turner.

ShipTechnology. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/hydrogen--vessel/> Led by global shipping firm Wilhelmsen, the HySHIP project plans to build a zero-emission prototype vessel running on liquid green hydrogen, which it aims to promote as a viable maritime fuel option in Europe.

SHIPPING

COVID-19 drives up ship operating costs. *Drewry Shipping Consultants*. 30 November 2020.

Available from: <https://www.drewry.co.uk/maritime-research-opinion-browser/covid-19-drives-up-ship-operating-costs> 📰 Vessel operating costs have risen at their fastest pace in over a decade this year, on higher insurance cover premiums and COVID-19 related expenses, but are expected to moderate in subsequent years as pandemic related spend unwinds.

Emitting less CO2 together: Container shipping holds course. *Hapag-Lloyd*. 30 November 2020.

Available from: <https://www.hapag-lloyd.com/en/news-insights/insights/2020/11/emitting-less-co2-together--container-shipping-holds-course.html> With the implementation of IMO 2020, the shipping industry has proven that it, too, can take a major collective step towards lower sulphur emissions.

More Cruise Ships Poised to Resume Service. *Maritime Executive*. 30 November 2020.

Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/more-cruise-ships-poised-to-resume-service> This will include both the first sailings by Royal Caribbean International in over eight months as well as the first cruises in China.

Contractual allocation of risk for drug smuggling in commercial shipping. *Gard*.

30 November 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/30797295/contractual-allocation-of-risk-for-drug-smuggling-in-commercial-shipping> Drug smuggling in the maritime sector continues to generate complex contractual disputes between owners, charterers, and cargo interests.

Breakbulk Middle East empowers women in breakbulk sector. *Emirates News Agency (UAE)*.

30 November 2020. Available from: <https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395302891491> Breakbulk Middle East, the GCC's leading breakbulk and project cargo event, which has played an active role in increasing the participation of women in key areas in the industry, will be held under the patronage of the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure.

Many reasons to address gender imbalance. Felicity Landon. *Mission to Seafarers*.

December 2020. Available from: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/the-sea/many-reasons-to-address-gender-imbalance> Better motivation and a retention rethink needed to encourage and keep women at sea.

Shipmanagement's future post-Covid. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shipmanagements-future-post-covid/> How the ship-management industry is changing during and post-Covid dominated much of the discussion at Capital Link's Hong Kong Maritime Forum today.

UPDATED: Coming to grips with the great green shipping challenge. Timothy Renshaw. *Business in Vancouver (Canada)*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <https://biv.com/article/2020/12/coming-grips-great-green-shipping-challenge> The decarbonized ocean freight armada needs a lot of investment and collaboration to get out of port.


Urgently needed empty containers are sitting at depots for 45 days on average. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/urgently-needed-empty-containers-are-sitting-at-depots-on-average-for-45-days/> Global supply chains have been rocked in the last couple of months by the acute shortage of available empty containers, giving exporters severe headaches in getting their products to market.


SSI launches updated Roadmap to a sustainable shipping industry to guide shipping throughout its sustainability journey. *Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI)*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.sustainableshipping.org/news/ssi-launches-updated-roadmap-to-a-sustainable-shipping-industry-to-guide-shipping-throughout-its-sustainability-journey/> The Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI) announces the launch of the updated Roadmap to a sustainable shipping industry, a resource for stakeholders across the shipping value chain to navigate the major, pressing sustainability challenges facing the industry. [Roadmap](#)

A guide to scrubber washwater – a problem waiting for a resolution. Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/a-guide-to-scrubber-washwater-a-problem-waiting-for-a-resolution/> This guide on scrubber washwater is intended to give an overview on the topic.

Initiatives for increased diversity floated at virtual Ethnicity in Maritime meeting. *Nautilus International*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/initiatives-for-increased-diversity-floated-at-virtual-ethnicity-in-maritime-meeting/> New initiatives to make the UK maritime industry more reflective of the diversity of the UK were heralded at a virtual Ethnicity in Maritime Network meeting.

Startup established by former Maersk people has surpassed 1,000 ships. Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 3 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12.ece> Two former Maersk employees are behind a company that aims to reduce ships' fuel consumption.

Shipping companies aim to cut single-use plastics with new Charter. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/shipping-companies-aim-cut-single-use-plastics-new-charter/> The Chamber and its members have a goal of ZERO pollution from ships to sea from plastic and the new Charter, which has 29 industry signatories, aims to encourage companies to ban the use of non-essential single-use plastics by the end of 2021 and help protect the environment now and for future generations. [Single-Use Plastic Charter](#) 

Episode 151 - Interview: Jan Hoffmann, UNCTAD. Lena Göthberg. *Shipping Podcast*. 4 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingpodcast.com/151-jan-hoffmann-chief-trade-logistics-branch-division-on-technology-and-logistics-unctad/>  Listen to Jan Hoffmann, Chief, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD.

Renewable electricity requirements to decarbonise transport in Europe with electric vehicles, hydrogen and electrofuels. Nick Ash, Alec Davies and Claire Newton. *Transport & Environment*.

4 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/sites/te/files.pdf>

This report follows on from Transport & Environment's (T&E) study entitled "How to decarbonise European transport by 2050", which outlines realistic transport decarbonisation pathways to 2050 for the European Union.

Insurance claims from ONE Apus box spill set to top \$50m. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*.

4 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/insurance-claims-from-one-apus-box-spill-set-to-top-50m/> More than 1,900 containers – including around 40 boxes containing dangerous goods – tumbled into the Pacific Ocean on Monday as the Japanese boxship encountered a violent storm cell en route to America.

Norwegian shipowners say CO2 levy for shipping is a necessity. Tomas Kristiansen.

ShippingWatch. 7 December 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article126.ece> The Norwegian Shipowners' Association makes a clear announcement that shipping will not succeed in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions without a CO2 levy.

Japan promotes ammonia-fuelled shipping. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 7 December 2020.

Available from: <https://splash247.com/japan-promotes-ammonia-fuelled-shipping/> Japan Inc, hitherto one of the greatest proponents of a hydrogen-powered society, has opened the door to far greater use of ammonia.

Green fuel options for fuel cells: key takeaways. Jamey Bergman. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 8 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/green-fuel-options-for-fuel-cells-key-takeaways-62215> Experts from around the industry weighed in on shipping's decarbonised future and the fuels and technologies that may have a role to play in creating it at Riviera's Maritime Hydrogen and Fuel Cells, Europe virtual conference.

DCSA Publishes Standards for the Bill of Lading. *Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA)*.

8 December 2020. Available from: <https://dcsa.org/dcsa-publishes-standards-for-the-bill-of-lading/> First release of DCSA's eDocumentation initiative establishes data and process standards for bill of lading preparation and issuance. [eBill of Lading](#)

Time for the ferry industry to build on good intentions. Johan Roos. *Cruise & Ferry*.

8 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.cruiseandferry.net/articles/time-for-the-ferry-industry-to-build-on-good-intentions> With fast-approaching International Maritime Organization deadlines on greenhouse gas reductions, the ferry industry needs to act now.

'Price rises likely' due to UK shipping problems. Vivienne Nunis. *BBC News*. 9 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-55237791> Businesses say a global shipping crisis is causing freight costs to soar and UK consumers may soon see price rises for imported goods.

Danish Shipping calls for carbon levy on shipping. Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*.

9 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12614795.ece> The statement from the Norwegian Shipowners' Association in which it calls for a levy or tax on fossil fuels is met with support from Danish Shipping.

How renewable fuels in the maritime sector can support a just and inclusive energy transition. Eric van den Heuvel and Loes Knotter. *EurActiv*. 9 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/opinion/how-fuels-in-the-maritime-sector-can-support-a-just-and-inclusive-energy-transition/> In the transport sector, the most cost-efficient climate emission reductions can be made in the maritime segment, write Loes Knotter and Eric van den Heuvel.

Shell brings in Karrie Trauth as new head of shipping. Lucy Hine. *TradeWinds*.

10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/shell-brings-in-karrie-trauth-as-new-head-of-shipping/2-1-928410> Karrie Trauth has been named as Shell's new chief of shipping in a clear-out of the management heads of its three major trading units.

Assessing the COVID Cargo Crunch. *World Shipping Council*. 10 December 2020. Available from: https://www.worldshipping.org/press-room/MEDIA_RELEASE_Assessing-the-COVID--Cargo-Crunch--10_Dec_2020.pdf To say that current trade conditions are challenging would be an understatement, particularly in North America, which is experiencing an unprecedented surge in imports from Asia.

Woman's Hour Power List 2020: Diane Gilpin, CEO, Smart Green Shipping. *BBC Radio*.

10 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000q3mr> Diane Gilpin, CEO of Smart Green Shipping, believes that harnessing the tried-and-tested method of wind power and sail could halve emissions and save millions in costs on fuel.

Container shortages will continue into the new year. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*.

14 December 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12626541.ece> Analyst firm Sea-Intelligence sees the container industry's problems with equipment shortages continuing into January.

Ship 'coffee breaks' not enough to avoid EU carbon charges. Sam Morgan. *EurActiv*.

14 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/news/ship-coffee-breaks-not-enough-to-avoid-eu-carbon-charges> The EU is on course to extend its emission trading scheme to shipping but is yet to decide which voyages should actually be included.

Negligible risk of ships evading EU carbon market – study. Sam Hargreaves. *Transport & Environment*. 14 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/negligible-risk-ships-evading-eu-carbon-market-%E2%80%93-study> EU regulators have little to fear from shipping companies evading the bloc's carbon market if it is applied to long-distance voyages, a new study shows.

[All Aboard: Too expensive for ships to evade EU carbon market](#)

Unni Einemo: After 'millennium virus', bunker sector faces pressure to decarbonise.

TradeWinds. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/unni-einemo-after-millennium-virus-bunker-sector-faces-pressure-to-decarbonise/2-1-920112>

But director of International Bunker Industry Association says the sector is ready to play its part in tackling greenhouse gas emissions.

Owners, charterers, managers and union speak out: We must act together on crew-change crisis. *TradeWinds*. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3oiC228>

Cross-industry alliance including V. Group, Cargill, GasLog, ICS, ITF and Global Maritime Forum urges the need for shared responsibility to solve the crew-change crisis, and calls on colleagues to sign a new declaration on seafarer well-being.

Seatrade Maritime Middle East Virtual 2020 concludes day one with an emphasis on sustainability, digitalisation and innovation in industry. *Emirates News Agency (UAE)*.

15 December 2020. Available from: <http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302895448> Seatrade Maritime Middle East Virtual 2020 (SMMEV), the region's leading event in the shipping industry, commenced virtually yesterday.

Bureau Veritas Awards Ponant with Notation to Manage Underwater Radiated Noise.

Bureau Veritas. 15 December 2020. Available from: <https://marine-offshore.bureauveritas.com/newsroom/bureau-veritas-awards-ponant-notation-manage-underwater-radiated-noise> The award endorses PONANT's proactive approach to reduce underwater noise pollution.

15 financial institutions disclose the climate alignment of their ship finance portfolios.

Poseidon Principles. 16 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.poseidonprinciples.org/news/15-financial-institutions-disclose-the-climate-alignment-of-their-ship-finance-portfolios/> In a first-of-a-kind climate finance report, 15 Signatories of the

Poseidon Principles disclose the climate alignment score of their ship finance portfolios.

[Annual Disclosure Report 2020](#) 

Ship finance lenders fall short of sector's carbon targets in 2019. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*.

16 December 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3opE8gA> Many of the world's biggest lenders to shipping companies fell short of carbon-cutting targets last year in the first analysis of CO2 goals for the sector by financiers, a report showed on Wednesday.

ING reports its climate alignment score for its shipping portfolio for the first time under the Poseidon Principles. *ING Bank N.V.* 16 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.ing.com/Newsroom/News/ING-reports-its-climate-alignment-score-for-its-shipping-portfolio-for-the-first-time-under-the-Poseidon-Principles.htm> Banks have an important role to play in promoting sustainable development.

Carriers flock to trending wind market – but entry costs exclude many. Christian Carlsen and Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 16 December 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12633445.ece> Several shipping companies are keeping a keen eye on the hot market for wind turbine installation vessels, which is predicted to grow significantly.

Shipping Sheds Its Dirty Problem With a Little Help From Covid. Jack Wittels. *Bloomberg*.

17 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-12-17/shipping-sheds-its-dirty-problem-with-a-little-help-from-covid> It was meant to be one of the greatest transformations in the history of oil and shipping.

UN Agency finds governments in breach of international law. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 17 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/un-agency-finds-governments-in-breach-of-international-law/> In a landmark ruling the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Committee of Experts has sent a strong message to governments that they have failed in their duty of care towards seafarers under international law during the COVID-19 pandemic.

My Hell on a Cargo Ship I Could Never Leave Because of COVID. Rachael Allen. *Slate*.

17 December 2020. Available from: <https://slate.com/human-interest/2020/12/cargo-ships-during-covid.html> Coronavirus Diaries is a series of dispatches exploring how the coronavirus is affecting people's lives.

ICS shoots down Danish and Norwegian wish for carbon levy. Tomas Kristiansen.

ShippingWatch. 17 December 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12637596.ece> The International Chamber of Shipping does not agree with the Danish and Norwegian shipowners, who think the IMO should put a carbon levy on the agenda as soon as possible.

Investigating the carbon intensity of ferries. *EurekAlert!* 17 December 2020. Available from:

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-12/cf-e-etc121720.php Climate change mitigation requires curbing emissions from all sectors, including shipping.

Eimskip's first female reefer chief officer is just one of the team. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

18 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/eimskips-first-female-reefer-chief-officer-is-just-one-of-the-team/2-1-933238> Siv Mathilde Oldeide always knew she wanted to try a life at sea.

Pandemic could backpedal bunker sales: “IMO 2020 has been a real life-saver”.

Christian Carlsen. *ShippingWatch*. 18 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/suppliers/article12641.ece> The Covid-19 pandemic cut major chunks out of the global bunker market, and the long-term effects of the pandemic all point in the same direction.

Bottlenecks rattle world economy backbone of container shipping. Brendan Murray.


ShippingWatch. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12647768.ece> Bottlenecks and delays for container shipping continue to grow globally with only 50.1 percent of container vessels arriving on time in November.

Why and how to measure international transport costs. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 22 December 2020. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/why-and-how-measure-international-transport-costs> Insights from the new global transport costs dataset developed by UNCTAD and the World Bank.

A turn of the page – a class view of 2020 and looking forward to 2021. *ShipInsight*.

22 December 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/a-turn-of-the-page-a-class-view-of-2020-and-looking-forward-to-2021/> For Ørbeck-Nilssen, despite all the tragedy that the pandemic has brought with it, it has also been a catalyst for change within the shipping industry.

Watch: How methanol is a future fuel for clean energy. *Safety4Sea*. 22 December 2020.

Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/watch-how-methanol-is-a-future-fuel-for-clean-energy/>  Methanol Institute issued a video, focusing on the methanol's potential as a clean fuel for various applications and how it can be used to meet the growing demand for energy.

From the News Desk: What's in store for shipping in 2021? Adam Sharpe. *Lloyd's List*.

22 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135203> Time will tell what lessons shipping has learnt from the pandemic-led disruption of this year, but 2021 will bring issues such as the transition to decarbonisation and digital integration closer to the fore.


2020's top stories in Tanker Shipping & Trade. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 23 December 2020.

Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/stories-of-the-year-what-shaped-2020-in-tanker-shipping-amp-trade-62498> We look back over our most read stories from the year to revisit the topics that your reading habits revealed as key drivers in the maritime industry in 2020.

Global cargo logjam deepens, delaying goods bound for retailers, automakers. Lisa Baertlein and Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 23 December 2020. Available from:

<https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-global-trade-shipping/global-cargo-logjam-deepens-delaying-goods-bound-for-retailers-automakers-idUKKBN28X1B8?edition-redirect=uk> Amazon seller Bernie Thompson shifted half of his production out of China to reduce his business risks and still found himself in the crosshairs of logistical chaos besetting the movement of goods around the globe.

Uncertain, unexpected and unprecedented: the 10 most shocking stories of 2020. *TradeWinds*.

23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insight/uncertain-unexpected-and-unprecedented-the-10-most-shocking-stories-of-2020/2-1-935000>  TradeWinds staff look back at the most surprising ups and downs of a year like no other.

RESEARCH

Kelley DE, Vlastic JP, et al. **Assessing the lethality of ship strikes on whales using simple biophysical models.** *Marine Mammal Science*. 12 October 2020. Available from: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/mms.12745> Studies of ship strikes on whales often focus on large vessels (>20 m), with attention to their speeds and the resulting risk of lethality.

Notteboom T. **Roro shipping vs. trucking: revisiting the impact of low-sulphur marine fuel use on cost competitiveness of routing options in north Europe.** *WMU Journal of Maritime Affairs*. 30 November 2020. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13437-020-00221-z> Academic studies and policy documents have elaborated on the 0.1% sulphur cap in roro shipping and its potential impact on vessel operating costs, the competitiveness of roro shipping compared to other transport modes and the risks for triggering a 'modal back shift' from sea to road.

Shi Y. **Settlement of disputes in a BBNJ agreement: Options and analysis.** *Marine Policy*. 1 December 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301772320300000> The regulatory process on developing an internationally legally binding instrument for conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) has come to a vital stage.

Duncan EM, Davies A, et al. **Message in a bottle: Open source technology to track the movement of plastic pollution.** *PLOS ONE*. 2 December 2020. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0240000> Rivers worldwide are now acting as major transport pathways for plastic pollution and discharge large quantities of waste into the ocean.

Daly E and White M. **Bottom trawling noise: Are fishing vessels polluting to deeper acoustic habitats?** *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. 5 December 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X20300000> The impact of bottom trawling noise was quantified on two surrounding marine acoustic habitats using fixed mooring acoustic recorders.

Reimer JM, Devillers R, et al. **Benefits and gaps in area-based management tools for the ocean Sustainable Development Goal.** *Nature Sustainability*. 14 December 2020. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-020-00659-2> Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 provides a vision for the world's oceans; however, the management interventions that are needed to achieve SDG 14 remain less clear.

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*. 21 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/118/3/e2016238117.full.pdf> Forced labor in fisheries is increasingly recognized as a human rights crisis.

Tessnow-von Wysocki I and Vadrot ABM. **The Voice of Science on Marine Biodiversity Negotiations: A Systematic Literature Review.** *Frontiers in Marine Science*. 23 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fmars.2020.614282> Over one hundred governments are currently negotiating a new legally binding instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).

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maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org

About the cover

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