About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

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

The MKC Current Awareness Bulletin is disseminated monthly and issues from the current and the past years are free to download from this page.

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

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

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IMO NEWS & EVENTS

WHAT’S NEW

IMO Council set to expand under approved amendments

Amendments to IMO Convention will be forwarded for adoption at IMO Assembly in December 2021.

The IMO Council has approved draft amendments to the IMO Convention to expand the size of the Council, extend the term of its Members and recognize three additional language texts as authentic versions of the IMO Convention. The approvals were made at the 33rd extraordinary session of the Council, which was held virtually on 8 April 2021. More...

Exceptional maritime people honoured at virtual IMO awards

International Maritime Organization (IMO) holds first ever virtual awards ceremony.

The International Maritime Organization has recognized the contributions of a long-standing maritime industry chief and has presented its highest bravery accolade to two maritime pilots from Brazil and an off-duty seafarer from the Philippines.

The event, which premiered on 7 April, saw Mr. Peter Hinchliffe, former Secretary-General, International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), receive the prestigious International Maritime Prize for 2019.

The 2020 IMO Awards for Exceptional Bravery at Sea were awarded to Mr. Marcio Santos Teixeira and Mr. Fabio Rodrigues Alves de Abreu (Brazil), for averting a major oil spill event at the Terminal Almirante Barroso in São Sebastião Port; and to Mr. Ralph Ofalla Barajan (Philippines), who saved the lives of all those onboard the sinking passenger vessel Siargao Princess. More...

30 countries join global initiative to tackle marine litter

Countries from across the oceans team up to tackle marine plastic litter under the ambitious GloLitter Partnerships Project.

A major international project that will help reduce marine plastic litter from maritime transport and fishing sectors is up for a successful start, after getting 30 countries on board. Five regions will be represented in this global effort: Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific.

The GloLitter Partnerships Project is implemented by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with initial funding from the Government of Norway via the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

The project aims to help the maritime transport and fishing sectors move towards a low-plastics future. To achieve this goal, this initiative will assist developing countries to apply best practices for prevention, reduction and control of marine plastic litter from those sectors. More...
Programme of Meetings for 2021 (issued 8 December 2020) can be downloaded here

**Previous Meetings (REMOTE)**

IMO Council (Extraordinary Session 33) – 8 April

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

**Forthcoming Meetings (REMOTE)**

Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 103) – 5-14 May

Intersessional Working Group on the Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships (8) – 24-28 May

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

International Delegate’s Day 25 April

International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace 24 April

IMO-Singapore Future of Shipping Conference 23 April

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

’Women in Maritime’ webinar - organized by Australia 18 March

**IMO NEWS MAGAZINE** (Autumn/Winter 2020)

**IMO PUBLISHING** Just Published 2021
UNITED NATIONS


Secretary-General urges countries to end ‘deadly addiction’ to coal. UN News. 2 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1086132. The world still has a “fighting chance” to limit global warming by ending dependence on coal, UN Secretary-General António Guterres told representatives from governments, local authorities and the private sector, meeting online on Tuesday.


No winners but fewer losers in global economy from COVID than expected. UN News. 18 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087712. The COVID-19 pandemic seriously impacted all economies around the world last year, with trillions of dollars of lost earnings, UN trade and development experts UNCTAD said on Thursday, before highlighting how several countries also showed unexpected resilience, too.


Recognize ‘true value’ of water, UN urges, marking World Day. UN News. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087922. The UN is marking World Water Day on Monday with a global conversation on how people value the lifegiving resource in different parts of the world, according to local needs.

Inequity of COVID-19 vaccines grows ‘more grotesque every day’ – WHO chief. UN News. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087992. The growing gap between the number of vaccines being given in rich countries and those administered through COVAX is becoming “more grotesque every day”, the head of the UN health agency said Monday.

Biodiversity at risk, threatens human survival, UN forum hears. UN News. 24 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1088212. As the living tissue of the earth, biodiversity is “intimately linked to human health” the head of the UN’s scientific agency told a global forum on Wednesday, noting that “we are part of that living tissue”.

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**CASUALTIES**


**Photos emerge of damage on car carrier after Gulf attack.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds.* 3 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/photos-emerge-of-damage-on-car-carrier-after-gulf-attack/2-1-973276 The Israeli owner of a car carrier damaged in a reported limpet mine attack in the Gulf of Oman has said United Arab Emirates authorities are looking into the case as photos of damage emerged.


Iranian container ship slightly damaged in terror attack in Mediterranean: Shipping firm. Press TV (Iran). 12 March 2021. Available from: https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2021/03/12/647168/Iranian-cargo-ship-targeted-in-terror-attack-in-Mediterranean. The Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line (IRIS) Group says one of its cargo ships has been damaged after it was targeted by a terrorist attack en route to Europe in the Mediterranean Sea earlier this week.

Three seafarers dead and two missing as two cargoships sink in European storms. Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 12 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/three-seafarers-dead-and-two-missing-as-two-cargoships-sink-in-european-storms/2-1-979244. Three crew members have died and another two were missing after two general cargoships sank on Wednesday in storms in the Mediterranean and Black seas.


Giant ship blocking Suez canal partially refloated. Martin Farrer and Michael Safi. The Guardian. 24 March 2021. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/mar/24/huge-container-ship-blocks-suez-canal-evergreen. One of the largest container ships in the world has been partially refloated after it ran aground in the Suez canal, causing a huge jam of vessels at either end of the vital international trade artery.


MV EVER GIVEN: Media statement. Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement. 24 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bs-shipmanagement.com/en/media/1-media-statement. Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement as the technical managers of the containership EVER GIVEN (IMO: 9811000), can confirm that extensive inspections from the American Bureau of Shipping as the vessel’s classification society, which included underwater inspections have been concluded.

Suez Canal container ship accident is a worst-case scenario for global trade. Rory Hopcraft, Kevin Jones and Kimberly Tam. The Conversation. 24 March 2021. Available from: https://theconversation.com/suez-canal-container-ship-accident-is-a-worst-case-scenario-for-global-trade-157802. High winds have been blamed for the container ship blocking the narrow strait, which serves as a trade artery that connects the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.

Investigation into Ever Given casualty begins. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd’s List. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136294 Crew expected to be interviewed by Panama flag registry representatives on Tuesday and hand over vessel’s data recorder.

Cargo ship slips mooring and blocks Littlehampton harbour. BBC News. 30 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-sussex-56582381 Scenes reminiscent of the Suez Canal have come to a West Sussex river when a 263ft (80m) cargo ship got stuck.

Safety warning about multiple cruise ship anchor failures. UK Government. 30 March 2021. Available from: https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/safety-warning-about-multiple-cruise-ship-anchor-failures We have issued a safety bulletin to the cruise industry to highlight the importance of using anchoring equipment within its intended design parameters.

ENVIRONMENT

Joint Statement by Transport Canada and the U.S. Department of Transportation on the Nexus between Transportation and Climate Change. Government of Canada. 25 February 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/2PIIf00 Recognizing the transport sector constitutes one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions for both nations, and in light of the integrated nature of our transportation sectors, we are committed to reinvigorate our bilateral cooperation to fight climate change and limit the environmental impacts from our transportation networks—on land, air and sea.


To fight climate change, save the whales, some scientists say. Michelle Carrere. Mongabay. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://news.mongabay.com/2021/03/to-fight-climate-change-save-the-whales-some-scientists-say/ In death, whales carry the tons of carbon stored in their massive bodies down to rest on the seafloor, where it can remain for centuries.


Islands, rocks and tuna: Pacific nations draw new battle lines against rising seas. Alister Doyle. Reuters. 11 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3tZ5m1. Small island states in the Pacific are opening a new front in the fight against rising seas, to secure rights to an ocean area bigger than the moon that is home to billion-dollar fish stocks.


The U.N. is calling on governments and big business to help protect the world’s oceans. Tania Bryer. CNBC (US). 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/17/united-nations-calls-on-big-business-to-help-protect-oceans.html. The “United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development” has been launched in 2021 to help expand scientific knowledge and address the issues impacting the ocean.

Carbon emissions from trawler fishing on a par with aviation, say ocean researchers. Megan Rowling. Reuters. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3glZFW7. Trawling of the ocean floor by fishing fleets releases roughly the same amount of carbon emissions into the water as aviation puts into the atmosphere each year, researchers said on Wednesday, calling for greater protection of the planet’s seas.

Natural disasters occurring three times more often than 50 years ago: new FAO report. UN News. 18 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087702. New and unprecedented forms of natural disasters are most heavily felt in the agricultural industry, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said on Thursday. The impact of disasters and crises on agriculture and food security.


Whale sightings aid quest to protect wildlife in Indian Ocean oasis. Christophe Van Der Perre and Alessandra Prentice. Reuters. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/32TEnLq. Over two weeks at sea, the scientists spotted pilot whales and spinner dolphins, orcas and more.


ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION


Israeli-owned ship docked in Dubai after mysterious blast. Isabel Debre. Associated Press. 28 February 2021. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-israel-iran-iran-nuclear-united-arab-emirates-5395e0df33b3beee5819f35bee8e04e4b6 An Israeli-owned cargo ship that suffered a mysterious explosion in the Gulf of Oman came to Dubai’s port for repairs Sunday, days after the blast that revived security concerns in Mideast waterways amid heightened tensions with Iran.

Israel must increase its maritime awareness in light of recent oil spill. Shaul Chorev. Jerusalem Post. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://www.jpost.com/opinion/israel-must-increase-its-maritime-awareness-in-light-of-recent-oil-spill-660626 Much of Israel’s approximately 200-km Mediterranean coastline has been contaminated with thick tarballs, and Israelis have been warned to stay away from beaches.

Israel suspects Iran connection to Mediterranean oil spill. Ilan Ben Zion. Associated Press. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/israel-iran-persian-gulf-tensions-smuggling-environment-d7999a68942e2d4780cf6c9bb638e7c4 Israeli authorities said Wednesday that a Libyan-owned tanker suspected of smuggling oil from Iran to Syria was responsible for spilling tons of crude into the eastern Mediterranean last month, causing one of Israel’s worst environmental disasters.


Plastic switch could hurt environment: expert. Marc Membrere. Samoa Observer. 7 March 2021. Available from: https://www.samoaobserver.ws/category/samoa/80366 A decision by a drinks manufacturer to switch from bottles to plastic for one of its major products could have ramifications for Samoa’s waste management and the broader environment, an expert has warned.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) today announced the nine winners of the 2020 Ocean Innovation Challenge (OIC).

Nearly 30 tonnes of oil recovered from leaking wreck off Vancouver Island. Todd Coyne. CTV News (Canada). 10 March 2021. Available from: https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/nearly-30-tonnes-of-oil-recovered-from-leaking-wreck-off-vancouver-island-1.5342026 Emergency responders have recovered nearly 30 tonnes of bunker oil that continues to leak from a historic shipwreck off the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Satellites and forensics unravel identity of Israel oil spill tanker. Adam Corbett. TradeWinds. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/satellites-and-forensics-unravel-identity-of-israel-oil-spill-tanker-2-1-981152 Israeli environmental protection minister Gila Gamliel was recently able to confidently say that the country had identified an aframax tanker as the source of a 1,000-tonne oil spill that washed up on the country’s beaches in early February.

Environment Ministry declares oil spill emergency over. Times of Israel. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.timesofisrael.com/environment-ministry-declares-oil-spill-emergency-over/ One month after Israel’s coastline was devastated by tar from an oil spill at sea, the Environmental Protection Ministry on Wednesday declared the emergency over, though the cleanup operation is still ongoing.


HEALTH & SAFETY

Cattle stranded on ship in Spain must be destroyed, say vets. Sophie Kevany and Ashifa Kassam. The Guardian. 27 February 2021. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/feb/27/cattle-stranded-on-ship-in-mediterranean-must-be-destroyed-say-vets  More than 850 cattle that have spent months adrift in the Mediterranean are no longer fit for transport and should be killed, according to a confidential report by Spanish government veterinarians.


Chilean ports leading vaccination process of port workers in Latam region. MundoMaritimo. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://mundomaritimo.net/noticias/chilean-ports-leading-vaccination-process-of-port-workers-in-latam-region  The continuity of the supply chain has been proven to be fundamental in times of crisis, and the most important links of that chain are the port workers, crews and seafarers.

Maritime UK launches ‘Mental Health in Maritime’ Pledge. Chrissie Clarke. Maritime UK. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://www.maritimeuk.org/media-centre/news/news-maritime-uk-launches-mental-health-maritime-pledge/ The new pledge is part of the programme’s objective to ensure employee mental health and wellbeing is considered at the highest levels across the sector. Mental Health in Maritime Pledge


Covid-19, vaccines, and the environment. Carlos C. Salinas. Manila Times. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/03/business/maritime-business/covid-19-vaccines-and-the-environment/846815/ A crucial part of self-care in the time of COVID is to keep up to speed with information—keeping track of the number of cases, deaths, and recoveries; its variants; and the vaccines that have been developed against the virus.
‘Please sir, do not forget us’: Stranded seafarers plead for COVID-19 vaccinations.


Dorian has examined the possibility of vaccinating its own seafarers. Trine Vestergaard. ShippingWatch. 12 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12829423.ece. When the crew change crisis peaked, more than half of Dorian’s seafarers had been at sea longer than their contracts allowed.


WHO backs AstraZeneca COVID vaccine amid clotting concerns; green lights Johnson & Johnson shots. UN News. 12 March 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087222. The UN World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday that it was aware of blood clot concerns linked to “a specific batch” of AstraZeneca/Oxford COVID-19 vaccine, but maintained that to date, no-one has died from any coronavirus vaccine.

Covid-19 uncovered mental health issues that must not be forgotten. Paul Berrill. TradeWinds. 16 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/business-focus/covid-19-uncovered-mental-health-issues-that-must-not-be-forgotten/2-1-978099. Concern about seafarers’ mental health has been significantly boosted by the pressures they have been under during the crew-change crisis, but there is still a long way to go.


Cruise and shipping industries could take a hit due to lack of Covid vaccines. Lori Ann LaRocco. CNBC (US). 22 March 2021. Available from: https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/22/global-shipping-could-take-a-hit-due-to-lack-of-vaccine-access-for-seafarers-.html The International Chamber of Shipping warns shipowners may be forced to cancel voyages if crew remain unvaccinated.

My number one takeaway from implementing a mental health policy. UK Chamber of Shipping. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/improvingmentalwellbeing/ This publication is a milestone in what should give shipping companies the confidence and drive to implement a mentally healthy workplace both at sea and ashore. Practical Guidance for Shipping companies on Improving mental wellbeing


MUA slams ‘horrific’ living conditions aboard Qatari-owned vessel detained at Port Kembla. Tim Fernandez and Kelly Fuller. ABC (Australia). 25 March 2021. Available from: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-25/horrific-conditions-aboard-ship-detained-in-port-kembla/13274990 The Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) has criticised the living conditions aboard a Qatari cargo vessel that has been detained at Port Kembla for more than a month.


Air crews, seafarers should be prioritised for COVID-19 vaccines - WHO, ICAO, IMO. Reuters. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3sZnGGi Seafarers and air crew should be prioritised for vaccination as "essential workers", the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a joint statement on Friday with the International Civil Aviation Organization and International Maritime Organization.


IMO


IMO Seen as Best Suited for Developing a Future Carbon Market for Shipping. Barry Parker. gCaptain. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://gcaptain.com/imo-seen-as-best-suited-for-developing-a-future-carbon-market-for-shipping/  The IMO is expected to codify a transitional (i.e. 2030) energy efficiency pathway for commercial ships in an upcoming meeting in June of its Maritime Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC 76).

Seafarer vaccination and green incentives remain top of the agenda for Cyprus’ meeting with IMO Secretary General. Cyprus Shipping News. 5 March 2021. Available from: https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/03/05/seafarer-vaccination-and-green-incentives-remain-top-of-the-agenda-for-cyprus-meeting-withimo-secretary-general/  Shipping is a global industry and without the International Maritime Organization (IMO), global approaches and international discussions regarding industry challenges would be far more difficult.


Casualty reporting falling short of targets. Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd’s List.* 10 March 2021. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136070/Casualty-reporting-falling-short-of-targets](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136070/Casualty-reporting-falling-short-of-targets) The trend for submitting casualty investigation reports is improving, but there is still much that needs to be done to get to a 100% filing rate required by flag states.


Panama requests mediation from the International Maritime Organization (IMO). *Hellenic Shipping News.* 16 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/panama-requests-mediation-from-the-international-maritime-organization-imo/](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/panama-requests-mediation-from-the-international-maritime-organization-imo/) The Republic of Panama, the first registry of ships with more than 8 thousand 500 flagged vessels that exceed 230 million GRT (gross registered tons), representing approximately 16% of the world maritime fleet and with approximately 318 thousand seafarers on board, requested the collaboration of the Secretary General of the IMO, Kitack Lim, to mediate and assist seafarers and shipowners regarding a crisis involving ships in the Far East.


NGOs Urge Shipping Body To Halve Arctic Black Carbon Impacts By Switching Fuels. *Clean Arctic Alliance.* 22 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/03/22/ngos-urge-shipping-body-to-halve-arctic-black-carbon-impacts-by-switching-fuels/](https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/03/22/ngos-urge-shipping-body-to-halve-arctic-black-carbon-impacts-by-switching-fuels/) As this week’s virtual meeting of the IMO’s Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee (PPR 8, 22-26 March) opens today, non-governmental organisations are calling on the IMO to seize the chance to immediately reduce climate-warming emissions of black carbon from ships currently using heavy fuel oil in the Arctic by some 44%, by switching them to cleaner distillate fuels.

Shipowners seize on IMO ‘loophole’, but is it a false economy? Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds.* 23 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipowners-seize-on-imo-loophole-but-is-it-a-false-economy/-2-1-984261](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipowners-seize-on-imo-loophole-but-is-it-a-false-economy/-2-1-984261) Yards and shipowners are in talks over newbuildings that are designed to outdated emissions standards, because the IMO has left a loophole in its regulations, experts say.
Success of IMO 2020 rule sets momentum for shipping’s decarbonization goals: IMO division head. Surabhi Sahu, Claudia Carpenter and Dana Saadi. S&P Global Platts. 23 March 2021.
Available from: https://bit.ly/3u1IKx4 Excellent cooperation and preparation by IMO member states, ports and the shipping industry’s fuel providers was key to the successful implementation of the IMO 2020 rule, and has provided a future pathway for impending stricter environmental rules and other changes in international shipping, Roel Hoenders, head air pollution and energy efficiency of the Marine Environment Division at IMO, said.


UN Shipping Agency Slammed for Fiddling While Arctic Melts. Clean Arctic Alliance. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/03/26/un-shipping-agency-slammed-for-fiddling-while-arctic-melts/ As this week’s virtual meeting of the IMO’s Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee (PPR 8) closes today, non-governmental organisations slammed the IMO proposal to develop weak non-binding “goal-based guidelines” instead of taking immediate and effective action to immediately reduce climate-warming emissions of black carbon from ships using heavy fuel oil in the Arctic.


**LAW & POLICY**


Could the Sea Cargo Charter change tanker shipping? Tanker Operator. 25 February 2021. Available from: https://www.tankeroperator.com/news/could-the-sea-cargo-charter-change-tanker-shipping/12166.aspx A number of tanker and dry bulk charterers, including Trafigura, Equinor, Total, Gunvor, Shell, Occidental, and Dow Chemical, have attached their names to an initiative called the Sea Cargo Charter, which aims to provide a framework “for aligning chartering activities with responsible environmental behaviour to promote international shipping’s decarbonisation”.

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UK should include international aviation and shipping emissions in its net zero legislation, say NGOs. Transport & Environment (T&E). 25 February 2021. Available from: https://www.transportenvironment.org/publications/uk-should-include-international-aviation-and-shipping-emissions-its-net-zero The UK government will soon decide whether or not to accept the recommendation of its independent climate advisors, the Climate Change Committee, to formally include emissions from international aviation and shipping in future carbon budgets.

China set to remain at centre of supply chains. James Baker. Lloyd’s List. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135961/China-set-to-remain-at-centre-of-supply-chains Since the outbreak of the trade war there have been efforts to move manufacturing to less politically sensitive regions in Asia.


Maersk Etienne case leads Italian police to investigate NGO. Søren Pico. ShippingWatch. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12801335.ece NGO Mediterranea Saving Humans is under investigation by the Italian police for its involvement in the disembarkation of the 27 migrants after 38 days on board Maersk Etienne.

Ocean mining – a dangerous proposition for people and planet. Douglas McCauley. China Dialogue. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://chinadialogueocean.net/16387-ocean-mining-dangerous-proposition-people-planet/ For the first time in history we must answer the question, should we mine our ocean floor?

Asia Primed for Rare Blue Bond Sales to Fund Sea Protection. Rebecca Choong Wilkins and Todd Gillespie. *Bloomberg*. 4 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.bloombergquint.com/onweb/asia-primed-for-rare-blue-bond-sales-to-fund-ocean-protection](https://www.bloombergquint.com/onweb/asia-primed-for-rare-blue-bond-sales-to-fund-ocean-protection)  Few places in the world have greater need for a new type of sustainable debt to fund water projects and protect the oceans than Asia, with its more than 100,000 km of coastline.


£20,000 fine for Captain of the AM Ghent following last month’s oil spill. *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 5 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.gbc.gi/news/20000-fine-captain-am-ghent-following-last-months-oil-spill](https://www.gbc.gi/news/20000-fine-captain-am-ghent-following-last-months-oil-spill)  The Captain of the AM Ghent has been fined £20,000 after pleading guilty to allowing oil to be discharged into port waters and damaging a breeding site of a protected species.


International Women’s Day 2021 – Women: agents of change to build back better. *Union for the Mediterranean (UM)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: [https://ufmsecretariat.org/international-womens-day-2021-news/](https://ufmsecretariat.org/international-womens-day-2021-news/)  International Women’s Day is an opportunity to reflect and take stock of the progress made on gender equality, but above all, today should serve as a date to acclaim and recognize women’s societal role.

Vestager to examine competition in red-hot container market. Louise Wendt Jensen and Astrid Sturlason. *ShippingWatch*. 8 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12814956.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12814956.ece)  EU Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager now plans to scrutinize the extreme situation unfolding in the global container market together with the industry.


China looks at adding shipping to the world’s largest emissions trading scheme. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 9 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/china-looks-at-adding-shipping-to-the-worlds-largest-emissions-trading-scheme/ The world’s largest emissions trading scheme (ETS) kicked off last month, and shipping has been warned today it could be included in it.

Shipowners should plan for, not plot against, inevitable EU carbon trading scheme. Terry Macalister. TradeWinds. 10 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/shipowners-should-plan-for-not-plot-against-inevitable-eu-carbon-trading-scheme/2-1-977079 The European Commission is pressing ahead with plans to draw up final legislative proposals by the end of June covering a European Union emissions trading system (EU ETS) for shipping.

Fishermen Alarmed By Their Absence In Territorial Water Dispute With Somalia. Ameny Ochieng. Kenya News Agency (KNA). 10 March 2021. Available from: https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/fishermen-alarmed-by-their-absence-in-territorial-water-dispute-with-somalia/ Lamu Fishermen have voiced their concerns over the government’s decision to steer ahead with the Kenya-Somali border dispute case at The Hague currently, indifferent to their non-involvement in the case stating that they are likely to suffer the most if Kenya loses in its bid to retain its territorial waters.

Maritime Risk Briefing: Why subterfuge shipping requires greater industry scrutiny. Lloyd’s List. 10 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136051/Maritime-Risk-Briefing-Why-subterfuge-shipping-requires-greater-industry-scrutiny Shipping is being subjected to greater sanctions compliance scrutiny and the industry needs to keep up to date with the latest intelligence, red flags and evasions tactics to effectively mitigate risk.

Shipping groups press EU to advance marine ‘fuels of future’. Jonathan Saul. Reuters. 11 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3vkVOhe Shipping and trade groups are calling on the European Union to advance the development of ammonia and green hydrogen as the best marine fuel options to enable the industry to accelerate decarbonisation.


Pacific’s voice vital at COP26: Diplomat. Marc Membrere. Samoa Observer. 15 March 2021. Available from: https://www.samoaoobserver.ws/category/samoa/80800 British High Commissioner to Samoa David Ward says it is important for the Pacific voice to be present at this year’s United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.


Court keeps captain captive in Suez Canal hotel. ITF Seafarers. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/court-keeps-captain-captive-suez-canal-hotel This may be the last message, I write,” the captain of the MV Kenan Mete emailed on 11 February after the emergency generator on board failed, plunging his ship into darkness.

P&O Cruises says travellers will need vaccinations. Tom Espiner. BBC News. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56416855 P&O Cruises has said that anyone wanting to take its cruises around the British Isles this summer will need to be vaccinated.


Royal Caribbean to return to the Caribbean with vaccinated guests in June. Reuters. 19 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3vraFH2 Some of Royal Caribbean Group’s cruises will resume sailing in the Caribbean in June with vaccinated adult guests, ending a year-long hiatus brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.


**UK may include shipping in new emissions trading platform.** Jessica Shankleman. *ShippingWatch*. 23 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12853513.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12853513.ece) The UK government is considering whether to include the shipping industry in its new carbon market as it seeks ways to eliminate transport pollution by 2050.


**Half of blacklisted Aswan fleet in hot water as Australia detains two ships.** *ITF Seafarers*. 24 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/half-blacklisted-aswan-fleet-hot-water-australia-detains-two-ships](https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/half-blacklisted-aswan-fleet-hot-water-australia-detains-two-ships) Australian maritime authorities have detained two vessels owned by controversial a Qatari shipping company for serious labour rights breaches just weeks after the crew on another of Aswan Trading and Contracting’s ships were driven to hunger strike off the coast of Kuwait.


**Maersk Supply Service fined USD 24,000 in protracted shipwreck case.** Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 25 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/Offshore/article12860241.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/Offshore/article12860241.ece) Maersk Supply Service receives a fine of DKK 150,000 (USD 23,800) from Danish Police in the case pertaining to two vessels that sank off the coast of France in December 2016, according to a press release issued by the Maersk Group Thursday afternoon.


**MARINE TECHNOLOGY**


**Wärtsilä highlights potential for new technological advances to enable scrubbers to tackle maritime CO2 emissions.** Wärtsilä Corporation. 16 March 2021. Available from: https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/16-03-2021-wartsila-highlights-potential-for-new-technological-advances-to-enable-scrubbers-to-tackle-maritime-co2-emissions-2877540 Wärtsilä Exhaust Treatment highlights the potential for exhaust gas abatement systems to directly tackle maritime carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions in the near future, as technology advances and enables manufacturers to design and upgrade scrubbers to capture carbon at the point of exhaust.


**MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**

Wärtsilä and Ocean Technologies Group partner to deliver transformational learning solutions to improve safety and efficiency at sea. Wärtsilä Corporation. 24 February 2021. Available from: [https://bit.ly/3gSB1h0](https://bit.ly/3gSB1h0) The leading provider of maritime smart Simulation and Training solutions Wärtsilä Voyage, and the leading maritime knowledge and technology solutions provider Ocean Technologies Group (OTG), have agreed to share their expertise and resources via a strategic partnership that will significantly enhance safety and efficiency in the maritime sector.

Kenya: Coast Colleges to Train Students on Key Maritime Skills to Boost Blue Economy. Siago Cece. *AllAfrica*. 1 March 2021. Available from: [https://allafrica.com/stories/202103020064.html](https://allafrica.com/stories/202103020064.html) Institutions of higher learning in the Coast region are taking advantage of their proximity to the Indian Ocean to structure academic programmes that offer courses on oceanography, fisheries and maritime.


Liberian Registry Will Certify SQLearn’s E-Learning Maritime Library And STCW E-Courses. *Liberian Registry.* 18 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.liscr.com/blog/liberian-registry-will-certify-sqlearn%E2%80%99s-e-learning-maritime-library-and-stcw-e-courses](https://www.liscr.com/blog/liberian-registry-will-certify-sqlearn%E2%80%99s-e-learning-maritime-library-and-stcw-e-courses) We are delighted to announce that the Liberian Registry has signed an agreement with SQLearn to approve SQLearn’s library of e-learning courses and STCW e-courses for the maritime industry.


Seafarer training falling behind as tech accelerates. Richard Clayton. Lloyd’s List. 25 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136249 The delay between introducing new technology on board ships and full implementation of training on that equipment will grow.

ISMI holds five-day training course for fisheries inspectors from Gulf of Guinea countries. Eric Nana and Yaw Kwafo. Modern Ghana. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://www.modernghana.com/news/1070348/ismi-holds-five-day-training-course-for-fisheries.html The International Maritime Institute (ISMI) of the Regional Academy of Maritime Sciences and Technology (ARSTM) in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire has this week held a training course for fishery inspectors from Gulf of Guinea countries.

Conquer your fears and apply to Maritime University - VC to women. GhanaWeb. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://wwwghanawebcom/ghanahomepage/regional/Conquer-your-fears-and-apply-to-Maritime-University-VC-to-women-1218217 The Vice-Chancellor of the Regional Maritime University (RMU), Professor Elvis Nyarko has urged women to apply and participate in the programs offered at the university.

MARITIME SAFETY


The International Group of P&I Clubs launches a safety animation to help prevent the loss of life in enclosed spaces on board ships. Standard Club. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/3nBedDZ Investigations into enclosed space-related casualties show that most are caused by poor training and knowledge of the correct entry procedures, or a disregard for them. Enclosed Space Entry I Stop, Think, Stay Alive 🎬.


MARITIME SECURITY


The United States and the Netherlands Host Conference on Maritime Security. US Department of State. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-and-the-netherlands-host-conference-on-maritime-security On March 3, the United States and the Netherlands hosted an experts’ meeting on the comprehensive implementation of maritime aspects of United Nations Security Council resolutions on countries such as the DPRK.

Growing maritime insecurity undermines global security- Prof Nyarko. *News Ghana.*

**Total of 5 theft, armed robbery incidents in Singapore Strait this year as of end-Feb.**
Cheryl Lin. *Channel News Asia.* 10 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/theft-robbery-piracy-singapore-strait-navy-information-fusion-14375796](https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/theft-robbery-piracy-singapore-strait-navy-information-fusion-14375796)  There have been five theft or armed robbery incidents in the Singapore Strait this year as of end-February, according to the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), which shares maritime security information among countries.


**Danish minister wants to launch a naval vessel to combat piracy in Gulf of Guinea.** *ShippingWatch.* 12 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12830062.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12830062.ece)  The Danish Government is seriously concerned about the situation in the Gulf of Guinea off the western coast of Africa, where pirates constitute a growing threat to merchant vessels.

**Egypt, French naval forces carry out joint exercise to safeguard maritime security in region.** Ahmed Eleiba. *Ahram Online (Egypt).* 14 March 2021. Available from: [https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/405982/Egypt/Politics/-/Egypt,-French-naval-forces-carry-out-joint-exercis.aspx](https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/405982/Egypt/Politics/-/Egypt,-French-naval-forces-carry-out-joint-exercis.aspx)  The Egyptian and French navies carried out a joint exercise at the field of operations of the northern fleet under the armed forces’ plan to upgrade training and exchange expertise with the fraternal armed forces of other countries.


**Danish frigate will make a big difference.** *Danish Shipping.* 16 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.danishshipping.dk/en/press/news/danish-frigate-will-make-a-big-difference](https://www.danishshipping.dk/en/press/news/danish-frigate-will-make-a-big-difference)  Metal Maritime and Danish Shipping are very happy with the decision to send a Danish naval vessel to the Gulf of Guinea to combat piracy.
Steamship offers cyber attack insurance cover. David Osler. Lloyd’s List. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136163/Steamship-offers-cyber-attack-insurance-cover Steamship Mutual has launched a cyber attack insurance product which covers loss of income incurred by vessels as well as providing access to expert assistance and free security awareness training for employees.


MMEA reports Johor eastern waters to be ‘hotspot’ for vessels to anchor illegally. Berita Harian. Manifold Times (Singapore). 22 March 2021. Available from: https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/mmea-reports-johor-eastern-waters-to-be-hotspot-for-vessels-to-anchor-illegally/ The Johor state division of Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) on Monday (22 March) said it has discovered waters east of Johor has become a “hotspot” for foreign vessels to anchor illegally and conduct unlawful activities such as illegally releasing oil into the ocean.

Migrants

Eluding Libya’s coast guard: Fewer migrants make it to Europe on central Mediterranean. Sertan Sanderson. InfoMigrants. 25 February 2021. Available from: https://www.info migrants.net/en/post/30504/eluding-libya-s-coast-guard-fewer-migrants-make-it-to-europe-on-central-mediterranean In the central Mediterranean, the race against time to reach the EU is turning to a race against Libya’s coast guard.


SOS call to local Indian paper saves 81 Rohingya at sea, but no country says welcome. Rupam Jain. *Reuters.* 3 March 2021. Available from: [https://tmsnrt.rs/2S9iIA6](https://tmsnrt.rs/2S9iIA6) Denis Giles, the editor of a small Indian newspaper, received a phone call as he sat typing in his one-room office in Port Blair overlooking the languid waters of the Andaman Sea.


France rescues 72 migrants in Channel on way to UK. *Deutsche Welle (Germany).* 21 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.dw.com/en/france-rescues-72-migrants-in-channel-on-way-to-uk/a-56946153](https://www.dw.com/en/france-rescues-72-migrants-in-channel-on-way-to-uk/a-56946153) The coast guard was alerted that several boats were in trouble as they attempted to cross the English Channel to Britain.

Fate of 81 Rohingya adrift at sea for weeks hangs in limbo, rights group says. Subrata Nagchoudhury. *Reuters.* 25 March 2021. Available from: [https://reut.rs/2R8mhzL](https://reut.rs/2R8mhzL) India, Bangladesh and Myanmar are failing to provide information about a large group of Rohingya people whose boat has been adrift in the Andaman Sea for weeks, a rights organization said on Thursday, despite appeals from humanitarian agencies to bring them to land.

**NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS**

Work will now begin on the Stad Ship Tunnel. Norwegian Coastal Administration. 22 February 2021. Available from: https://www.kystverket.no/en/News/work-will-now-begin-on-the-stad-ship-tunnel/ The Norwegian Coastal Administration has received the assignment letter from the Ministry of Transport and Communications, which gives a green light to start preparations for the construction of the Stad Ship Tunnel.


Russia launches satellite to monitor climate in Arctic. Reuters. 28 February 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/2S1y9UK Russia launched its space satellite Arktika-M on Sunday on a mission to monitor the climate and environment in the Arctic amid a push by the Kremlin to expand the country’s activities in the region.

From scrapping to sanctions-busting. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd’s List. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135954/From-scrapping-to-sanctions-busting When Saudi Arabia’s national tanker company sold two vintage crude carriers for scrap more than two years ago, the shipowner never imagined the vessels would instead continue trading Iranian crude.


China pledges to build ‘Polar Silk Road’ over 2021-2025. Reuters. 5 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3eDd1Mj China will construct a “Polar Silk Road” and actively participate in the development of Arctic and Antarctic regions, it said in its new 2021-2025 “five-year plan” published on Friday.

How Europe’s dark fishing fleets threaten West Africa. *Engineering & Technology (E&T)*. 10 March 2021. Available from: [https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2021/03/europe-s-dark-fishing-fleets-in-west-africa-s-waters/](https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2021/03/europe-s-dark-fishing-fleets-in-west-africa-s-waters/) Cargo ships from around the world are moving untracked in African waters, where the rise of a new fishing activity affects everything from local biodiversity to piracy.


Geopolitical Implications of New Arctic Shipping Lanes. Gabriella Gricius. *Arctic Institute*. 18 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.thearcticinstitute.org/geopolitical-implications-arctic-shipping-lanes/](https://www.thearcticinstitute.org/geopolitical-implications-arctic-shipping-lanes/) The advent of climate change has brought about a number of different changes in the Arctic, including increased accessibility to Arctic ports as well as the opening of new Arctic shipping lanes.


Egypt’s Suez Canal blocked by huge container ship. *BBC News*. 24 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-56505413](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-56505413) A giant container ship the length of four football pitches has become wedged across Egypt’s Suez Canal, blocking one of the world’s busiest trade routes.


**Stuck Suez Canal container ship disrupts global commodities trade:** *sources*.


**Container ships reroute south of Africa to circumvent Suez Canal.** Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 26 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12862042.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12862042.ece) South Korea’s HMM confirms to *ShippingWatch* that the container line has redirected a ship south of Africa to circumvent the Suez Canal, where a grounded container ship continues to block all passage.
How the Suez Canal works. Maersk. 27 March 2021. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVkqTE013Dk&t=10s. The Suez Canal has a daily capacity of approximately 50 – 85 vessels, with vessels entering from both sides.

Successful Refloating of EVER GIVEN. Suez Canal Authority (SCA). 29 March 2021. Available from: https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/nav_29-03-2021.aspx. Admiral Osama Rabie, Chairman and Managing Director of the Suez Canal Authority has announced today, Monday 29th March, 2021, that the Panamanian container ship has been successfully refloated.

Suez Canal: Ever Given container ship shifted from shoreline. BBC News. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-56559904. The stern of a huge container ship that has been wedged across the Suez Canal for almost a week has been freed from the shoreline, officials say.

Traffic in Suez Canal resumes after stranded ship refloated. Yusri Mohamed, Nadine Awadalla and Aidan Lewis. Reuters. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3xpr5lf. Shipping was on the move again late on Monday in Egypt’s Suez Canal after tugs refloated a giant container ship which had been blocking the channel for almost a week, causing a huge build-up of vessels around the waterway.

Ever Given partially refloated raising hopes of Suez Canal reopening. Lloyd’s List. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136281. The containership blocking Suez Canal transits appears to have finally been pulled clear of the bank side and is now in mid channel, according to AIS data from Lloyd’s List Intelligence.


PIRACY


Why pirates attack: Geospatial evidence. Raj M. Desai and George E. Shambaugh. *Brookings Institution.* 15 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2021/03/15/why-pirates-attack-geospatial-evidence/](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2021/03/15/why-pirates-attack-geospatial-evidence/) In early 1991 a few miles off the coast of Somalia—just as Mohamed Siad Barre’s dictatorship was collapsing—the merchant vessel *Naviluck* was attacked by three boatloads of men who killed some of the ship’s crew members, set it on fire, and sank it.


Singapore Reaffirms Role of ReCAAP and its Efforts to Combat Piracy and Sea Robberies in Asia. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA).* 18 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/849ddf6e-416d-4747-b41a-a31a0a7fc9a6](https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/849ddf6e-416d-4747-b41a-a31a0a7fc9a6) Singapore, as one of the 20 Contracting Parties to the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery (ReCAAP), and host to the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC), is pleased to have participated in the 15th Anniversary Symposium of ReCAAP held today.

Danish frigate has the mandate to arrest pirates and seize weapons in Gulf of Guinea. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch.* 19 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12846072.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12846072.ece) The Danish frigate, which is to be deployed in the Gulf of Guinea to fight piracy, will have the mandate needed to arrest pirates and seize weapons, the Ministry of Defense informs ShippingWatch.


PORT STATE CONTROL


Singapore is carrying out 500 to 600 crew changes per day. Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 3 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/singapore-is-carrying-out-500-to-600-crew-changes-per-day/2-1-973205](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/singapore-is-carrying-out-500-to-600-crew-changes-per-day/2-1-973205) Singapore has facilitated more than 100,000 crew changes since last March, and is currently conducting between 500 and 600 per day.


Ship forced to wait 269 days finally unloads Australian coal in China. Aaron Clark and Kevin Varley. *ShippingWatch*. 10 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Bulk/article12820831.ece  The permission was given out of concern for the stranded seafarers and does not indicate an easing of China’s ban on Australian coal.


Shore staff frustrated by failures when crew changes collapsed. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 16 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/business-focus/shore-staff-frustrated-by-failures-when-crew-changes-collapsed/2-1-978155  Seafarers were not the only ones to suffer during the crew-change crisis — onshore crewing staff also worked long hours with constant stress, frustration and pressure.


Increased travel restrictions risk a flare-up of the crew change crisis. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/increased-travel-restrictions-risk-a-flare-up-of-the-crew-change-crisis/  A number of shipping bodies are concerned that the numbers of seafarers being impacted by the crew change crisis are on the rise due to travel restrictions imposed by governments in response to new variants.
'The loophole is ridiculous': Mix-up leaves north seafarers missing vital family time stranded in quarantine hotel in Edinburgh. John Ross and Rita Campbell. *Energy Voice*. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://www.energyvoice.com/coronavirus/308749/north-seafarers-stranded-quarantine-hotel-edinburgh/ Seafarers told they were heading home to spend quality time with family have instead been left stranded “like prisoners” in a quarantine hotel after arriving in Scotland hours before exemption rules were updated.

**Department of Transport Confirms Limited Exemptions from Hotel Quarantine for Maritime Crews.** *Afloat (Ireland)*. 25 March 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/3xxHkow The Department of Transport has confirmed limited exemptions for maritime crews from mandatory hotel quarantine for those entering the State from high-risk countries, which comes into effect from tomorrow, Friday 26 March. Covid-19 Travel Restrictions Marine Notice No. 16 of 2021

**Govt allows foreign seafarers to enter for ‘crew change’.** Catherine S. Valente. *Manila Times*. 31 March 2021. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/31/news/national/govt-allows-foreign-seafarers-to-enter-for-crew-change/857662/ The government has allowed foreign seafarers to enter the country to board ships, Malacañang said on Tuesday.


**PORTS & HARBOURS**


**India to invest $82 billion in port projects by 2035: PM Narendra Modi.** *Economic Times (India)*. 2 March 2021. Available from: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-/transport/pm-modi-says-usd-82-billion-being-invested-in-ports/articleshow/81289528.cms “Ours is a government that is investing in waterways in a way that was never seen before. Domestic waterways are found to be cost effective and environment friendly ways of transporting freight,” he said.


**Liverpool praised for ‘one of best ports in the world’ by MV Strategic Tenacity crew.** *Liverpool Seafarers Centre*. 3 March 2021. Available from: http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2021/03/03/liverpool-praised-for-one-of-best-ports-in-the-world-by-mv-strategic-tenacity-crew/ Liverpool Seafarers Centre and the port of Liverpool have been hailed among the best in the world by a ship’s captain docking in the city.


**Egypt renovating Arish Port in North Sinai to reach international standards.** *Suez Canal Economic Zone.* 7 March 2021. Available from: [https://sczone.eg/egypt-renovating-arish-port-in-north-sinai-to-reach-international-standards/](https://sczone.eg/egypt-renovating-arish-port-in-north-sinai-to-reach-international-standards/) The Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone) announced that it is developing the Arish Port in North Sinai to match up with international ports in the Eastern Mediterranean region allowing it to receive ships carrying up to 20,000 to 30,000 tons, after deepening the draft for 12 meters in order to meet the demands for customers of Sinai Peninsula products.


**The woman who didn’t give up the ship.** Kashif Hussain. *Express Tribune (Pakistan).* 8 March 2021. Available from: [https://tribune.com.pk/story/2288086/the-woman-who-didnt-give-up-the-ship](https://tribune.com.pk/story/2288086/the-woman-who-didnt-give-up-the-ship) Saira Khan, the head of commercial at Hutchison Ports Pakistan, has come a long way from when she was fascinated by the idea of enormous freight vessels covering distances across vast oceans.


**Turkey’s largest port Mersin to gain 0.8M TEU capacity in expansion.** *Daily Sabah (Turkey).* 13 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.dailysabah.com/business/economy/turkeys-largest-port-mersin-to-gain-08m-teu-capacity-in-expansion](https://www.dailysabah.com/business/economy/turkeys-largest-port-mersin-to-gain-08m-teu-capacity-in-expansion) The capacity of a port in Turkey’s southern Mersin province will be expanded from 2.8 million to 3.6 million twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEU), according to the country’s Transport and Infrastructure Ministry.


REGULATIONS

Frustration with rising, non-transparent prices as IMO 2020 takes hold could haunt the container-shipping sector, says Alixpartners Study. *AlixPartners*. 2 March 2021. Available from: https://www.alixpartners.com/media-center/press-releases/rising-prices-imo-2020-haunt-the-container-shipping-sector/ As a new era dawns for the maritime industry this year, driven by IMO 2020, the International Maritime Organization’s 0.5% sulfur cap on fuel content effective last month, players in the global container-shipping sector find themselves in a position where their hard-won gains in competitiveness in recent years could be scuttled by pressures from other sectors in the industry for more-transparent - and lower - pricing. Container Shipping Outlook 2021.


Implementation of the international code for ships operating in polar waters (Polar Code). *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/implementation-of-the-international-code-for-ships-operating-in-polar-waters-polar-code The international code for ships operating in polar waters (Polar Code) was agreed in the MO and is mandatory under both SOLAS (Chapter XIV) and MARPOL.

Klaveness CEO accuses IMO's new CO2 rules of punishing efficient carriers. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 23 March 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12852842.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12852842.ece) Efficient carriers will be punished if the IMO insists on measuring a ship's carbon intensity based on a the ship's maximum, potential cargo load and not the actual load transported, CEO of Norwegian Klaveness Combination Carriers tells ShippingWatch.

**SALVAGE**

Car parts wash up along Georgia’s coast as *Golden Ray* salvage drags on. Steve Patrick. *News4Jax (US)*. 16 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.news4jax.com/tech/2021/03/16/car-parts-wash-up-along-georgias-coast-as-golden-ray-salvage-drags-on/](https://www.news4jax.com/tech/2021/03/16/car-parts-wash-up-along-georgias-coast-as-golden-ray-salvage-drags-on/) As salvage crews continue cutting apart and hauling away the capsized *Golden Ray*, a shipwreck the size of a 70-story office building with 4,200 cars within its cargo decks, parts of the ship and cars that fell into the St. Simons Sound are showing up along the Georgia coast.


**SEAFARERS**

Seafarer supply is expected to tighten heralding higher manning costs. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 27 February 2021. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarer-supply-is-expected-to-tighten-heralding-higher-manning-costs/](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarer-supply-is-expected-to-tighten-heralding-higher-manning-costs/) The attractiveness of a career at sea has been an industry concern for a number of years.


New guidance as the UK leads the way in seafarer welfare. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 2 March 2021. Available from: [https://maritimecoastguard.blogspot.com/2021/03/New-guidance-for-UK-seafarers.html](https://maritimecoastguard.blogspot.com/2021/03/New-guidance-for-UK-seafarers.html) The UK continues to lead the way in seafarer welfare during the pandemic, with new, detailed information issued to ship owners and managers to understand the long-term wellbeing impacts of COVID-19 on their crew.
Seafarers’ wi-fi connects international sailors with loved ones in Australian-first trial. Jasmine Hines and Erin Semmler. *ABC (Australia).* 3 March 2021. Available from: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-04/seafarers-connect-with-family-in-far-offshore-wifi-initiative/13211640 It is something many people take for granted, but for thousands of seafarers stuck on ships for up to 14 months at a time, internet connectivity is the only way to see their loved ones.


Maersk Supply Service to deploy women in pairs: No one should be alone in a macho environment. Astrid Sturlason. *ShippingWatch.* 5 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/Offshore/article12811467.ece Maersk Supply Service wants an even greater focus on its female seafarers to ensure the well-being of the few women that do go to sea, says Kevin Bro Beier, head of crew management at Maersk Supply Service.


Liverpool Seafarers Centre urges vital funding for seafarer support following suicide increase. *Liverpool Seafarers Centre.* 8 March 2021. Available from: http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2021/03/08/liverpool-seafarers-centre-urges-vital-funding-for-seafarer-support-following-suicide-increase/ Ecumenical charity Liverpool Seafarers Centre says reports of increased suicides among seafarers show it is more vital than ever to invest in shoreside support.

The Kiribati sailors stranded 8,000 miles from home. *BBC News.* 8 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-56308351. Some of the 130 men stuck in Germany haven’t seen their families for nearly two years due to Covid border closures.

Seafarers to get more support, counselling, access to internet. Sally Murphy. *Radio New Zealand.* 9 March 2021. Available from: https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/437939/seafarers-to-get-more-support-counselling-access-to-internet. A charity providing support services to visiting seafarers will be able to increase resources following a funding boost from the government.


Challenges of women seafarers in a male-dominated maritime industry. *Hellenic Shipping News.* 11 March 2021. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/challenges-of-women-seafarers-in-a-male-dominated-maritime-industry/. The word "seafarer" has replaced the word "seaman" in the male-dominated maritime industry, often considered as politically-correct word due to the increasing presence of women in the profession in recent decades.


UK Chamber of Shipping lobbying efforts succeed as seafarers gain exemption from having to quarantine. UK Chamber of Shipping. 16 March 2021. Available from: https://ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/uk-chamber-shipping-lobbying-efforts-succeed-seafarers-gain-exemption-having-quarantine/ As part of the UK Chamber of Shipping’s ongoing work with the UK government, the Department for Transport yesterday (15 March) announced that all seafarers, irrespective of nationality, will be exempted from Red List (Acute List in Scotland) country restrictions, most notably mandatory hotel quarantine, with effect from 0400 on Friday 19 March 2021.


15 kidnapped crew members in Gulf of Guinea are “doing well”. Dag Holmstad. ShippingWatch. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/article12840734.ece The 15 crew members who were kidnapped on March 11 from chemical tanker “Davide B” in the Gulf of Guinea are “together and doing well despite the difficult circumstances”, reports spokesperson for De Poli Shipmanagement, the fleet manager of the tanker, in an email to ShippingWatch.

POEA vows aid for abandoned Pinoy seafarers in Fiji. Ferdinand Patinio. Philippine News Agency (PNA). 18 March 2021. Available from: https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1134105 The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) is coordinating with the families of 10 Filipino seafarers who were reportedly abandoned by the shipping company that hired them in Fiji.


Concerns of rise in seafarers impacted by crew change crisis due to new COVID-variants. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 19 March 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/311aUan Shipping is concerned that the numbers of seafarers being impacted by the crew change crisis are on the rise due to travel restrictions imposed by governments in response to new variants.


‘I have had to swim to shore every few days to get food and water’ – Meet the seafarer trapped on board the MV Aman for four years (and counting). International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF). 19 March 2021. Available from: https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/i-have-had-swim-shore-every-few-days-get-food-and-water-meet-seafarer-trapped-board-mv-aman When the general cargo ship the MV Aman (IMO 9215517) was detained at the Suez anchorage in Egypt in July 2017, chief officer Mohammad Aisha had only been on board for two months.


**Fight Between Commodities Giants and Shippers Leaves Seafarers Stuck.** Jack Wittels, K Oanh Ha and Aaron Clark. Bloomberg. 22 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/fight-between-commodities-giants-and-shippers-leaves-seafarers-stuck](https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/fight-between-commodities-giants-and-shippers-leaves-seafarers-stuck) A standoff between commodities giants and shipping companies is prolonging the labor crisis at sea, with an estimated 200,000 seafarers still stuck on their vessels beyond the expiration of their contracts and past the requirements of globally accepted safety standards.


**Marwa Elselehdar: Egypt’s first female sea captain is riding waves of success.** Mohammed Al-Shamaa. Arab News (Saudi Arabia). 22 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.arabnews.com/node/1828851/offbeat](https://www.arabnews.com/node/1828851/offbeat) Marwa Elselehdar has become the first woman to work as a sea captain in Egypt.


**‘Sod globalisation, protect the citizens’**. Carl Martin Faannesen. Splash 247.com. 23 March 2021. Available from: [https://splash247.com/sod-globalisation-protect-the-citizens](https://splash247.com/sod-globalisation-protect-the-citizens) Here’s a paraphrase for our times: “The gratitude of every home throughout the world goes out to the seafarers who, undaunted by odds, unwearyed in their constant challenge and struggles, are turning the tide of the Pandemic by their prowess and by their devotion.
**Maersk praised over pandemic, but unions urge follow-through on labour standards.**


**Abandoned at sea for three years.** *BBC World Service.* 23 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p09bkvk4](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p09bkvk4) Sailor Vikash Mishra lived on a leaky cargo ship after its owners ran out of money.

**Why we’re not stretching the men we have as much as we could.** Heidi Heseltine. *Splash 247.com.* 24 March 2021. Available from: [https://splash247.com/why-were-not-stretching-the-men-we-have-as-much-as-we-could](https://splash247.com/why-were-not-stretching-the-men-we-have-as-much-as-we-could) A total of 285 people tuned in live to watch the Diversity Study Group’s recent interview with Gill Whitty-Collins (ex-senior vice president of Procter & Gamble, member of numerous boards, gender equality expert and now a published author) and the video of this event has already been viewed online over 160 times.


**Concerns Ever Given seafarers likely to face legal action.** Shirish Nadkarni. *Seatrade Maritime News.* 30 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.seatrademaritime.com/casually/concerns-ever-given-seafarers-likely-face-legal-action](https://www.seatrademaritime.com/casually/concerns-ever-given-seafarers-likely-face-legal-action) Both the Indian government and Indian seafarers’ organisations are concerned about the legal issues that the crew may face, including the possibility of criminal negligence charges.

**Seafarers experiencing bullying are not alone.** *International Seafarers’ Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN).* 31 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/stories/seafarers-experiencing-bullying-are-not-alone](https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/stories/seafarers-experiencing-bullying-are-not-alone) A young Russian seafarer contacted SeafarerHelp after seeing a poster for the helpline in his ship’s day room – he was being bullied by his captain and was feeling very scared.

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**SEARCH & RESCUE**

**Arctic SAR is improving!** Colonel Pierre Leblanc. *Vanguard (Canada).* 4 March 2021. Available from: [https://vanguardcanada.com/arctic-sar-is-improving](https://vanguardcanada.com/arctic-sar-is-improving) Residents of the Canadian Arctic are painfully aware of climate change and more specifically global warming.

SHIP RECYCLING

File on 4: Shipping’s Dirty Secret. BBC Radio. 2 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000sqlt File on 4 lifts the lid on the dangerous and polluting world of shipbreaking and investigates why ships once owned by UK companies end their lives on beaches in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

UK cruise ships scrapped in India’s ‘ship graveyard’. Kate West and Margot Gibbs. BBC News. 2 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56196069 Two UK cruise ships have been scrapped on an Indian beach despite assurances they would continue to be operated.


In Drills at HKC compliant recycling facilities – Part 1, we discussed the drills, including fire and explosion on the plot & ship, confined space rescue, and evacuation from ship and Plot. In addition to those drills, few more drills are conducted at recycling facilities.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR


Seven out of 10 bulk carriers not ready for EEXI. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/seven-out-of-10-bulk-carriers-not-ready-for-eexi/ Seven out of 10 bulk carriers are ‘non-eco’ with the Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI) likely coming into existence in just two years’ time, something that will require urgent modifications to the existing fleet or significant scrapping.

Cacao sails cross-Atlantic on carbon neutral boat. Francesca Lynagh. Reuters. 1 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/2S62Qbr A French company has gone back to the basics of maritime transport with the use of a sailboat to ship cargo to and from France and the Americas in a bid to make the movement of goods by sea between the two sides of the Atlantic carbon-neutral.


Korea Shipbuilding to work on safety design regulation for hydrogen-fueled ships. Nam Kwang-sik. Yonhap News Agency (South Korea). 4 March 2021. Available from: https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210304008100320 The Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. (KSOE) said Thursday it has inked a deal with the Korean Register of Shipping (KR), a South Korean ship quality assurance and risk management company, to jointly come up with safety design regulation for hydrogen-fueled ships.
South Korean yards see strong start to 2021 with more to come, say analysts. *Trade Winds.* 9 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/south-korean-yards-see-strong-start-to-2021-with-more-to-come-say-analysts/2-1-976489 Newbuilding orders have been tracking 15% of annual targets, JP Morgan shipbuilding analyst Sang Myeong Kim said in a recent note to investors.


Doosan Fuel Cell, KSOE to jointly develop SOFCs for ships. Nam Kwang-sik. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea).* 18 March 2021. Available from: https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210318007600320 South Korean fuel cell maker Doosan Fuel Cell Co. said Thursday that it will team up with Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. to develop solid oxide fuel cells, energy conversion devices that generate electricity, to be used for ships.

Number of installed scrubbers has doubled since last year’s global sulphur cap introduction. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com.* 19 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/number-of-installed-scrubbers-has-doubled-since-last-years-global-sulphur-cap-introduction/ The price gap between low and high sulphur fuel oil has failed to hit the highs scrubber advocates would have wanted to justify their investments in the 15 months since the start of the global sulphur cap and yet the number of exhaust gas containment systems installed since the key legislation came into place has nearly doubled.

Ship design has to start thinking outside the box to tackle carbon. Janne Uotila. *TradeWinds.* 19 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/ship-design-has-to-start-thinking-outside-the-box-to-tackle-carbon/2-1-979535 Clever customisation while linking design to a vessel’s real-life operational profile is the only way to meet the future demands of greener shipping.

**£20 million fund to propel green shipbuilding launched.** *UK Government.* 22 March 2021.
Government invests £20 million to develop innovative zero emission vessels and clean port infrastructure.

**Höegh Autoliners completes its first carbon neutral voyage.** *Höegh Autoliners.* 22 March 2021.
On 19 March, Höegh Autoliners accelerated its decarbonisation efforts successfully completing its first carbon neutral voyage from Europe to South Africa.

Container shipping’s orderbook-to-fleet ratio, which was in single percentage figures as recently as six months ago, is set to surpass 15% as shipping lines pile on the tonnage with Alphaliner suggesting IMO’s 2050 decarbonisation deadline and ship lifespans are beginning to play into the minds of owners.

**SHIPPING**

The latest in an ongoing series of ABS sustainability focused whitepapers examining different fuel options for the marine industry, Methanol as Marine Fuel provides information for shipowners considering methanol as an option in both the near-term and long-term.

The Clean Shipping Alliance regrets the vote that took place today in the Transport Committee of the European Parliament that encourages EU Member States to restrict open-loop Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) was taken without any scientific basis.

Global maritime trade is set to fully recover from the impact of Covid-19 in 2021, grow by 30% by 2030, and a further 45% by 2050.

Overwhelmed U.S. ports, elevated freight costs and accidents that sent goods plunging to the bottom of the ocean are causing headaches for U.S. retailers already reeling from the pandemic.

Israeli holidaymakers will set a new course for adventure this summer when Royal Caribbean International begins sailing from Israel for the first time in May.
Royal Caribbean to launch cruise from Israel for ‘fully vaccinated’ only. *Times of Israel.* 2 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.timesofisrael.com/royal-caribbean-to-launch-cruise-from-israel-for-fully-vaccinated/](https://www.timesofisrael.com/royal-caribbean-to-launch-cruise-from-israel-for-fully-vaccinated/) Royal Caribbean will offer cruises from Israel for fully vaccinated people from May, the company said Monday, in the latest effort by Israel to reopen its economy to those who have had the coronavirus shot.


**Shipping industry needs to talk market-based measures** *BIMCO.* 2 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20210302-shipping-industry-needs-to-talk-market-based-measures](https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20210302-shipping-industry-needs-to-talk-market-based-measures) BIMCO would like to encourage states and the industry to start a dialogue on how to create a global ruleset for market-based measures (MBM) to support the use of low carbon fuels and to create a level playing field for the industry.


How can shipping prevent its diversity drive going into reverse? Max Tingyao Lin. *Trade Winds.* 7 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/people/how-can-shipping-prevent-its-diversity-drive-going-into-reverse-2-1-974087 Semiramis Paliou made headlines last month when she became Diana Shipping’s new chief executive, but despite such high-profile exceptions, surveys show that the industry faces a dearth of women in leadership roles, and their numbers could actually be falling.

**Brand women as leaders today.** Gina Panayiotou. *Splash 247.com.* 8 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/brand-women-as-leaders-today/ In 2015, the United Nations came together and agreed for the first time on a set of 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) to sustain and save the planet; or rather agreed on a set of common global challenges.

**ECSA-ETF: EU shipping needs to attract and retain more women.** *European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA).* 8 March 2021. Available from: https://www.ecsa.eu/index.php/news/ecsa-ETF-eu-shipping-needs-attract-and-retain-more-women The European social partners for Maritime Transport, the European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers’ Federation (ETF), continue to advocate the enhanced participation of women in European shipping.

**Alfa Laval starts testing new fuels to support the transition towards more sustainable shipping.** *Alfa Laval.* 8 March 2021. Available from: https://www.alfalaval.com/media/news/investors/2021/alfa-laval-starts-testing-new-fuels-to-support-the-transition-towards-more-sustainable-shipping/ Alfa Laval – a world leader in heat transfer, centrifugal separation and fluid handling – will soon start testing two new types of marine fuels; biofuels (made from waste) and methanol, in its Test & Training Centre in Denmark.

**The world’s first ‘carbon-neutral’ cargo ship is already low on gas.** Maria Gallucci. *Grist.* 8 March 2021. Available from: https://grist.org/energy/green-methanol-maersk-shipping-fuel/ When shipping giant Maersk announced last month it would operate a “carbon-neutral” vessel by 2023, the Danish company committed to using a fuel that’s made from renewable sources, is free of soot-forming pollutants - and is currently in scarce supply.


**DSV and DHL see container bottlenecks spread to Singapore.** Daniel Logan and Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch.* 8 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/article12814728.ece Logistics majors DHL and DSV confirm that bottlenecks in the container market have now spread from the US to Asia.


**Major banks to align shipping loans with climate targets: “This is a marathon, not a sprint”.** Soren Pico and Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch.* 9 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/suppliers/article12816781.ece Shipping loans at Danske Bank and Nordea do not yet comply with the IMO’s climate targets, shows report.
Shipping is a drug. Just say no. Charlie Du Cane. Splash 247.com. 9 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/shipping-is-a-drug-just-say-no/ One of the advantages of working for a small company is that one gets to do everything from make the tea to take the decisions that matter, or at least be involved in them, and everything in between.

Maritime industry leaders to explore ammonia as marine fuel in Singapore. Maersk. 10 March 2021. Available from: https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2021/03/10/maritime-industry-leaders-to-explore-ammonia-as-marine-fuel-in-singapore A.P. Moller - Maersk A/S, Fleet Management Limited, Keppel Offshore & Marine, Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping, Sumitomo Corporation and Yara International ASA are pleased to announce that the parties have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to jointly conduct a feasibility study with the aim to be one of the pioneers in establishing a comprehensive and competitive supply chain for the provision of green ammonia as ship-to-ship bunkering at the Port of Singapore, the largest bunkering port in the world.

WSC appoints new environmental officers. Malcolm Lata cherche. ShipInsight. 10 March 2021. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/articles/wsc-appoints-new-environmental-officers/ Liner shipping body The World Shipping Council (WSC) has welcomed to its team John Bradshaw, in a global role as Technical Director for Environment and Safety, and Dr James Corbett as Environmental Director, Europe.

Shipping industry proposes ‘moonshot’ fossil fuel levy. Fiona Harvey. The Guardian. 10 March 2021. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/mar/10/shipping-industry-proposes-moonshot-fossil-fuel-levy Shipping industry representatives, backed by several countries, have submitted a proposal to the UN to charge a climate-related levy on fossil fuels used by international shipping for the first time.

Shipping will be ‘uninvestable’ without carbon price soon, says Trafigura. Julian Bray. TradeWinds. 11 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipping-will-be-uninvestable-without-carbon-price-soon-says-trafigura/2-1-977331 One of the world’s biggest charterers has said shipping risks becoming a business that investors will not touch unless regulators act swiftly to impose a global price on carbon emissions.


Hafnia aims to reach IMO target two years ahead of schedule. Dag Holmstad. ShippingWatch. 11 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12826311.ece Tanker shipping company Hafnia aims to reach IMO’s target of a 40 percent reduction in carbon intensity by 2028, which would be two years ahead of IMO’s deadline.


60% of my directors are women — NIMASA DG, Jamoh. Vanguard (Nigeria). 15 March 2021. Available from: https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/03/60-of-my-directors-are-women-%E2%80%95-nimasa-dg-jamoh/ The Director-General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency NIMASA, Dr Bashir Jamoh made this remark while playing host to Female Directors and Assistant Directors of the agency at a dinner party to commemorate International Women’s Day and as part of events to mark his first year in office.

Emissions levy proposal is a major turning point for shipping. Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd’s List. 15 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136115 The struggle to reduce shipping’s greenhouse gas emissions has taken an irreversible turn.


Top Japanese lenders join shipping industry scheme to cut carbon. Jonathan Saul. Reuters. 16 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3t3lgX8 Leading Japanese lenders have joined an initiative that links the provision of shipping finance to cuts in carbon dioxide emissions as the sector accelerates efforts to go green.

Women in maritime industry call for interventions to increased female participation. GhanaWeb. 16 March 2021. Available from: https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Women-in-maritime-industry-call-for-interventions-to-increased-female-participation-1206196 Government and players in the Port and Maritime Industry have been urged to institute deliberate interventions and policies that will allow for a broader and increased participation of women in the industry.

Shortage of new shipping containers adds to global trade turmoil. ShippingWatch. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12839049.ece Container makers are scrambling to meet a surge in demand for the metal boxes that transport close to 90 percent of the world’s goods around the globe.
Rebranding shipping: We owe it to our very own VIPs. Gina Panayiotou. Splash 247.com.
17 March 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/re-branding-shipping-we-owe-it-to-our-very-own-vips/ When I first joined the shipping industry and I would proudly say I worked in shipping, outsiders would either assume that I was doing something that had to do with boats, or that amount Amazon charges on an order.


‘Moonshot’ without bigger tax on shipping’s carbon won’t fly far enough. Eric Martin. TradeWinds. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/moonshot-without-bigger-tax-on-shippings-carbon-wont-fly-far-enough/2-1-980002 Of all the words that have been used in the debate over shipping’s greenhouse gas (GHG) cuts, “moonshot” was the most striking.

Shipping sector outlook: Container prices spike while tanker rates plunge. ING Bank N.V. 17 March 2021. Available from: https://think.ing.com/articles/shipping-outlook-while-container-prices-spike-tanker-rates-reach-the-bottom/ The shipping industry will benefit from world trade recovery in 2021, with average seaborne trade volumes expected to end up higher than their pre-pandemic levels.

How the shipping industry can halve climate-warming black carbon in the Arctic. Sian Prior. Climate Home News. 18 March 2021. Available from: https://www.climatechangenews.com/2021/03/18/shipping-industry-can-halve-climate-warming-black-carbon-arctic/ Climate change is having a more rapid impact in the Arctic than anywhere else right now – the recent cold weather that blanketed North America and Europe, and caused chaos in places like Texas, has been linked to the consequences of a warming Arctic.

The Lloyd’s List Podcast: Why sustainable shipping is about more than just carbon reduction. Lloyd’s List. 19 March 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136192/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Why-sustainable-shipping-is-about-more-than-just-carbon-reduction Sustainability is about more than carbon reduction, but we are currently evaluating the shift to new fuels on the basis of price, availability and technical feasibility.


Norden has instructed captains to fabricate fake logbooks. Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 22 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12849256.ece; For years, tanker company Norden has instructed captains to write fake logbooks and paint over ship names in order to keep trips to Israel a secret. Even the disposal of waste bags was detailed in instructions to conceal Norden’s transports to Israel.
From pipeline to pipe dream: why there’s no such thing as shipping carbon-neutral LNG.


Stranded Suez ship’s owner, insurers face millions in claims. Carolyn Cohn and Jonathan Saul. Reuters. 24 March 2021. Available from: https://reut.rs/3vrrbag The owner and insurers of one of the world’s largest container ships stuck in the Suez Canal face claims totalling millions of dollars even if the ship is refloated quickly, industry sources said on Wednesday.


No clear winner among many bunker fuel options for decarbonization: experts. Surabhi Sahu and Claudia Carpenter. S&P Global Platts. 25 March 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/3nu8KPt Shipping’s decarbonization goals need immediate action but choosing a winner from among the various alternative fuels is difficult as they come with their own set of advantages and limitations, with no one-size-fits all approach holding good anymore as impending environmental regulations loom, industry experts said at a virtual event held March 23 and March 24.

Suez blockage is holding up $9.6bn of goods a day. Justin Harper. BBC News. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56533250 The stranded Ever Given mega-container ship in the Suez Canal is holding up an estimated $9.6bn (£7bn) of goods each day, according to shipping data.

At least 20 livestock ships caught in Suez canal logjam. Sophie Kevany and Michael Safi. The Guardian. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/mar/26/at-least-20-livestock-ships-caught-in-suez-canal-logjam. At least 20 of the boats delayed due to a stricken container ship in the Suez canal are carrying livestock, according to marine tracking data, raising concerns about the welfare of the animals if the logjam becomes protracted.

Suez Canal blockage: what it takes to unudge a megaship. Stephen Turnock. The Conversation. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://theconversation.com/suez-canal-blockage-what-it-takes-to-unudge-a-megaship-158006. One of the world’s largest container ships, named Ever Given, has been wedged across the Suez Canal since it was blown off course by high winds in the early hours of March 23, blocking one of the busiest maritime trade corridors in the world.

Horses for courses – or what fuel for which ship? Mark Williams. ship.energy. 26 March 2021. Available from: https://ship.energy/2021/03/26/horses-for-courses-or-what-fuel-for-which-ship/ In the last of this short series looking at shipping’s future fuel options, Mark Williams takes stock of how the ‘contenders’ are shaping up.

Cork maritime lawyer: I warned Suez was a crisis waiting to happen. Ryan O’Rourke. Irish Examiner. 27 March 2021. Available from: https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/382706645.html. A world-renowned international maritime lawyer, from Cork, has said he warned governments that a crisis on the Suez Canal was only a matter of time, due to a lack of necessary equipment.

Mega ship blocking Suez Canal is finally freed but what damage to ‘just in time’ supply chains? Noelle McElhatton. Institute of Export and International Trade. 28 March 2021. Available from: https://www.export.org.uk/news/558437/Mega-ship-blocking-Suez-Canal-is-finally-freed-but-what-damage-to-just-in-time-supply-chains.htm. After almost seven days blocking one of the world’s busiest trade shipping lanes, the Ever Given container ship has been dislodged from the shores of the Suez Canal.

Maersk estimates Suez clean-up will take at least six days. Daniel Logan. ShippingWatch. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12866824.ece. It will take at least six days to clean up the situation in the Suez Canal, where container ship Ever Given has blocked passage for almost a week after the ship ran aground, says Maersk in a comment to ShippingWatch.

Ever Given vessel blocking Suez Canal partially re-floated: SCA chairman. Ahmed Morsy. Ahram Online (Egypt). 29 March 2021. Available from: https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/408009/Egypt/Politics/-BREAKING-Ever-Given-vessel-blocking-Suez-Canal-is-aspx. The delinquent Panamanian container ship EVER GIVEN has started to float successfully after the mega vessel responded to the latest tugging manoeuvres, Admiral Osama Rabie, the chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, announced on Monday morning.

Queues in Suez may have repercussions on container market for up to three months. Dag Holmstad. ShippingWatch. 29 March 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/article12867830.ece. Once the queues of more than 360 ships in the Suez Canal are dissolved, the container market will be hit by repercussions for 2-3 months, estimates a shipping analyst, who predicts a tug of war between carriers and shippers on rate surcharges due to increased costs.


Stranded Suez ship confounds world uneasy about the long haul. Timothy Walker. *Institute for Security Studies (ISS)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: [https://issafrica.org/iss-today/stranded-suez-ship-confounds-world-uneasy-about-the-long-haul](https://issafrica.org/iss-today/stranded-suez-ship-confounds-world-uneasy-about-the-long-haul)  The Suez Canal is one of the world’s major shipping routes, or at least it was until the *Ever Given* ran aground on 23 March.


Suez Canal cargo ship is afloat - but it’s not plain sailing for global economy. Daniel Johnson. *UN News*. 29 March 2021. Available from: [https://news.un.org/en/audio/2021/03/1088532](https://news.un.org/en/audio/2021/03/1088532)  The gigantic cargo ship that ran aground and blocked the Suez Canal last week is afloat once again after a Herculean salvage operation, but the damage to global trade will take months to fix.


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Sala E, Mayorga J, et al. **Protecting the global ocean for biodiversity, food and climate.** *Nature.* 17 March 2021. Available from: [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03371-z](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03371-z) The ocean contains unique biodiversity, provides valuable food resources and is a major sink for anthropogenic carbon.


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About the cover

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