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FOR A  
SUSTAINABLE PLANET

**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION**

**MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)**

*“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”*

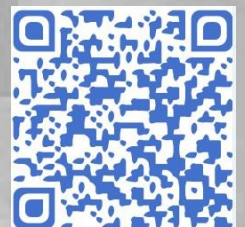
**CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN**

**APRIL 2020**

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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

### IN FOCUS: Supporting seafarers on the frontline of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has put seafarers around the world in precarious situations. Travel restrictions mean some cannot leave their ships, be repatriated home, or even get urgent medical assistance. Other seafarers have seen their contracts unilaterally terminated or have been quarantined on board ships for more than 14 days, without getting paid.

A large number of seafarers, as well as their spouses and family members, have reached out to IMO to share their concerns about a variety of difficult situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

IMO has established an internal team to help resolve individual cases, often working alongside other organizations like the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). Since the beginning of the crisis, this dedicated team works around the clock – contacting representatives from national governments, NGOs, trade unions or relevant associations, or orienting seafarers towards the right organisation, to find solutions. [More...](#)

### **IMO MEETINGS FOR 2020 – List of meetings postponed to the COVID-19 pandemic**

#### **LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS**

[Customs and ports urged to maintain flow of critical goods during pandemic](#)

Briefing: 12, April 17, 2020

[IMO and port State inspection authorities set pragmatic approach to support global supply chain](#)

Briefing: 11, April 10, 2020

[IMO postpones further meetings due to COVID-19 \(updated\)](#)

Briefing: 10, April 2, 2020

[IMO urges keyworker exemptions for crew changes and repatriations](#)

Briefing: 9, April 1, 2020

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

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

**IMO PUBLISHING**

[Just Published 2020](#)

[April 2020 Newsletter](#)

## UNITED NATIONS

### **Critical work of UN ‘largely uninterrupted’, despite unprecedented challenge of COVID-19.**

*UN News*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/ocean-container-volumes-are-about-to-fall-off-a-cliff> Although the COVID-19 pandemic has forced the United Nations to operate in new ways, its vital work worldwide continues largely uninterrupted, heads of UN principal organs assured Member States, during a joint briefing on Friday held online.

### **\$2.5 trillion COVID-19 rescue package needed for world’s emerging economies.**

*UN News*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060612> The economic fallout from COVID-19 is likely to get “much worse” before it gets better for some six billion people living in developing economies, the UN said on Monday, in an appeal for a \$2.5 trillion rescue package to boost their resilience to further hardship.

### **Coronavirus necessitates global increase in protective equipment, medical supplies: UN health chief.**

*UN News*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060662> The head of the World Health Organization (WHO) is calling for stepped-up production of medical equipment and supplies as health facilities and health workers in many countries struggle with increasing and urgent demands brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Seventh Annual United Nations World Oceans Day Photo Competition.**

*United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.oceandecade.org/news/58/Seventh-Annual-United-Nations-World-Oceans-Day-Photo-Competition> World Oceans Day encourages you to make a difference in your life, in your community, and in the world by taking action to protect our ocean - for present and future generations.

### **UN launches COVID-19 plan that could ‘defeat the virus and build a better world’.**

*UN News*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060702> The UN chief launched on Tuesday a new plan to counter the potentially devastating socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, calling on everyone to “act together to lessen the blow to people”.

### **Conserving Life Below Water: Nuclear Techniques to Help Latin America and the Caribbean towards Reaching Sustainable Development Goal 14.**

Jennet Orayeva. *International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/conserving-life-below-water-nuclear-techniques-to-help-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-towards-reaching-sustainable-development-goal-14> Latin America and the Caribbean is sometimes called a ‘biodiversity superpower’ with some of the most beautiful and important endowments of natural capital in the world.

### **Trade set to plunge as COVID-19 pandemic upends global economy.**

*World Trade Organization (WTO)*. 8 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres20\\_e/pr855\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres20_e/pr855_e.htm) World trade is expected to fall by between 13% and 32% in 2020 as the COVID 19 pandemic disrupts normal economic activity and life around the world.

**World Health Organization ‘absolutely critical’ to neutralizing coronavirus threat – UN chief.**

*UN News*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061382?dkoweu>

The World Health Organization (WHO) must be supported across the world, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres said on Wednesday, describing the UN health agency, which has led the multilateral response since the beginning, as “absolutely critical” in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Now is ‘not the time’ to reduce funding for the World Health Organization in COVID-19 fight, urges Guterres.**

*UN News*. 14 April 2020. Available from:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061762> Now is a time for unity in the global battle to push the COVID-19 pandemic into reverse, not a time to cut the resources of the World Health Organization (WHO), which is spearheading and coordinating the global body’s efforts, said UN chief António Guterres, on Tuesday.

**COVID-19 environmental roll back ‘irrational and irresponsible’: rights expert.**

*UN News*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061772> Countries must not use the COVID-19 pandemic as an excuse to weaken environmental protection and enforcement, a UN independent human rights expert said on Wednesday.

**COVID-19 storm strengthens across Europe, controlling transmission everywhere, essential:**

**Tedros.** *UN News*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061902>

The storm clouds of COVID-19 still hang heavily over Europe, a senior World Health Organization expert said on Thursday, with reported cases in the last 10 days alone, doubling to nearly 1 million.

**Ten-point plan to bolster global transport, ease trade during COVID-19.**

*United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2344> As countries adopt radical measures to bring the coronavirus pandemic under control, international trade and transport systems are under tremendous stress.

[COVID-19: A 10-point action plan to strengthen international trade and transport facilitation in times of pandemic - UNCTAD Policy Brief No. 79](#)

**Protect workers during and after lockdowns, urges UN labour agency.**

*UN News*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1062732> Marking the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has urged States to take action to prevent and control COVID-19 in the workplace.

## CASUALTIES

**Cruiseship collision sinks Venezuelan warship.** Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 1 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/cruiseship-collision-sinks-venezuelan-warship/2-1-785293> Venezuela's Ministry of Defense is accusing a Bunnys Adventure & Cruise Shipping expedition cruiseship of carrying out a hit-and-run collision that led to the sinking one of its warships.

**GAO Reports on U.S. Coast Guard Oversight Since *El Faro* Sinking.** *Maritime Executive*. 4 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/gao-reports-on-u-s-coast-guard-oversight-since-el-faro-sinking> After the October 2015 sinking of the *El Faro*, concerns raised over the ship's safety plan raised questions about how the U.S. Coast Guard ensures that commercial ships comply with safety regulations.

**Search Continues For Missing Passengers.** Georgina Kekea. *Solomon Times (Solomon Islands)*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.solomontimes.com/news/search-continues-for-missing-passengers/9698> Search is continuing for missing passengers on board the *MV Taimareho*.

**Busan berth will be offline for months after boxship prang takes out multiple cranes.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/busan-berth-will-be-offline-for-months-after-boxship-prang-takes-out-multiple-cranes/> 📰 Officials at Busan New Port say that its seventh berth will be out of action for months as cleanup operations get underway to remove shattered crane debris following Monday's dramatic boxship accident.

**Ukrainian general cargo ship catches fire in the Mediterranean.** Nicola Capuzzo. *Splash 247.com*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/ukranian-general-cargo-ship-catches-fire-in-the-mediterranean/> 📰 Single-decker ship *Bellatrix*, controlled by the Ukrainian company MD Shipping, caught fire yesterday while transiting in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, some 180 miles off the Sicilian port of Catania.

**Flashback in maritime history: Sinking of *RMS TITANIC*, on 14 April 1912.** *Maritime Cyprus*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://maritimecyprus.com/2020/04/14/flashback-in-maritime-history-sinking-of-rms-titanic-on-14-april-1912-3/> 📰 On 14 April 1912, on her maiden voyage, she struck an iceberg, buckling part of her hull and causing her to sink in the early hours of 15 April and 706 of her 2,224 passengers and crew survived.

**Holding Statement: *MV "SPIRIT OF HAMBURG"*.** *Zeaborn Ship Management*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.zea-ship.com/en/media/press-releases/2019/Holding-Statement-MV-Spirit-of-Hamburg.php> Zeaborn Ship Management would like to provide a short update in relation to the tragic events on our managed container vessel "*Spirit of Hamburg*" in the port of Cartagena, Colombia on April 16, 2020.

**The key causes of ship total losses.** *IHS Markit*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://ihsmarkit.com/research-analysis/the-key-causes-of-ship-total-losses.html> The maritime industry has seen a decrease in total losses of ships over the past five years attributed by many in the industry to increased safety measures and updates in technological systems, according to the inaugural State of Maritime Safety report published by IHS Markit and available for download.

**Hindsight 2020: Lessons We Cannot Ignore from the BP Disaster.** *Oceana*. April 2020.

Available from: <https://usa.oceana.org/publications/reports/hindsight-2020-lessons-we-cannot-ignore-bp-disaster> On April 20, 2010, the BP exploratory rig *Deepwater Horizon* exploded, killing 11 workers and setting off the largest oil spill in U.S. history. [Report](#)

## ENVIRONMENT

**Nature takes back world's empty city streets.** *CTV News (Canada)*. 30 March 2020.

Available from: <https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/nature-takes-back-world-s-empty-city-streets-1.4873282> As humans retreat into their homes as more and more countries go under coronavirus lockdown, wild animals are slipping cover to explore the empty streets of some of our biggest cities.

**Governing the sun: the challenges of geoengineering.** *Griffith University (Australia)*. 6 April 2020.

Available from: <https://news.griffith.edu.au/2020/04/06/governing-the-sun-the-challenges-of-geoengineering/> Governments have previously sought to reduce climate-change inducing concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the earth's atmosphere through mitigation and adaptation activities, but are now exploring other measures.

**5 Ways the Economic Upheaval of Coronavirus May Impact CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions.** Benjamin Storrow.

*Scientific American*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/5-ways-the-economic-upheaval-of-coronavirus-may-impact-co2-emissions/> Recessions are often accompanied by a drop in carbon dioxide emissions.

**New Coral Disease Outbreak Found Along Grand Bahama Coastline.** *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*.

9 April 2020. Available from: <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/world-news/20200409/new-coral-disease-outbreak-found-along-grand-bahama-coastline> A new, rapidly spreading outbreak of stony coral tissue loss disease (SCTLD) has infiltrated nearly 40 miles of Grand Bahama's southern coastline, killing a wide range of corals, including some that are already endangered.

**Whale break: rare sighting off Marseille as lockdown quietens sea – ST.** *The Guardian*.

10 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/global/video/2020/apr/10/whale-break-rare-sighting-off-marseille-as-lockdown-quietens-sea-video> A maritime patrol has filmed fin whales powering through Mediterranean waters off the coast of southern France – showing how wild animals are roaming more freely while people isolate indoors because of coronavirus.

**Twenty-Two Countries Searching for Seafloor Minerals.** Michael W. Lodge. *Maritime Executive*.

11 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/twenty-two-countries-searching-for-seafloor-minerals> The International Seabed Authority (ISA) has issued 30 contracts for exploration of the international deep seabed area involving 22 different countries, including 12 developing states.

**How Covid-19 Could Impact the Climate Crisis.** Daniel Wilkinson and Luciana Téllez Chávez.

*Human Rights Watch (HRW)*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/16/how-covid-19-could-impact-climate-crisis> Satellite images showing dramatic drops in air pollution in coronavirus hotspots around the globe have circulated widely on social media, offering a silver lining to an otherwise very dark story.

**'We're watching them die': can right whales pull back from the brink?** Megan Mayhew Bergman. *The Guardian*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/17/north-atlantic-right-whales-were-watching-them-die> Dedicated conservationists are striving to save the North Atlantic right whale – believed to be down to 400 individuals as ships and fishing gear take their toll.

**'An important time to listen': ocean scientists race to hear the effects of coronavirus under water.** Jimmy Thomson. *The Narwhal (Canada)*. 19 April 2020. Available from: <https://thenarwhal.ca/an-important-time-to-listen-ocean-scientists-race-to-hear-coronavirus-under-water/> The pandemic offers a temporary reprieve from the clamour of ocean noise — which can affect how whales and other species communicate, navigate and feed — and an opportunity to reflect on the consequences of human activity for marine life

**FROM THE FIELD: 'Green practices' boost blue economy.** *UN News*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1062262> The introduction of “green” or sustainable practices supported by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) is helping the “blue economy” of an Indian Ocean archipelago to thrive.

**Fall in COVID-linked carbon emissions won't halt climate change - UN weather agency chief.** *UN News*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1062332> An expected drop in greenhouse gas emissions linked to the global economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic is only “short-term good news”, the head of the UN weather agency said.

**Earth Day turns 50: Get to know our planet without leaving home.** *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.noaa.gov/stories/earth-day-turns-50-get-to-know-our-planet-without-leaving-home> Earth Day (April 22) was started as a movement to bring awareness to the health and well being of our planet. It has special significance for NOAA because this grassroots effort helped usher the creation of our agency the same year — 1970.

**Government of Canada releases first report on the state of the marine ecosystems in the Canadian Arctic.** *Government of Canada*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2020/04/government-of-canada-releases-first-report-on-the-state-of-the-marine-ecosystems-in-the-canadian-arctic.html> The vast and beautiful Arctic Ocean is Canada's largest ocean area.  
[Public Report – Canada's Oceans Now: Arctic Ecosystems, 2019](#)

**Silence is golden for whales as lockdown reduces ocean noise.** Karen McVeigh. *The Guardian*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/27/silence-is-golden-for-whales-as-lockdown-reduces-ocean-noise-coronavirus> In cities, human lockdowns during the coronavirus pandemic have offered some respite to the natural world, with clear skies and the return of wildlife to waterways.



## ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

### **Seafloor of Fram Strait is a sink for microplastic from Arctic and North Atlantic Ocean.**

Ulrike Windhövel. *Phys.org*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2020-03-seafloor-fram-strait-microplastic-arctic.html> Working in the Arctic Fram Strait, scientists from the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) have found microplastic throughout the water column with particularly high concentrations at the ocean floor.

**Coronavirus: Lockdown prompts clear fall in UK air pollution.** Jonathan Amos. *BBC News*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-52113695> Air pollution has started to fall in many UK cities in response to the lockdown measures introduced as a result of the coronavirus crisis.

**Vanishing food waste flouts maritime and national law.** Dr Wen Chei. *Splash 247.com*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/vanishing-food-waste-flouts-maritime-and-national-law/> Waste disposal in some vessels contravenes both maritime and national biosecurity legislation by allowing food waste into grey water systems.

**Report: Wildlife Impacts Persist a Decade after Deepwater Horizon.** *Maritime Executive*. 12 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/report-wildlife-impacts-persist-a-decade-after-deepwater-horizon> A National Wildlife Federation report: 10 Species, 10 Years Later: A Look at Gulf Restoration after the *Deepwater Horizon Disaster*, summarizes the latest information available about 10 wildlife species that were affected by the spill as well as the restoration efforts underway.

**10 Species 10 Years Later: A Look at Gulf Restoration after the Deepwater Horizon Disaster.** Jessica Bibza and Lacey McCormick. *National Wildlife Federation*. April 2020. Available from: [https://restorethegulf.nwf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/nwf\\_gulfreport2020\\_web.pdf](https://restorethegulf.nwf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/nwf_gulfreport2020_web.pdf) On April 20, 2010, the *Deepwater Horizon* oil rig exploded, killing 11 men and unleashing a torrent of oil and natural gas from BP's Macondo wellhead into the Gulf of Mexico.

**Discarded coronavirus face masks and gloves rising threat to ocean life, conservationists warn.** Louise Boyle. *The Independent*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/coronavirus-masks-gloves-oceans-pollution-waste-a9469471.html> The rise in disposable face masks and gloves being used to prevent the spread of coronavirus is adding to the glut of plastic pollution threatening the health of oceans and marine life, environmentalists warn.

**For the Mediterranean, the Suez is a wormhole bringing in alien invaders.** Elizabeth Fitt. *Mongabay*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://news.mongabay.com/2020/04/for-the-mediterranean-the-suez-is-a-wormhole-bringing-in-alien-invaders/> A hidden invasion is taking place beneath the waves of the Mediterranean Sea.

**Microplastics found in Antarctic ice core sample taken 10 years ago.** Manika Champ. *ABC (Australia)*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-22/microplastics-found-in-antarctic-sea-ice-for-first-time/12173386> It is one of the world's most remote locations and home to few inhabitants, but despite this, researchers say they have discovered plastic microfibrils for the first time in Antarctic sea ice.

**Ten years after the *Deepwater Horizon*, new spills seem imminent.** Charles Digges. *Bellona Foundation*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://bellona.org/news/fossil-fuels/2020-04-ten-years-after-the-deepwater-horizon-new-spills-seem-imminent> Ten years after the *Deepwater Horizon* rig exploded, sending some 750 million liters of oil into the Gulf of Mexico over the course of nearly three months, it's still difficult to say if the disaster ever had an endpoint.

**French Polynesia acts over oil spill fears.** *Radio New Zealand*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/415222/french-polynesia-acts-over-oil-spill-fears> The ship *Shen Gang Shun 1*, which ran aground on 21 March, has 250 tonnes of fuel and about 70 tonnes of rotting fish on board.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

**Managing your mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/managing-your-mental-health-during-the-covid-19-pandemic> ISWAN has just launched a new video, aimed at seafarers, with Dr Kate Thompson, a counselling psychologist.

**Poorly designed oily water separators put seafarers at risk.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/poorly-designed-oily-water-separators-put-seafarers-at-risk/> In a special one-off today, Splash is calling all seagoing engineers to take part in an Australian survey looking at the questionable designs of oily water separators.

**Coronavirus nightmare for passengers stuck on *MS Zaandam* 'death ship'.** *South China Morning Post*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/3077530/coronavirus-nightmare-passengers-stuck-ms-zaandam> For passengers on a Holland America Line cruise ship, a fun-filled voyage on the luxury liner is quickly turning into a nightmare with deteriorating conditions on board and fears of a full-blown coronavirus outbreak after four travellers died and two others were infected.

**Maersk confirms corona infections among ship crew.** Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12046441.ece> Maersk has now received a response from local authorities in China after several seafarers last week were isolated on ship *Gjertrud Maersk* with symptoms of covid-19.

**Seafarers' Frequently Asked Questions: COVID-19.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/seafarers-frequently-asked-questions-covid-19> Extending the contract should only be used with appropriate safeguards to protect seafarers, such as obtaining their consent and ensuring that they do not lose their accrued annual leave or right to repatriation.

**COVID-19: Master takes Resolute Stand to Assure Crew's Safety and Welfare.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 5 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/05/covid-19-master-takes-resolute-stand-to-assure-crews-safety-and-welfare/> During the COVID-19 pandemic, while ship owners and charterers continue with daily business undertaking charter-parties for the movement of goods around the globe, the effects of the coronavirus crisis are highlighting new management challenges and competing interests between commercial imperatives to deliver contracts, and the health, safety and welfare of crew.


**Tomini crew refuse to offload cargo in Bangladesh over fears of contracting coronavirus.**

*Splash 247.com*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/tomini-crew-refuse-to-offload-cargo-in-bangladesh-over-fears-of-contracting-coronavirus/> The master and the crew of the three-year old 63,590 dwt *Tomini Destiny* bulk carrier find themselves in a tense standoff with the ship's owner in Bangladeshi waters.

**Solution found to offload cargo from controversial Tomini bulk carrier off Chittagong.**

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/solution-found-to-offload-cargo-from-controversial-tomini-bulk-carrier-off-chittagong> The master and crew onboard the *Tomini Destiny*, at the centre of a week-long coronavirus-linked standoff in Bangladesh waters, have negotiated the details for the safe offload of the vessel's cargo.

**Coronavirus: guidance on repatriating cruise ship passengers and protecting ship crews.**

*European Commission*. 8 April 2020. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_619](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_619) From cruise ship passengers to cargo vessel crew, many have found themselves stranded since the coronavirus pandemic took hold. [Guidelines on protection of health, repatriation and travel arrangements for seafarers, passengers and other persons on board ships](#) 


**Union fears crew exchange delays put safety at risk.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 8 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/union-fears-crew-exchange-delays-put-safety-at-risk/2-1-790249> Officers union Nautilus International is raising concerns that restrictions on crew exchange, caused by measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus, are turning into a major safety issue for shipping.


**Greater Access to PPE called for by concerned Seafarers.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*.

13 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/13/greater-access-to-ppe-called-for-by-concerned-seafarers/> Some seafarers who have been in direct contact with Human Rights at Sea are increasingly calling for greater levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be made more widely available, not just for themselves, but for those maritime workers who come onboard their vessels including surveyors, agents, pilots and stevedores, by way of example.

**Coronavirus - Stay Safe On Board.** *Steamship Mutual*. 13 April 2020. Available from:

<https://vimeo.com/406183432>  General guidance video on how to prevent, manage and control Coronavirus on board ship.

**All at sea during COVID-19 lockdown? Try these sailor survival tips.** Simon Brandon. *World Economic Forum*. 14 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/sea-sailor-tips-on-surviving-coronavirus-covid19>  Lockdown will be a tough new reality for many of the nearly 3 billion people around the world who now find themselves confined to their homes.

**Safety of life at sea: Covid-19 and naval operations.** Sam Bateman. *Lowy Institute*. 20 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpretor/safety-life-sea-covid-19-and-naval-operations> The potential impact of Covid-19 on naval operations has been highlighted by reports that over half of the 2,000-plus sailors aboard the French carrier *Charles de Gaulle* have tested positive for COVID-19.

**Emergency medical evacuation finally granted for seafarer after Indonesian authorities reject multiple requests for help.** *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 21 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/emergency-medical-evacuation-finally-granted-seafarer-after-indonesian-authorities-reject> Indonesian authorities first rejected multiple requests for an emergency medical evacuation needed to save the life of a 45-year-old Russian seafarer on board the *WL Palekh* due to the country's Covid-19 restrictions.

**One crew member tests positive, 20 feverish on cruise ship in Japan.** *Japan Times*.

21 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/04/21/national/one-crew-member-tests-positive-20-feverish-cruise-ship-japan> A crew member aboard an Italian cruise ship currently undergoing repairs in southwestern Japan has tested positive for the new coronavirus, while about 20 others are believed to have developed a fever since last week, another member of the crew said Tuesday.

**Seafarers in a time of pandemic – strategies for maintaining and improving mental wellbeing.**

Kunal Pathak. *Gard*. 23 April 2020. Available from:

<http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29575007/seafarers-in-a-time-of-pandemic-strategies-for-maintaining-and-improving-mental-wellbeing> At times seafarers stay on board for their entire contract period with little to no possibility of shore leave.

**Virus found in 14 more crew on cruise ship docked in Nagasaki.** *Kyodo News (Japan)*.

23 April 2020. Available from: <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/04/9be6ca384f1e-virus-found-in-14-more-crew-on-cruise-ship-docked-in-nagasaki.html> An additional 14 crew members on an Italian cruise ship docked for repairs in southwestern Japan have tested positive for coronavirus, Nagasaki prefectural government said Thursday, taking the total to 48.

**Seafarers in England to get priority testing for Covid-19.** *Nautilus International*. 24 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/seafarers-in-england-to-get-priority-testing-for-covid-19/> Seafarers in England will get priority testing for Covid-19 under the National Testing Strategy announced by the Department for Health and Social Care.

**Pandemic at sea: Experts say cruise industry's decisions contributed to toll.** Rosalind S.

Helderman, Hannah Sampson, Dalton Bennett and Andrew Ba Tran. *Seattle Times (US)*.

25 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/pandemic-at-sea-experts-say-cruise-industrys-decisions-contributed-to-toll/> On land, more than 300,000 people worldwide had contracted the deadly coronavirus, and the governor of California had just ordered all 39 million residents to stay at home.

**What happened on board the last cruise ship still at sea.** Francesca Street. *CNN*. 25 April 2020.

Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/costa-deliziosa-last-cruise-ship-what-happened/index.html> 📰 In January 2020, the gigantic *Costa Deliziosa* cruise ship slipped its moorings in the Italian city of Venice and headed out into the Adriatic Sea on an around-the-world voyage.

**Respect seafarers' right to emergency medical treatment ashore.** *International Transport*

*Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/respect-seafarers-right-emergency-medical-treatment-ashore> The International Labour Organization (ILO) Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC) is clear – a seafarer, while working on board, has the right to adequate health protection and access to prompt and adequate medical care including essential dental care.

**Seafarers' right to emergency medical treatment ashore in the spotlight.** Sam Chambers.

*Splash 247.com*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/seafarers-right-to-emergency-medical-treatment-ashore-in-the-spotlight/> The Joint Negotiating Group (JNG) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) have urgently called on government to step up and respect seafarers' rights to medical care and treatment, pointing out that it is a fundamental human right that cannot be set aside because of the pandemic.

**COVID-19: What you need to know about the coronavirus pandemic on 28 April.** Linda Lacina. *World Economic Forum*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/covid-19-what-you-need-to-know-about-the-coronavirus-pandemic-on-28-april/> Confirmed cases of coronavirus have topped 3 million worldwide, according to the latest figures from Johns Hopkins University.

**Thome Group speaks to Human Rights at Sea about PPE for Seafarers.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/28/thome-group-speaks-to-human-rights-at-sea-about-ppe-for-seafarers/> Following the recent highlighting to Human Rights at Sea (HRAS) of concerns from seafarers about lack of access to, and availability of, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while serving on vessels transiting global shipping lanes, the charitable NGO has engaged with the maritime industry most recently speaking with the Thome Group about their actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The journey from health and Safety to healthy and safe.** Zofia Bajorek, Dan Lucy and Stephen Bevan. *Shell*. April 2020. Available from: <https://go.shell.com/2AtACyA> The wellbeing of seafarers has a direct impact on their work and safety performance and shapes their experience of life at sea.

## IMO

**IMO invites Member States to use industry recommendations to facilitate trade.** Lars Robert Pedersen. *BIMCO*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20200331-imo-invites-member-states> BIMCO, ICS and other industry partners have teamed up and presented the IMO with a list of recommendations for governments and relevant national authorities on the facilitation of maritime trade during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Green Groups Ask For Online IMO Meeting After MEPC Cancellation.** *Ship & Bunker*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/115623-green-groups-ask-for-online-imo-meeting-after-mepc-cancellation> Environmental groups have written an open letter to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) asking the UN body to continue with its meetings in a digital-only format to ensure the COVID-19 pandemic does not derail its decarbonisation targets.

**Does coronavirus threaten shipping's green push?** Adam Sharpe. *Lloyd's List*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131867/From-the-News-Desk-Does-coronavirus-threaten-shippings-green-push> With all meetings at the International Maritime Organization currently suspended, and the full effect of the coronavirus outbreak yet to be felt, doubts are already being raised over the timeline for shipping's decarbonisation efforts.

**The Tribunal Deeply Regrets to Announce the Death of Judge Thomas Mensah.** *International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)*. 9 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/press\\_releases\\_english/PR\\_302\\_en.pdf](https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/press_releases_english/PR_302_en.pdf) It is with profound regret that the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea announces the death of Judge and inaugural President of the Tribunal, Thomas A. Mensah (Ghana), in London this week.

**Judge Thomas A. Mensah dead.** *GhanaWeb*. 10 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Judge-Thomas-A-Mensah-dead-920242> His Excellency Judge Thomas A. Mensah, President of International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Former Assistant Secretary-General at the International Maritime Organization, and Ghana High Commissioner to South Africa has passed on April 7, 2020.

**His Excellency Judge Thomas A. Mensah 1932-2020.** *Seafarers' Rights International (SRI)*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <http://seafarersrights.org/his-excellency-judge-thomas-a-mensah-1932-2020/> It is with great sadness that we announce the death of His Excellency Judge Thomas A. Mensah on 7 April 2020.


**Q&A: IMO GHG 2023 decision will not be postponed.** Stefka Wechsler. *Argus Media*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2097035-qa-imo-ghg-2023-decision-will-not-be-postponed> Roel Hoenders, IMO's acting head of air pollution and energy efficiency, discusses proposed tightening of the EEDI regulations, how they impact newbuild vessels, as well as IMO's plans for open loop scrubbers.

**IMO Secretary General to consider How to Hold Digital – Only Meeting.** *Ship & Bunker*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/735528-imo-secretary-general-to-consider-how-to-hold-digital-only-meetings> An extraordinary session of the International Maritime Organization Council has asked the Secretary-General Kitack Lim to consider how the UN body's meetings can be held online while the COVID-19 pandemic prevents meeting in person.

**Release of Captain Michael Lloyd's Letter to the IMO concerning COVID-19 and Infected Crews.** Michael Lloyd. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/17/release-of-captain-michael-lloyds-letter-to-the-imo-concerning-covid-19-and-infected-crews/> Human Rights at Sea publishes the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 letter sent to the IMO by Captain Michael Lloyd, RD\*\*, MNM, CMMar, FNI, raising his concerns of the consequences and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on crews, including the treatment of those infected and the necessity for PPE to be placed onboard ships.

**Kitack Lim: Digital meetings not currently possible for IMO.** Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12086644.ece> Right now, it is not possible for the UN's maritime body to conduct its postponed meetings digitally, says Secretary General Kitack Lim in a letter to NGOs. He maintains climate strategy deadlines.

## **LAW & POLICY**

**Creating the transport decarbonisation plan.** *UK Government*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/creating-the-transport-decarbonisation-plan> Document stating the current challenges and steps to be taken when developing the transport decarbonisation plan. [Decarbonising Transport Setting the Challenge](#) 

**Why a landmark treaty to stop ocean biopiracy could stymie research.** Olive Heffernan. *Nature*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00912-w> In 1945, a young chemist called Werner Bergmann was diving off the Florida coast, scouring its waters for undiscovered marine life.

**In the coronavirus pandemic, cruise ships present a perfect storm of problems for governments.** Rebecca Turner. *ABC (Australia)*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-28/cruise-ships-present-a-perfect-coronavirus-storm-of-problems/12093768>  It's a dilemma faced by countries around the world: how to prevent foreign coronavirus patients stuck on cruise ships from overwhelming your health system while also finding a way of keeping your people safe from a virus which appears to thrive in the confined conditions of an ocean liner.

**Trump's Move to Suspend Enforcement of Environmental Laws is a Lifeline to the Oil**

**Industry.** Marianne Lavelle, Phil McKenna, David Hasemyer and Nicholas Kusnetz. *Inside Climate News*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/27032020/coronavirus-covid-19-EPA-API-environmental-enforcement> The American Petroleum Institute sought the EPA's help for companies hurt by COVID-19. One former EPA official called the suspension "an open license to pollute."

**Maritime sector Covid-19 restrictions under constant review as South Africa settles with 21 day lockdown.**

*South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/03/28/maritime-sector-covid-19-restrictions-under-constant-review-as-south-africa-settles-with-21-day-lockdown/> Certain tough restrictions imposed on every aspect of life in South Africa on the basis of the country's recent declaration of a state of National Disaster, as well as a three weeks population lockdown that began on midnight Thursday (March 26), as a response to the global outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, are constantly receiving review, according to the Department of Transport.

**Ship Suppliers Must be Classed as Essential Workers, says ISSA.** Yvonne Paul. *International Shippers & Services Association (ISSA)*. 30 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shipsupply.org/2020/uncategorised/ship-suppliers-must-be-classed-as-essential-workers-says-issa> Ship suppliers should be given 'essential worker' status to enable them to keep the world's ships stocked with vital supplies and spare parts during the global coronavirus pandemic, says the International Ship Suppliers & Services Association (ISSA).

**Pandemic in the Pacific: COVID-19 to Hit Pacific Economies Hard.** Joshua McDonald. *The Diplomat*. 30 March 2020. Available from:

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/pandemic-in-the-pacific-covid-19-to-hit-pacific-economies-hard/> Around the world, nations are scrambling to respond to the outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) or at best are preparing for the virus to arrive in their country.

**As United Nations Weighs High Seas Treaty, Study Shows Areas That Merit Protection Now.**

Liz Karan. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2020/03/31/as-united-nations-weighs-high-seas-treaty-study-shows-areas-that-merit-protection-now> The high seas are distant and vast, starting 200 nautical miles from the shoreline and making up nearly two-thirds of the ocean

**A Path to Creating the First Generation of High Seas Protected Areas.** *Pew Charitable Trusts*.

31 March 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2zU2zj1> Beyond the horizon, more than 200 nautical miles from shore, lies an area of the ocean known as the high seas.

**Explainer: what are Australia's obligations to cruise ships off its coast under international law?** Natalie Klein. *The Conversation*. 2 April 2020. Available from:

<https://theconversation.com/explainer-what-are-australias-obligations-to-cruise-ships-off-its-coast-under-international-law-135428> The spectre of large ships with people desperate to come ashore is not a new sight in Australia.

**ECSA: European Green Deal must take into account the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 2 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-european-green-deal-must-take-account-devastating-impact-covid-19-pandemic> Following the statement by the Executive Vice-President, Frans Timmermans, on the postponement of the COP26, the ECSA Board of Directors who met today took note of and fully supports the firm commitment of the European Commission towards the European Green Deal, but is also of the opinion that the first priority should be the rescue and full recovery of the EU shipping industry.

**‘Ocean super year’ in disarray due to coronavirus crisis.** *World Ocean Initiative (WOI)*.

2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.woi.economist.com/ocean-super-year-in-disarray-due-to-coronavirus-crisis/> The COP26 climate talks have become the latest UN event to be postponed due to the coronavirus crisis, putting progress towards international agreements on climate change and marine protection in peril.

**The Battle to Save Our Oceans from an Invisible Threat.** Michael Segalov. *Vice*. 2 April 2020.

Available from: [https://www.vice.com/en\\_uk/article/8847k3/greenpeace-south-pole-unregulated-fishing](https://www.vice.com/en_uk/article/8847k3/greenpeace-south-pole-unregulated-fishing) Crammed around a table in a makeshift maritime office, a team of ten investigators, campaigners and technicians are hunched over a small television screen.

**The Government of Canada announces new measures for ferries and commercial passenger vessels capable of carrying more than 12 passengers.** *Government of Canada*. 5 April 2020.

Available from: <https://bit.ly/2BqZObV> As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, Transport Canada is working with the Public Health Agency of Canada, other levels of government, transportation industry stakeholders, and Indigenous peoples to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

**Covid-19: US bans cruise ship passengers from commercial flights.** *Ship-technology.com*.

6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/news/covid-19-us-cruise-ship-passengers-commercial-flights/> The United States has implemented restrictions that will prohibit cruise ship passengers and crew from boarding commercial aircraft.

**Fact Finding 29 Supply Chain Innovation Teams to Begin Work.** *US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)* 6 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.fmc.gov/fact-finding-29-teams-to-begin-work/> Supply Chain Innovation Teams convened by Commissioner Rebecca Dye as part of Fact Finding 29 (International Ocean Transportation Supply Chain Engagement) will begin work this week to identify what actions can provide immediate relief to the most pressing challenges the American freight delivery system faces from COVID-19 related disruptions.

**Industry members flock to maritime agency’s supply chain innovation teams.** Chris Gillis.

*Freight Waves*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/industry-members-flock-to-maritime-agencys-supply-chain-innovation-teams> The U.S. Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) said there has been no shortage of container-shipping industry members willing to participate in its initiative to identify ways to overcome supply chain obstacles caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

**Transport Malta: Support measures to the Maltese shipping industry during the COVID-19 pandemic.** *Malta Winds*. 7 April 2020.

Available from: <http://maltawinds.com/2020/04/07/transport-malta-support-measures-to-the-maltese-shipping-industry-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/> A notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters, Owners’ Representatives and Recognised Organisations published by the Transport Directorate states that further to the measures implemented by the Directorate to continue to provide an uninterrupted service to the Maltese shipping community under the current exceptional circumstances, the Directorate wishes to inform all concerned of supporting measures that have been implemented as from 1 April 2020.

**Mutual Benefits Through The Cooperation Between CLIA And The Greek Government.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 7 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/mutual-benefits-through-the-cooperation-between-clia-and-the-greek-government/> The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented global situation that has required an extraordinary response, and the cruise industry has placed public health at the heart of its response.



**Japan exempts maritime businesses from state of emergency clampdown.** Adam Corbett and Irene Ang. *TradeWinds*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/japan-exempts-maritime-businesses-from-state-of-emergency-clampdown/2-1-789585> Maritime transportation to Japan will be allowed to continue as usual following the Japanese government's announcement of a state of emergency to counter the spread of Covid-19.

**The blue economy – riding a wave of optimism?** Maram Ahmed. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.thenational.ae/business/comment/the-blue-economy-riding-a-wave-of-optimism-1.1002524> Coastal tourism and maritime transport have important roles to play in the diversification efforts of regional economies.

**Uruguay approves flight to evacuate Aussies, Kiwis from infected ship.** *France 24*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/20200407-uruguay-approves-flight-to-evacuate-aussies-kiwis-from-infected-ship> Uruguay said it has authorized a humanitarian flight to evacuate Australian and New Zealand passengers stranded on a coronavirus infected cruise ship.

**Philippines expresses 'deep concern' after China-Vietnam incident in South China Sea.** Chris Humphrey and Bac Pham. *South China Morning Post*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/3079039/philippines-expresses-concern-after-china-vietnam-incident-south> The Philippines on Wednesday expressed "deep concern" over the April 3 collision between a Chinese coast guard vessel and a Vietnamese fishing boat in the South China Sea, citing its own experience last year as a sign of "how much trust in a friendship is lost" following such incidents.

**CDC Announces Modifications and Extension of No Sail Order for All Cruise Ships.** *US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0409-modifications-extension-no-sail-ships.html> The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced today the extension of a No Sail Order for all cruise ships.

**In Eastern Mediterranean, resolving maritime boundary disputes becomes key.** Jonathan Roberts and John B. Craig. *The Hill (US)*. 11 April 2020. Available from: <https://thehill.com/opinion/international/492341-as-eyes-turn-to-the-eastern-mediterranean-resolving-maritime-boundary> The Eastern Mediterranean currently sits atop a veritable sea of potential.

**SAMSA vows tough action against human abuse on board ships in SA waters.** *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/04/13/samsa-vows-for-tough-action-against-human-abuse-on-board-ships/> The South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) has vowed to take all possible steps necessary to prevent people abuse on board ships sailing on South Africa's oceans, inclusive of taking such harsh punitive measures as necessary, as provided for in law, against established violations.

**Modern cargo fleet in Caspian regions and its prospects.** Alexander Egorov. *Port News*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://en.portnews.ru/comments/2817/> The Strategy for the development of Russian seaports in the Caspian Basin as well as road and railway approaches to them till 2030 can be cited - the dynamics of cargo turnover in the ports of the region depends on economic processes in other Caspian countries, including Iran, as well as Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.

**Brexit: how the UK is preparing to secure its seas outside the EU.** Scott Edwards and Timothy Edmunds. *The Conversation*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/brexit-how-the-uk-is-preparing-to-secure-its-seas-outside-the-eu-133548> 📄 Four dinghies carrying 53 migrants who tried to cross the English Channel from France were intercepted by British and French authorities in early April.

**Old maritime rules pose obstacles to lawsuits from *Princess Cruise* passengers.** Doha Madani. *NBC News (US)*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/old-maritime-rules-pose-obstacles-lawsuits-princess-cruise-passengers-n1185791> 📄 When Susan Dorety's husband, Michael, began developing coronavirus symptoms on the *Grand Princess* cruise ship in February, she immediately called the vessel's emergency number, but it took multiple calls until a doctor finally came to see him, according to a federal lawsuit seeking more than \$1 million.

**The Ocean Genome: Conservation and the fair, equitable and sustainable use of marine genetic resources.** *High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (HLP)*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://oceanpanel.org/blue-papers/ocean-genome-conservation-and-fair-equitable-and-sustainable-use-marine-genetic> This paper considers the existing and potential benefits associated with the ocean genome, the threats it is facing, and the crucial importance of conservation to maintain the ocean's genetic diversity. [Report](#) 📄 [Summary of Decisions](#) 📄

**NKorea flouts sanctions through China shipping: UN report.** *France 24*. 18 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/20200417-nkorea-flouts-sanctions-through-china-shipping-un-report> North Korea sharply stepped up trade in coal and oil products last year in defiance of UN sanctions through the apparent help of China's shipping industry, a UN panel said Friday.

**China to take all necessary measures to safeguard sovereignty, rights in South China Sea.** *Xinhuanet (China)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-04/21/c\\_138996363.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-04/21/c_138996363.htm) China will take all necessary measures to safeguard its sovereignty, rights and interests in the South China Sea, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said.

**Vietnam closely monitoring 'complex' East Sea developments.** Anh Ngoc. *VN Express International (Vietnam)*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/vietnam-closely-monitoring-complex-east-sea-developments-4088227.html> Vietnam is closely monitoring the situation following 'complex developments' in sea areas of several ASEAN countries, the Foreign Affairs Ministry said Tuesday.

**South China Sea tensions rise as Australian frigate exercises with US warships.** Andrew Greene. *ABC (Australia)*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-22/tensions-rise-in-south-china-sea-after-us-australia-exercises/12171806> Military tensions are re-emerging in the South China Sea, where Australian warship HMAS Parramatta has recently conducted exercises with the US Navy.

**Potential Perils of a Modern-Day Silk Road.** Kimberly Riskas. *Hakai Magazine*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hakaimagazine.com/news/potential-perils-of-a-modern-day-silk-road/> Construction is underway on China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a global infrastructure project hailed as a modern-day Silk Road.

**High-seas energy fight off Malaysia draws US, Chinese warships.** *Straits Times*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/high-seas-energy-fight-off-malaysia-draws-us-chinese-warships> Malaysia's push to explore energy blocks off its coast has turned into a five-nation face off involving US and Chinese warships, raising the risk of a direct confrontation as broader tensions grow between the world's biggest economies.

**Norway presents revised marine management plans.** *Government of Norway.* 24 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/aktuelt/norway-presents-revised-marine-management-plans/id2699315/> Today, the Government presented its revised management plans for Norway's sea areas – the Barents Sea–Lofoten area, the Norwegian Sea and the North Sea and Skagerrak.

**Post COVID-19: Don seeks committee on deep blue economy project.** Godwin Oritse.

*Vanguard (Nigeria).* 29 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/post-covid-19-don-seeks-committee-on-deep-blue-economy-project/> A university lecturer, Professor Bamidele Badejo, has called on the Federal Government to consider setting up a committee on Deep Blue Economy to assist Nigeria in getting out of the woods after the Coronavirus, COVID-19, pandemic.

**MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE: A Strategic Approach and Interagency Leadership Could Improve Federal Efforts in the U.S. Arctic.** *US Government Accountability Office (GAO).*

29 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-20-460> Climate change has led to record low levels of ice in the U.S. Arctic—prolonging the shipping season and opening up shipping routes. [Full Report](#)

**Trump Administration to Consult on Protecting Endangered Whales in California Shipping Lanes.** *Center for Biological Diversity.* 29 April 2020. Available from:

<https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/trump-administration-consult-protecting-endangered-whales-california-shipping-lanes-2020-04-29/> The Trump administration has agreed to examine ways to better protect endangered whales and sea turtles from being struck by ships using California ports.

## MARINE TECHNOLOGY

**Agents must digitalise, warns leading academic.** Paul Gunton. *ShipInsight.* 27 March 2020.

Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/agents-must-digitalise-warns-leading-academic> Ship agents will have to embrace digitalisation if they are to retain business for the long term, believes Mikael Lind, associate professor and senior strategic research advisor at Research Institutes of Sweden (RISE) and researcher in maritime informatics at Chalmers University of Technology.

**Number of Ships to be Equipped with Scrubbers Hits 4,000: DNV GL.** *Ship & Bunker.*

30 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/814936-number-of-ships-to-be-equipped-with-scrubbers-hits-4000-dnv-gl> The HSFO / VLSFO spread may have narrowed significantly following the recent collapse in oil prices, but orders for SOx scrubbers have continued to roll in.

**Strategic maritime technology industry in urgent need for specific EU measures.** *Sea Europe.*

1 April 2020. Available from: [http://www.seaeurope.eu/ClientData/181/658/444103/3665/4/COVID\\_19\\_Declaration\\_SEA%20Europe\\_Final%20version.pdf](http://www.seaeurope.eu/ClientData/181/658/444103/3665/4/COVID_19_Declaration_SEA%20Europe_Final%20version.pdf) "If the EU fails to adopt tailor-made sectoral policies and financial support beyond its horizontal industrial policies, Europe risks to lose its strategic maritime technology sector to Asia, whilst European shipyards and maritime equipment manufacturers are key for the European Green Deal, for Europe's Blue Economy and mobility, for Europe's defence, security and autonomy and for Europe's access to seas and trade of goods and passengers", says Kjersti Kleven, SEA Europe's chairwoman.

**Digitization in Shipping Will Speed Up Thanks to COVID-19.** Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/digitization-in-shipping-will-speed-up-thanks-to-covid-19/> With much of the supply chain disturbed and businesses around the world being forced to implement remote work routines, digitalization and its benefits are becoming more and more apparent.

**High-Tech Ghost Ships Will Set Sail sans Sailors.** Sophie Bushwick and Eric Tegler. *Scientific American*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/high-tech-ghost-ships-will-set-sail-sans-sailors/> Ships without sailors could keep humans out of harm's way, and that possibility is not their only potential benefit.

**Liberia Conducts First Ever Remote Flag Inspection.** *Liberian Registry*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.lisr.com/blog/liberia-conducts-first-ever-remote-flag-inspection> The Liberian Registry continues to adjust to the disruptions caused by COVID-19 by leveraging its use of technology and modern communication.

**DNV GL: Remote services to increase in importance post COVID-19.** Gabriella Twining. *Safety at Sea*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/dnv-gl-remote-services-to-increase-in-importance-post-covid-19/> Further digitalisation and the use of remote services will be relied on more, even after the outbreak of COVID-19 declines, according to industry figures at a DNV GL webinar on 2 April.

**MASS concept: A first step toward autonomous operations in shipping.** *Safety4Sea*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-mass-concept-a-first-step-toward-autonomous-operations-in-shipping/> The smart era has already been useful for the sector, while the advancement in the maritime industry has called for the development of autonomous ships, presenting the motion of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS).

**ABS Publishes Guidance on the Application of Autonomous Functions.** *American Bureau of Shipping*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://ww2.eagle.org/en/news/press-room/abs-publishes-guidance-on-the-application-of-autonomous-functions.html> ABS has published industry-leading guidance on the journey to autonomy, including a goal-based framework for autonomous requirements.

**ABS is First in Industry to Accept 3D Models for Class Surveys.** *ABS (American Bureau of Shipping)* 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://ww2.eagle.org/en/news/press-room/abs-is-first-in-industry-to-accept-3d-models-for-class-surveys.html> In an industry first, ABS has completed a successful pilot project that used 3D digital models for class surveys.

**Priorities and technologies for indicative ballast water monitoring in Great Lakes.** *Phys.org*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2020-04-priorities-technologies-indicative-ballast-great.html> Ballast water of commercial ships is the leading source for aquatic invasive species into the Great Lakes.

**Fujitsu Verifies AI Technology to Predict Vessel Collision Risks in Marine Traffic Control, Improves Maritime Safety.** *Fujitsu Limited*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.fujitsu.com/global/about/resources/news/press-releases/2020/0415-01.html> Fujitsu Limited today announced the results of a joint field trial with the Japan Coast Guard to predict vessel collisions with AI technology, demonstrating its usefulness in detecting collision risks early and minimizing the danger of such accidents.

**Harnessing micro electronics for autonomous shipping.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2XqwOHO> Nanotechnology is enabling new applications and operations in maritime, particularly in improving marine navigation systems, and developing autonomous vessels and underwater vehicles.

**To our supporters: Ocean Viking docked in Marseille – teams remain fully mobilized.** SOS *Mediterranee*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://sosmediterranee.com/to-our-supporters-ocean-viking-docked-in-marseille-teams-remain-fully-mobilized/> As the Corona virus continues to spread worldwide, we hope that you and your loved ones are well.

**Ballast water technology adapted to kill coronavirus on surfaces.** *Ship Management International*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <http://shipmanagementinternational.com/ballast-water-technology-adapted-to-kill-coronavirus-on-surfaces/> A company which produces a ballast water treatment system (BWTS) says it will have a surface disinfection system that kills coronavirus ready by the end of May.

**Maritime technology initiatives supporting the industry Covid-19 response.** *Caribbean Shipping Association*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.caribbeanshipping.org/index.php/news/289-maritime-technology-initiatives-supporting-the-industry-covid-19-response> CSA President, Juan Carlos Croston, has shared this invaluable resource from Nick Chubb and Thetius which compiles a list of technology-based resources to assist companies with maritime-related issues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**North America's blooming ocean-tech innovation ecosystem.** David Hume. *World Ocean Initiative (WOI)*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.woi.economist.com/north-americas-blooming-ocean-tech-innovation-ecosystem/> North America's blooming ocean-tech innovation ecosystem.

**Report highlights critical role of maritime IoT partnerships in Japan.** *Inmarsat*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.inmarsat.com/news/report-highlights-critical-role-of-maritime-iot-partnerships-in-japan/> A new study explores the commitments to Internet of Things (IoT) based ship and crew management made by corporate Japan and offers unique insights into the country's emerging start-up culture.

**Race is on for US\$1.5Bn autonomous vessel sector leadership.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3gW5Mj5> Sea trials are underway testing technology to navigate an autonomous vessel across the Atlantic Ocean, as analysts predict this will be a US\$1.5Bn market in the future.

**USCG: Oil Spill Containment System Proven Successful.** *Maritime Executive*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/uscg-oil-spill-containment-system-proven-successful> 📰 A new sub-surface oil containment and recovery system, installed in April 2019 over a damaged oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico, is successfully preventing more than 1,000 gallons of oil per day from entering the environment.

**F-drones completes first commercial BVLOS drone delivery in Singapore.** Grant Rowles. *Splash 247.com*. 29 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/f-drones-completes-first-commercial-bvlos-drone-delivery-in-singapore/> 📰 Singapore-based startup F-drones has claimed the city state's first commercial beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) drone delivery.

**Shipping adapts to coronavirus restrictions.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 29 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/shipping-adapts-to-coronavirusnbsprestrictionsnbsp-59160> This year's outbreak of Covid-19 coronavirus is accelerating adoption of remote working, e-learning, remote inspection and advanced digitalisation.

## MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

**Canadian Research Position Focuses on Marine Passenger Transportation.** Harry Vallentine. *Maritime Executive*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/canadian-research-position-focuses-on-marine-passenger-transportation>

The Canadian Ferry Association is investing close to CAN\$700,000 to establish an Industrial Research Chair in marine passenger transportation technologies, at Memorial University located at St John's in Newfoundland, Canada.

**Kongsberg Maritime offer remote training, e-learning and assessment, with vessel-specific software.** *Kongsberg*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.kongsberg.com/news-and-media/news-archive/20202/kongsberg-maritime-offer-remote-training/> Kongsberg Maritime is delighted to announce an integrated strategy to deliver remote, targeted training for its customers.

**Concordia Damen nominated to build new, sustainable training vessel for STC Group.**

*Damen Shipyards Group*. 3 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.damen.com/en/news/2020/04/concordia\\_damen\\_nominated\\_to\\_build\\_new\\_sustainable\\_training\\_vessel\\_for\\_stc\\_group](https://www.damen.com/en/news/2020/04/concordia_damen_nominated_to_build_new_sustainable_training_vessel_for_stc_group) Following a competitive European tender process, Concordia Damen has been nominated to build a new training vessel for the STC Group.

**An NYK First: Internally Trained Seafarer Promoted to Captain.** *Maritime Logistics Professional*. 10 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/first-internally-trained-seafarer-promoted-357448> In its storied 135-year history of NYK, Akihiro Mori now holds a distinguished place in the company, as effective April 1, 2020, Mori becomes the first internally trained seafarer promoted to captain.

**Talking Point: Mentoring in Maritime.** Dr Kate Pike. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2020/talking-point-mentoring-in-maritime> In the second piece of the series, we hear from Dr Kate Pike, Associate Professor Emeritus at Solent University, Southampton and Director of Field-Research, who looks at the benefits of mentoring for seafarers and how to implement a successful mentoring initiative.

## MARITIME SECURITY

**BMP West Africa: Best Management Practice to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Security off the Coast of West Africa including the Gulf of Guinea.** *International Chamber of Shipping*. March 2020. Available from: <http://www.ics-shipping.org/docs/default-source/resources/bmp-west-africa.pdf> The maritime security situation off the West Coast of Africa is complex and dynamic.

**EU to launch new Libya sea patrols from April: diplomats.** Robin Emmott and Francesco Guarascio. *Reuters*. 26 March 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2zSxz3c> The European Union will launch a new Mediterranean naval and air mission in April to stop more arms reaching warring factions in Libya, EU diplomats said on Thursday, with Greece agreeing to take in any migrants rescued at sea.

**Commentary: A cat-and-mouse game between pirates and Southeast Asian maritime security authorities.** Eric Frécon. *Channel News Asia*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/commentary/piracy-sea-robberies-malacca-singapore-straits-indonesia-12582170> The same can be said for Southeast Asian pirates and sea robbers, long neglected after the academic and diplomatic world chose to refocus on illegal fishing in the South China Sea in recent years given rising tensions in those disputed waters.

**GTDeploy Cuts Delays in Pushing Out Urgent Security Patches.** *Ocean News*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.oceannews.com/news/science-technology/gtdeploy-cuts-delays-in-pushing-out-urgent-security-patches> A new solution from GTMaritime counters a major cyber security weakness of ships at sea today by deploying critical software and security patches to protect shipboard systems before threats emerge.

**Iranian forces surround US containership in Strait of Hormuz.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/iranian-forces-surround-us-containership-in-strait-of-hormuz/2-1-786679> A US-flagged boxship has reported being surrounded by heavily armed Iranian patrol boats on Thursday in the Strait of Hormuz.

**Why Has Armed Robbery Declined off Venezuela?** Lydelle Joubert. *Maritime Executive*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/why-has-armed-robbery-declined-off-venezuela> Venezuela has the largest known oil reserves in the world, with 302 billion barrels of proven reserves reported in 2018.

**Cyber security amid a global pandemic.** *Gard*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29480434/cyber-security-amid-a-global-pandemic> To cope with operational issues such as denied physical access, quarantined vessels and travel restrictions, shipowners are now actively opening for remote access and implementing remote digital survey tools towards vessels and encouraging shore staff to work remotely from home.

**MSC battles to keep freight moving as network outage stretches into fourth day.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/msc-battles-to-keep-freight-moving-as-network-outage-stretches-into-fourth-day/> As Monday's Daily Splash newsletter readied to publish (free sign up via this link) the website of the world's second largest containerline, Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), remains down, due to 'Extended Maintenance'.

**Report: Hong Kong-Flagged Product Tanker Diverted to Iranian Waters.** *Maritime Executive*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/report-hong-kong-flagged-product-tanker-diverted-to-iranian-waters> Maritime security consultancy Dryad Global reported Monday that a product tanker may have been boarded at an anchorage in the Gulf of Oman and taken into Iranian waters.

**Maritime security: NIMASA, Navy to improve information sharing.** *Vanguard (Nigeria)*. 19 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/maritime-security-nimasa-navy-to-improve-information-sharing/> Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency and the Nigeria Navy have made arrangements to improve information sharing through their respective security platforms to enhance maritime security in the country.

**ISM Code as the key driver in addressing cyber risk.** *Safety4Sea*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-ism-code-as-the-key-driver-in-addressing-cyber-risk/> The regulatory framework of the shipping industry is improving so that all challenges arising can be either prevented or dealt with.

**Poor cyber security could lose business for maritime suppliers.** Tanya Blake. *Safety at Sea*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/poor-cyber-security-could-lose-business-for-maritime-suppliers/> Maritime organisations would stop doing business with a third-party supplier due to a lack of cyber-security protections, according to an industry survey.

**The Worst Threat to Philippine Maritime Security.** Ellaine Joy Sanidad. *The Diplomat*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/the-worst-threat-to-philippine-maritime-security/> On September 6, 2011, then-President Benigno Aquino III signed Executive Order No. 57 establishing a new government organization that would address the country's urgent need for a coherent whole-of-government approach to maritime law enforcement (MLE) and governance.

**Marlink Unveils IT Networks Monitoring Tool.** *MarineLink*. 29 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/marlink-unveils-networks-monitoring-tool-478056> Entry-level version of ITLINK management and monitoring software suite simplifies regulatory compliance for vessel and shore teams.

## **MIGRANTS**

**Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 14,854 in 2020; Deaths Reach 219.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 20 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-reach-14854-2020-deaths-reach-219> The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports that 14,854 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through mid-March 2020.

**Dozens of Migrants Died in Shipping Container in Mozambique.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 24 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/dozens-migrants-died-shipping-container-mozambique> The bodies of 64 men were discovered asphyxiated in a sealed shipping container on the back of a truck at a checkpoint in Tete, Mozambique on Tuesday morning.



**'Migrants never disappeared': the lone rescue ship braving a pandemic.** Lorenzo Tondo. *The Guardian*. 4 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/30bAHC3> As the coronavirus crisis deepens, the plight of people crossing the Mediterranean to escape conflict has been all but forgotten.

**150 migrants rescued in Mediterranean by Alan Kurdi.** *InfoMigrants*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/23916/150-migrants-rescued-in-mediterranean-by-alan-kurdi> NGO ship *Alan Kurdi* has rescued 150 migrants from two boats off the coast of Libya.

**Italy closes ports to migrant ships because of coronavirus.** Wladimiro Pantaleon and Crispian Balmer. *Reuters*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2A0ZfCL> Italian ports cannot be considered safe because of the coronavirus epidemic and will not let charity migrant boats dock, the government has ruled.

**Malta says it will not accept any more migrants, because of COVID-19.** *Times of Malta*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/malta-says-it-cannot-guarantee-migrant-rescues.784571> Malta is not in a position to guarantee the rescue of migrants and will not allow any further disembarkation of rescued persons, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the government said on Thursday.

**UNHCR alarm over dozens of missing migrants in Mediterranean.** *EurActiv*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/global-europe/news/unhcr-alarm-over-dozens-of-missing-migrants-in-mediterranean/> The UN refugee agency expressed alarm Sunday (12 April) about the fate of dozens of migrants whose rubber dinghies appear to have capsized after setting sail from Libya for Italy.

**Illicit Maritime Migration Efforts in the Caribbean.** *US Embassy in Haiti*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://ht.usembassy.gov/illicit-maritime-migration-efforts-in-the-caribbean/> The Turks and Caicos Islands Government and in particular, the Ministry of Immigration, Citizenship, Labour and Employment and Employment Services and the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force, join with the United States Coast Guard, to express serious concerns surrounding ongoing illicit maritime migration efforts and strongly warn against such dangerous travel.

**Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 16,724 in 2020; Deaths Reach 256.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/mediterranean-migrant-arrivals-reach-16724-2020-deaths-reach-256> IOM reports that 16,724 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through almost four months of 2020, a 16 per cent increase from the 14,381 arriving during the same period last year.

**Commission, experts call for code of conduct on migrant sea rescues.** Alexandra Brzozowski. *EurActiv*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/global-europe/news/commission-experts-call-for-code-of-conduct-on-migrant-sea-rescues/> The EU should stop channelling funds to Libya to manage migration and train its coastguard as it is not a "safe country" for disembarkation of people rescued at sea, MEPs in the European Parliament's LIBE Committee heard on Monday (27 April).

**How COVID-19 halted NGO migrant rescues in the Mediterranean.** Eric Reidy. *New Humanitarian*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/04/28/EU-migrants-Libya-Mediterranean-NGO-rescues-coronavirus> Social distancing measures and travel restrictions are intended to slow the spread of COVID-19 and save lives.

## NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

**Whales face more fatal ship collisions as waters warm.** Patrick Whittle. *ABC News (US)*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/whales-face-fatal-ship-collisions-waters-warm-69854473> Climate change is imperilling the world's largest animals by increasing the likelihood of fatal collisions between whales and big ships that ply the same waters.

**Cruise company still searching for port for virus ship.** *France 24*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/20200329-cruise-company-still-searching-for-port-for-virus-ship> Passengers on a virus-stricken cruise liner stranded off Panama in Central America were told Sunday the company was still searching for a port which will allow them to disembark, even as they pleaded for help.

**Slow down for right whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada.** *Gard*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/29441513/slow-down-for-right-whales-in-the-gulf-of-st-lawrence-canada> Canada further strengthens its vessel speed restriction scheme in the Gulf of St. Lawrence to help prevent collisions between endangered North Atlantic right whales and ships during the 2020 whale season.

**Marine Professional Special Report: Connectivity & Satcomms.** *Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/item/5518-marine-professional-special-report-connectivity-and-satcomms> Every three or sometimes four years, representatives from around 190 countries get together to undertake the thankless task of reviewing and revising the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits.

**NOAA teams with pioneering explorer to understand and map the deepest parts of the ocean.** *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/noaa-teams-with-pioneering-explorer-to-understand-and-map-deepest-parts-of-ocean> NOAA intends to collaborate with a private company led by Victor Vescovo, the first person to reach the deepest point in all five of the world's named oceans, in an effort to explore, characterize, and map unknown areas of the deep ocean.

**Seal the deal: amorous mammals forced to contend with cruise ships.** Nicola Davis. *The Guardian*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/08/seal-the-deal-amorous-mammals-forced-to-contend-with-cruise-ships> Cruise ships are drowning out the roars of seals that are important for bagging a mate, researchers have found in the latest study to reveal the consequences of human activity on wildlife.

**From Iceland to Scotland in 207 days.** *Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://pame.is/shortcode/blog/item/75-from-iceland-to-scotland-in-207-days> PAME's Plastic in a Bottle capsule travelled around 7.000 kilometres in 207 days before washing on shore in the Isle of Tiree, Scotland today 6 April 2020.

**We can see you: introducing Dark Vessel Detection.** Ross Davies. *Ship-technology.com*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/dark-vessel-detection/> Finnish start-up ICEYE recently launched Dark Vessel Detection, a new global solution which promises to help governments spot ships engaging in illegal activities in their waters.

**Autonomous navigation technology tested.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/autonomous-navigation-technologynbspstestednbsp-58904> As part of e-navigation testing, Wärtsilä Corp collaborated with Hamburg Vessel Co-ordination Centre (HVCC) and Carnival Maritime to test a just-in-time (JIT) arrival concept.

**50 tankers upgraded to join e-navigation project.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/50-tankers-upgraded-to-join-e-navigation-project-58955> These tankers will take part in the STM BALT Safe project for exchanging route information between ships and ports.

**Iranian vessels come dangerously close to American military ships: U.S. military.** Idrees Ali. *Reuters*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2ZYJAi0> 🇺🇸 Eleven vessels from Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGCN) came dangerously close to U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships in the Gulf, the U.S. military said on Wednesday, calling the moves "dangerous and provocative."

**COLREGS: Still fit for purpose?** Harry Hirst. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/colregs-still-fit-for-purpose/> There has been much debate about the COLREGS over the last 12 months or so, with many suggesting that it is now time for not just some amendments but a total revision of the Rules.

**Russia details plans for satellite monitoring of the NSR.** Vladislav Vorotnikov. *Safety at Sea*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/russia-details-plans-for-satellite-monitoring-of-the-nsr/> Russian federal space agency Roscosmos will deploy a network of satellites to improve satellite link communication and remote sensing in the Arctic along the Northern Sea Route (NSR) by December 2025.

**Space agency looks to tighten ship tracking and navigation security.** Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/space-agency-looks-to-tighten-ship-tracking-and-navigation-security-59077> ESA has contracted Switzerland-headquartered cyber security company CYSEC SA to investigate ways to protect its satellite services to maritime for ship positioning and tracking.

## PORT STATE CONTROL

**Crew change for cargo ships under special circumstances in the port of Singapore, to minimise risk of community spread of (COVID-19) in Singapore.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notice/detail/e5d02eff-9b9e-4eac-becb-b20c2a5b7e6c> The Port of Singapore remains open for cargo operations and marine services, including bunkering, ship supplies and shipyard repairs in order to maintain commerce by sea and not disrupt global supply chains.

**Survey and Inspection information update.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/survey-and-inspection-information-update> At least 13 crew members who were displaying respiratory symptoms consistent with pneumonia and bronchitis have been evacuated from two cruise ships near Florida, according to Miami-Dade County government. [Guidance - MIN 612 \(M+F\) Amend 1 Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - MCA approach to survey and certification of UK vessels](#) 🇺🇸


**Statement Regarding *Zaandam*.** *Holland America Line*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hollandamerica.com/blog/ships/ms-zaandam/statement-regarding-zaandam/> We are aware of reported permission for both *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* to transit the Panama Canal in the near future.

**Panama Canal Backs Efforts to Expedite Return Home of the Passengers and Crew on Holland America's *Zaandam*.** *Panama Canal Authority*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2020/03/28/pr688.html> The Panama Canal is preparing to facilitate the transit of the *Zaandam* through the waterway, after receiving authorization from Panama's Ministry of Health.

**COVID-19: NIMASA bans international vessels without thermal screening facilities.** *Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://nimasa.gov.ng/covid-19-nimasa-bans-international-vessels-without-thermal-screening-facilities/> The Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA Dr. Bashir Jamoh has announced that following the current outbreak of COVID-19 and the need to mitigate the spread especially through shipping activities, the Agency has developed Guidance to support all types of ships that operate in the Nigerian maritime domain and banned all vessels without thermal screening facilities from operating in Nigerian waters.

**Panama Canal Facilitates Transit of Holland America's *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* for Humanitarian Reasons.** *Panama Canal Authority*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2020/03/30/pr689.html> The Panama Canal facilitated this Sunday the transit of Holland America's *MS Zaandam* and *MS Rotterdam* cruise ships, under extraordinary conditions and for humanitarian reasons.

***Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* Approved to Disembark Guests at Port Everglades.** Lauren M. *Holland America Line*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hollandamerica.com/blog/ships/ms-rotterdam/zaandam-and-rotterdam-approved-to-disembark-guests-at-port-everglades/> Holland America Line is pleased to confirm that Broward County and the Unified Command cleared both *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* for arrival to Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to disembark guests who are fit to travel per guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**2019 Port State Control Annual Report Posted.** Kurt Fredrickson. *US Coast Guard Maritime Commons*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2020/04/02/2019-port-state-control-annual-report-posted/> This marks another year of PSC activities with our annual report aimed at providing the global maritime industry key statistics and compliance trends in relation to compliance with U.S. and international regulations, such as the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code. [Port State Control in the United States Annual Report 2019](#) 

**Coronavirus-hit cruise ships dock in Florida as yet more wait at sea.** Erin McCormic and Patrick Greenfield. *The Guardian*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/03/coronavirus-stricken-cruise-ships-dock-florida-zaandam-rotterdam-fort-lauderdale-more-ships-wait-at-sea> *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* finally reach port and sick passengers taken off by medical teams but authorities braced for more vessels.

**Ruby Princess coronavirus deaths to be subject of criminal investigation by NSW Police homicide squad.** Kevin Nguyen and Sarah Thomas. *ABC (Australia)*. 5 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-05/ruby-princess-cruise-coronavirus-deaths-investigated-nsw-police/12123212> Police have launched a criminal investigation into whether the operator of the *Ruby Princess* downplayed potential coronavirus cases before thousands of passengers disembarked in Sydney last month.

**More than 750,000 tonnes of shipping have been moved in the operation.** *ABC (Australia)*. 5 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-04/nsw-police-helping-cruise-ships-restock-and-refuel/12122120> Royal Caribbean Cruise Line have been cooperating with NSW Police to prepare cruise ships to leave for their home ports.

**Coral Princess docks in Miami with 2 dead and several ill of coronavirus, after ports shunned it for days.** Jason Hanna and Melissa Alonso. *CNN*. 5 April 2020. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/04/04/us/coral-princess-cruise-ship-docks-miami-coronavirus/index.html> The *Coral Princess* cruise ship docked Saturday at Florida's Port Miami with two guests dead and several others ill from Covid-19, officials said, after a weeks-long search for a port that would let its passengers disembark.

**United Arab Emirates relaxes conditions for crew changes.** Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/united-arab-emirates-relaxes-conditions-for-crew-changes/2-1-788369> The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the latest country to relax regulations on the changing of ships' crews.

**Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during March 2020.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-march-2020> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that five foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during March 2020 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

**Time for a rethink on what a quality flag really is....** *Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA)*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.bahamasmaritime.com/latest-news/time-for-a-rethink-on-what-a-quality-flag-really-is/> For those wondering what a quality flag represents, they need look no further than The Bahamas.

**Cruise ships are still scrambling for safe harbor.** Francesca Street. *CNN*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/cruise-ships-still-sailing/index.html> More than a dozen cruise ships remain stranded at sea right now—some with and some without passengers—as ports deny entry and passengers panic about returning home.

**Cruise shipping and coronavirus: Governments walking a tightrope.** Stuart Hetherington. *DCN - Daily Cargo News (Australia)*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.thedcn.com.au/cruise-shipping-and-coronavirus/> Cruise ships have struggled to disembark passengers and crew when they have not been permitted to call at certain ports.

**Bermudian-registered ship in NSW inquiry.** Catherine Zuill. *Royal Gazette (Bermuda)*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <http://www.royalgazette.com/news/article/20200407/bermudian-registered-ship-in-nsw-inquiry> A Bermudian-registered cruise ship is under police investigation in Australia after passengers — many later found to have been infected with Covid-19 — were allowed to disembark without being questioned about their health.

**Liberia and China among the big flags to lose US Qualship 21 quality stamp.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/liberia-and-china-among-the-big-flags-to-lose-us-qualship-21-quality-stamp/2-1-789757> Four ship registers have fallen out of the United States Coastguard Qualship 21 programme which recognises the top performing flag states based on port state control performance over a rolling three year period.

**Europe braces for cruise ship arrivals.** Sam Morgan. *EurActiv*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/news/europe-braces-for-cruise-ship-arrivals/> The European Commission issued more practical coronavirus advice on Wednesday (8 April), urging national governments to set up special ports that can process seafarers and up to 8,000 cruise ship passengers, due to disembark in Europe this week.

**Cyprus is no longer part of the Targeted Flag List of the United States Coastguard (USCG).** *Maritime Cyprus*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.dms.gov.cy/dms/shipping.nsf/All/1838C4433BC3EBE6C22585440032D69B> The Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry is proud to announce that, based on the outcome of the US Government's 2019 Annual Report on Port State Control, Cyprus is no longer part of the Targeted Flag List of the United States Coastguard (USCG) in relation to the safety performance of flag administrations.

**European Commission attempts to designate ports where fast-track crew changes can take place.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/european-commission-attempts-to-designate-ports-where-fast-track-crew-changes-can-take-place/> The European Commission (EC) is making moves to alleviate the crew change crunch brought about by travel restrictions from the coronavirus.

**NSW Police seize *Ruby Princess's* 'black box' in overnight raid for coronavirus investigation.** Ainslie Drewitt-Smith. *ABC (Australia)*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-09/nsw-police-seize-black-box-in-ruby-princess-coronavirus-probe/12135832> He said investigators who boarded the ship on Wednesday evening had spoken to the ship's captain who was "extremely helpful".

**Artania cruise ship leaves Fremantle after fatal COVID-19 outbreak amid three more WA coronavirus cases.** Nicolas Perpetch. *ABC (Australia)*. 18 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-18/artania-cruise-ship-leaves-fremantle-after-coronavirus-outbreak/12161296> 📰 The Artania cruise ship has left Fremantle more than three weeks after it arrived carrying dozens of sick passengers and crew, as the WA Premier criticised a worker who contracted COVID-19 on holiday in Bali.

**Relief Measures To Port Users Due To Outbreak Of COVID-19 – Extension Of Relief Period.** Jatto A Adams. *Nigerian Ports Authority*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://nigerianports.gov.ng/2020/04/21/press-statement-relief-measures-to-port-users-due-to-outbreak-of-covid-19-extension-of-relief-period/> The Nigerian Ports Authority has directed all Terminal operators to extend the suspension of all applicable terminal storage fees on consignments (demurrage) for another fourteen days effective April 13, 2020.

**Coronavirus-hit *Ruby Princess* departs Port Kembla for international waters.** Bellinda Kontominas. *ABC (Australia)*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-23/coronavirus-ruby-princess-cruise-ship-departs-australian-waters/12176232> 📰 The *Ruby Princess* has commenced its departure from Port Kembla, south of Sydney, breaking its moorings on the start of a highly anticipated journey out of Australian waters.

**Panama bulk carrier detained in South Africa released, with stern warning: SAMSA.**

South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA). 24 April 2020. Available from:

<https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/04/24/panama-bulk-carrier-detained-in-south-africa-released-with-stern-warning-samsa/>

A Panama-flagged bulk carrier, the *Top Grace*, that was detained in South Africa last month after it was found to have thrown overboard two stowaways off the KwaZulu-Natal coast has been released, according to the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA).

**Coronavirus: Cruise ship off Panama coast transfers passengers. BBC News.**

29 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-52072703> A cruise ship carrying more than 1,800 people off Panama has begun moving healthy passengers to another ship after four people died and two others tested positive for coronavirus.

## PORTS & HARBOURS

**Nigerian ports: forging a new shipping future in West Africa. Adele Berti. Ship-technology.com.**

26 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/future-of-nigerian-ports/>

In November 2019, the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) signed a collaboration agreement with Belgium's Port of Antwerp in a bid to boost the potential of its six seaports and bolster its role as leading maritime centre in West Africa.

**Federal Review Panel Report for the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project. Impact Assessment**

Agency of Canada (IAAC). 27 March 2020. Available from: [https://iaac-](https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80054/134506E.pdf)

[aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80054/134506E.pdf](https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80054/134506E.pdf) The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has proposed the development of a new container terminal at Roberts Bank, in Delta, British Columbia, adjacent to the existing Deltaport Terminal and Westshore Terminals.

**Proposed B.C. container terminal would threaten endangered orcas, review panel says.**

*The Star (Canada)*. 30 March 2020. Available from:

<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/03/30/proposed-bc-container-terminal-would-threaten-endangered-orcas-review-panel-says.html>

A federally appointed panel has found the development of a new shipping container terminal south of Vancouver would result in "significant adverse" effects on endangered southern resident killer whales.

**Lawyer warns carriers: Port closings not a free pass to invoke force majeure. Mathias Blædel**

Lorenzen. *ShippingWatch*. 30 March 2020. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12046763.ece> Shipping lines cannot blindly use quarantined ships as an opportunity to achieve force-majeure compensation.

**PEMA praises resilience of global ports sector in face of Covid-19 crisis. Port Equipment**

Manufacturers Association (PEMA). 31 March 2020. Available from: [https://www.pema.org/pema-](https://www.pema.org/pema-praises-resilience-of-global-ports-sector-in-face-of-covid-19-crisis/)

[praises-resilience-of-global-ports-sector-in-face-of-covid-19-crisis/](https://www.pema.org/pema-praises-resilience-of-global-ports-sector-in-face-of-covid-19-crisis/) PEMA has praised the Commitment of the ports and terminals sector as it strives to play its role in keeping global trade flowing in response to the spread of Covid-19.

**European and American ports ready for box congestion. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com.**

31 March 2020. Available from: [https://splash247.com/european-and-american-ports-ready-for-box-](https://splash247.com/european-and-american-ports-ready-for-box-congestion/)

[congestion/](https://splash247.com/european-and-american-ports-ready-for-box-congestion/) Container ports across the world aside from China are set to face imminent congestion as a swathe of boxes sent for shipment from factories in Asia arrive at their import destinations.

**Will ports bar cargo ships with COVID-19-positive crew?** Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*.

2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/will-ports-bar-cargo-ships-with-covid-19-positive-crew> Ports have yet to deny container, dry bulk or tanker ships the right to load or unload cargo due to coronavirus outbreaks among crew.

**Port of Singapore Remains Open Amidst Additional Precautionary Measures.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 3 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/292f56da-772b-42eb-9ea2-a272443aaf3c> On 3 April 2020, the Singapore Ministry of Health (MOH) issued a media release on “Additional Measures to Minimise Further Spread of COVID-19”.

**Singapore shuts down, catching shipping by surprise.** Jonathan Boonzaier and Irene Ang.

*TradeWinds*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/singapore-shuts-down-catching-shipping-by-surprise/2-1-787484> Singapore's prime minister Lee Hsien Loong on Friday announced a new raft of restrictive measures in the country's ongoing fight against the coronavirus.

**Abu Dhabi Ports' solidarity campaign gains momentum.** *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 6 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1653836/corporate-news> The world's maritime sector is standing in solidarity with communities around the world battling the coronavirus pandemic by joining Abu Dhabi Ports' initiative “Horns of Hope.”

**Migrants Flee as Tripoli's Port Shelled.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*.

10 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/migrants-flee-tripolis-port-shelled> Dozens of migrants held at Tripoli's main port since yesterday fled the facility as it was being shelled early Friday morning.

**Port of Seattle to Halve Carbon Emissions with Renewable Fuel Contract.** *Port of Seattle*.

15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.portseattle.org/news/port-seattle-halve-carbon-emissions-renewable-fuel-contract> The Port of Seattle Commission approved a contract to enable the Port to reach its 2030 goal to reduce carbon emissions by 50 percent, almost a decade early.

**Time's up: Wildlife trafficking through Tanzania's ports.** Abi Millar. *Ship-technology.com*.

16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/wildlife-trafficking-in-tanzania/> In recent years, ports in Tanzania have come under increased scrutiny given their vulnerability to the illegal wildlife trade.

**Big ships are about to get bigger at Port of Charleston.** David Wren. *Post and Courier (US)*.

16 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.postandcourier.com/business/big-ships-are-about-to-get-bigger-at-port-of-charleston/article\\_d25f31ee-7fe7-11ea-a2f4-df04a437c04e.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/business/big-ships-are-about-to-get-bigger-at-port-of-charleston/article_d25f31ee-7fe7-11ea-a2f4-df04a437c04e.html) The CMA CGM Panama container ship, capable of carrying 15,072 cargo boxes, is scheduled to visit the Port of Charleston in June.

**Expanding Canada's Biggest Port Will Be a Blow to Wildlife.** Amorina Kingdon. *Hakai Magazine*.

16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hakaimagazine.com/news/expanding-canadas-biggest-port-will-be-a-blow-to-wildlife/> The long-awaited federal assessment of the contentious Terminal 2 expansion of the Roberts Bank shipping terminal, 30 kilometres south of Vancouver, British Columbia, is finally ready, and it cites a daunting list of problems, including the potential for serious harm to the region's killer whales and salmon.



**Second World Ports COVID-19 survey: some ports seeing significant changes in storage utilization at ports with some overcrowded car terminals.** *World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP)*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3gRIGtV> Results show COVID-19 crisis has 35% of ports reporting an increase in utilisation of warehousing and distribution facilities in the last week for foodstuffs and medical supplies, whilst other ports report both over- and under-utilization of their storage facilities, depending on cargo type.

**Port of Antwerp tests smart bracelet to prevent corona infection on the workforce.** *Port of Antwerp*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.portofantwerp.com/en/news/port-antwerp-tests-smart-bracelet-prevent-corona-infection-workfloor> Port of Antwerp is teaming up with the tech company Rombit to prevent corona infection on the workforce.

**'Move boxes to private yards' plea as Chittagong congestion worsens.** *The Loadstar*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/move-boxes-to-private-yards-plea-as-chittagong-congestion-worsens/> Bangladesh customs authorities have allowed logistics operators to shift a further six types of goods in containers to private off-docks in a bid to reduce the number of containers in Chittagong's yards.

**Smart ports: on the move to become global logistics information exchange hubs.** Hanane Becha, Mikael Lind, André Simha and Francois Bottin. *Digital Ship*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://thedigitalship.com/news/electronics-navigation/item/6530-smart-ports-on-the-move-to-become-global-logistics-information-exchange-hubs> Ports are taking significant strides with digital transformation and starting to declare themselves as "smart".

**Second version released of WPSP-IAPH COVID19 TaskForce Guidance document for port authorities and port operators.** *World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP)*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://sustainableworldports.org/second-version-released-of-wpsp-iaph-covid19-taskforce-guidance-document-for-port-authorities-and-port-operators/> A second, updated version of the WPSP-IAPH guidance document created by the WPSP COVID19 Task Force for ports and port operators has been published on the World Ports COVID19 Information Portal. [Guidance on ports' response to the coronavirus pandemic](#)

**Declaration by members Port Authorities Roundtable on the COVID-19 situation.** *Port of Rotterdam*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/declaration-by-members-port-authorities-roundtable-on-the-covid-19-situation> Members of the Port Authorities Roundtable (PAR) recognise the COVID-19 pandemic as a serious global crisis that has far-reaching impact on many fronts, including global trade.

**Third COVID-19 world ports survey report : the impact of blank sailings starts kicking in.** *World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP)*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://sustainableworldports.org/third-iaph-wpsp-survey-ports-beginning-to-feel-impact-of-blank-sailings/> While average weekly number of container vessels calling remains down with further cancellations, some lines have replaced these by regional feeders with good frequency. [IAPH-WPSP Port Economic Impact Barometer](#)

**Singapore coastline packed with ships full of oil no one wants.** Elizabeth Low. *ShippingWatch*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12099870.ece> A narrow waterway off Singapore has become even more congested as oil-laden tankers wait out a slump in global fuel consumption that's crimped demand and boosted the use of ships to store cargoes.

**High Degree of Compliance with IMO 2020 Regulations in the Port of Singapore in the First Quarter of 2020.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/4ddfdf1f-e679-44e7-af37-d8c087b948f4> In the first quarter of 2020, most ships calling at the Port of Singapore have complied with the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) 2020 sulphur regulations since they came into effect on 1 January 2020.

**IMO wants port staff designated as offering essential services.** Anthony Kitimo. *Business Daily (Kenya)*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/corporate/shipping/IMO-wants-port-staff-designated-as-offering/4003122-5537094-11rp4cbz/index.html> IMO has called on United Nations system agencies to support its bid to categorise seafarers, port personnel and maritime workers as crucial key personnel to ensure they are not limited in their movements and to ensure ships deliver goods on time during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

**Ports accused of denying hospital treatment for seafarers.** Nigel Lowry. *Lloyd's List*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132122/Ports-accused-of-denying-hospital-treatment-for-seafarers> As an industry task force works on a blueprint for globally handling long overdue crew changes, it emerges that due to coronavirus fears some ports are even shunning seafarers struck by unrelated medical emergencies.

## REGULATIONS

**IMO 2020 capped by coronavirus, stretched authorities ditch fuel checks.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/imo-2020-capped-by-coronavirus-stretched-authorities-ditch-fuel-checks/> Less than three months after being introduced the global sulphur cap risks being another victim of the coronavirus with news from the UK where authorities have publicly admitted they have stopped checking for compliant fuel.

**INTERVIEW: Former IMO Emissions Chief Edmund Hughes on 2020 So Far.** Jack Jordan. *Ship & Bunker*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/835109-interview-former-imo-emissions-chief-edmund-hughes-on-2020-so-far> The COVID-19 pandemic may be postponing the real impact of IMO2020, according to one of the key International Maritime Organization (IMO) officials behind the new 0.5% bunker fuel sulfur cap.

**A midlife crisis? Age-related concerns for ballast water fitments.** William Burroughs. *Ballast Water Treatment Technology*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/copy-of-a-midlife-crisis-age-related-concerns-for-ballast-water-fitments-nbsp-56997> Analysis from classification society ABS suggests that vessels up to 15 years of age are likely to be the oldest to install a ballast water management system (BWMS), with owners of ships aged 16-20 years and 21 years and above more likely to opt for scrapping.

**Life after IMO 2020: What's next on the regulatory landscape?** Matthew Williams. *Lloyd's Register*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/life-after-imo-regulatory-landscape/> IMO 2020, an outside Emission Control Area (ECA) sulphur 0.50% max. limit on marine fuel, has attracted substantial industry focus in the past few years; rightly so given the preparations needed and the uncertainties arising from delayed regulatory decisions and in-sector compliance relying on out-of-sector changes in fuel supply chains.

**Expert commentary: Pandemic masks true picture of sulphur 2020 compliance.** *Hill Dickinson LLP.* 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hilldickinson.com/insights/expert-commentary/expert-commentary-pandemic-masks-true-picture-sulphur-2020-compliance> It will be difficult to ascertain a full picture of how well the international shipping industry is complying with the new sulphur 2020 environmental legislation and judge the effectiveness of enforcement measures until sometime after the Covid-19 pandemic has receded, says maritime law specialist Hill Dickinson.

**IMO 2020: Three Months On.** *V. Group Ltd.* 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://vgrouplimited.com/news/imo-2020-three-months-on> The long-awaited IMO 2020 regulations to limit sulphur content in marine fuels kicked in on January 1<sup>st</sup> after more than a decade in the making.

**Unintended consequences.** Unni Einemo. *International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA).* 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://ibia.net/unintended-consequences> In this feature article for the first 2020 issue of World Bunkering, IBIA's Director Unni Einemo examines potential undesirable side-effects of the 0.50% sulphur limit.

**Sulfur Out, Scrubbers In: IMO 2020 marks the start of shipping's journey toward sustainability.** Mia Bennett. *Maritime Executive.* 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/magazine/sulfur-out-scrubbers-in> When it comes to environmental pollutants, carbon dioxide is public enemy number one.

**Deadline Approaches for New EU Ship Recycling Regulations.** *Maritime Executive.* 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/corporate/deadline-approaches-for-new-eu-ship-recycling-regulations> New European ship recycling regulations enter into force at the end of the year – but the current tough market conditions, compounded by the delay in decision making caused by the work-from-home situation in the Coronavirus pandemic, has meant that many shipowners are still to undertake the necessary work to be compliant with the legislation.

**Sulphur Cap 2020 – carriage of non-compliant fuel due to delays in scrubber installation.** *DNV GL.* 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/news/sulphur-cap-2020-carriage-of-non-compliant-fuel-due-to-delays-in-scrubber-installation-172232> COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in delays to retrofit installations of exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS) – or scrubbers.

**IMO 2020: Coronavirus changes carrier compliance calculations.** Peter Buxbaum. *American Journal of Transportation (AJOT).* 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://ajot.com/premium/ajot-imo-2020-coronavirus-changes-carrier-compliance-calculations> The new regulations from the IMO went into effect January 1, 2020—mandating that seagoing vessels reduce their sulfur emissions by 80%—presented ocean carriers with several alternatives.

## SALVAGE

**Salvors save 2.3M tonnes of pollution.** Martyn Wingrove. *Tug Technology & Business*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/salvors-save-23m-tonnes-of-pollution-58909> Shipping has improved its safety record with fewer ship groundings and vessels in peril, but the industry should not become complacent in its need for salvors.

**Shipping containers lost from *YM Efficiency* plucked from the ocean floor.** Zoe Reynolds. *Safety at Sea*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/ym-efficiency-boxes-overboard-plucked-from-the-ocean-floor/> A salvage operation at the heart of a legal battle between *YM Efficiency* shipowner Yang Ming and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is successfully under way.

**Salvors mobilised to grounded and capsized tankers.** Martyn Wingrove. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/salvors-mobilised-to-grounded-and-capsized-tankers-58998> Three product tankers and one Suezmax crude carrier have required salvage in the last six days in east Asia, southern Europe and northern Africa.

**138 skips full of cargo now removed from *MV Kaami*.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://hmcoastguard.blogspot.com/2020/04/138-skips-full-of-cargo-now-removed.html> Good weather has made it possible for the salvors to remove 44 skips worth of cargo from the *MV Kaami* over the weekend.

**Fifth Lifting Lug Installed on the *Golden Ray*.** *Maritime Executive*. 25 April 2020. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/fifth-lifting-lug-installed-on-the-golden-ray> T&T Salvage installed the fifth lifting lug on the wreck of the car carrier *Golden Ray* on April 24 in St. Simons Sound, Georgia.

**IN THE KNOW Podcast 16: Marine Salvage in the Coronavirus Era.** *Maritime Executive*. 26 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/podcast/in-the-know-podcast-16-marine-salvage-in-the-coronavirus-era> The marine salvage industry has changed dramatically in the last ten years, with fewer players working in a smaller market.

## SEAFARERS

**COVID-19: Social Exclusion for Returning Seafarers strains Family Relationships.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/03/25/covid-19-social-exclusion-for-returning-seafarers-strains-family-relationships/> Over the last 72 hours, Human Rights at Sea has been deluged with Indian seafarers getting in contact with the charitable NGO outlining the challenges they are facing during the current COVID-19 crisis.

**US maritime unions playing essential role in the Covid-19 fight.** *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/us-maritime-unions-playing-essential-role-in-covid-19-fight> As the United States is grappling with a surge of COVID-19 cases, US maritime unions are on the frontlines aiding the government's efforts to combat the spread of the virus.

**UK Government recognises seafarers as ‘key workers’.** Gabriella Twining. *Safety at Sea*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/uk-government-recognises-seafarers-as-key-workers/> In the UK Government’s latest COVID-19 guidance it appears that UK seafarers have finally been designated as ‘key workers’.

**COVID-19 – Mariner Credentials: Extension of Merchant Mariner Credential Endorsements and Medical Certificates.** *United States Coast Guard*. 30 March 2020. Available from: [https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/MSIB/2020/MSIB%2008-20\\_Change%201\\_COVID-19%20-%20Mariner%20Credentials.pdf](https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/MSIB/2020/MSIB%2008-20_Change%201_COVID-19%20-%20Mariner%20Credentials.pdf) This MSIB provides guidance concerning mariner credentials and medical certificates and the action being taken by the Coast Guard due to the novel coronavirus and the disease it causes (COVID-19).

**ITF Seafarers’ Trust pledges £1 million to support seafarers and maintain welfare services hit by Covid-19.** *ITF Seafarers’ Trust*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarerstrust.org/press-release-itf-seafarers-trust-covid-19-welfare-fund/> The ITF Seafarers’ Trust (ITFST) is today launching an emergency fund to address the impact of the global pandemic on seafarers and their families.

**Treat seafarers with “dignity and respect” during COVID-19 crisis.** *International Labour Organization (ILO)*. 31 March 2020. Available from: [https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_740307/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_740307/lang--en/index.htm) Seafarers, ship owners and governments are urging ILO member States to ensure the flow of essential goods, energy, food and medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic.  
[Statement of the Officers of the STC 1 on the coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#)

**COVID-19: Fact Suppression or Careless Under-reporting?** David Hammond. *Maritime Executive*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/covid-19-fact-suppression-or-careless-under-reporting> Human Rights at Sea CEO David Hammond shares his thoughts on recent evidence presented to the charitable NGO for what he says appears to be an unexplained under-reporting of the detail of the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on seafarers and their families.

**Norwegian Cruise Lines repatriates 1,000 Filipino crew.** Holly Birkett. *TradeWinds*. 1 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/norwegian-cruise-lines-repatriates-1-000-filipino-crew/2-1-785629> Norwegian Cruise Lines has chartered flights to repatriate almost 1,000 of its seafarers to the Philippines as the coronavirus pandemic takes its toll on the tourism sector.

**China keeps out foreign seafarers with new crew guidelines.** Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/china-keeps-out-foreign-seafarers-with-new-crew-guidelines/2-1-786673> China has issued new guidelines for changing crews at Chinese ports that would keep out foreign seafarers during the coronavirus pandemic.

**DG Shipping extends validity of seafarers certificates by six months.** P Manoj. *Hindu BusinessLine (India)*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/dg-shipping-extends-validity-of-seafarers-certificates-by-six-months/article31251580.ece> The Director General of Shipping (DG Shipping) has extended the validity of seafarers’ certificates that were expiring between March 23 and October 01, 2020 by six months in a relief to crew working on board ships amidst a three-week lockdown.

**Australian prime minister urged to do the “right thing” for thousands of stranded seafarers.**

*International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 3 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/australian-prime-minister-urged-do-right-thing-thousands-stranded-seafarers>

On March 29, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said that that it was, “important that Australia does the right thing about those who have fallen into our care to ensure that I can say with great moral authority that Australians are doing the right thing, and we would ask you to do the right thing.”

**As Goa government mounts rescue effort, some seafarers say they are safer onboard.**

Newton Sequeira. *Times of India*. 4 April 2020. Available from:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/as-govt-mounts-rescue-effort-some-seafarers-say-they-are-safer-onboard/articleshow/74975477.cms>

Even as the Goa government makes efforts to bring back over 8,000 seafarers, some stakeholders suggest that the offshore seamen remain safer aboard the ships which serves as a natural lock down and quarantine.

**Filipino crew member of California cruise ship succumbs to COVID-19.** *CNN*. 4 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/4/4/filipino-grand-princess-california-coronavirus.html>

A Filipino crew member of a coronavirus-hit cruise ship docked in San Francisco, California has died from COVID-19.

**Launch of emergency funding campaign for developing world seafarers.** Sam Chambers.

*Splash 247.com*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/launch-of-emergency-funding-campaign-for-developing-world-seafarers/>

Today sees the launch of a charity crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for developing world seafarers and their families that have been severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

**Ships Are Moving, but Exhausted Sailors Are Stuck at Sea Under Coronavirus Restrictions.**

*Hellenic Shipping News*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/ships-are-moving-but-exhausted-sailors-are-stuck-at-sea-under-coronavirus-restrictions/>

Oceangoing shipping companies, already hit by crumbling demand and fractured supply chains from the coronavirus pandemic, are facing another problem on their vessels.

**British cadets refused repatriation in UK ports.** *Nautilus International*. 6 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/british-cadets-refused-repatriation-in-uk-ports/>

Nautilus has flagged persisting concerns about the number of British cadets being denied repatriation during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**National politics with Laura Tingle. What about the crew on board the cruise ships?**

[Starts at 16 min.]. *ABC (Australia)*. 6 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/6th-april-2020/12126720> @

Natalie Klein considers maritime law and the crew still on the cruise ships and interview Expert in Maritime Law, University of New South Wales

**Trapped On High Seas - Longing For Home, Jamaican Ship Workers Split On Being Stuck In Cabins.**

Janet Silvera. *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2U1ks6u>

The two Jamaicans working on separate cruise ships, *Harmony of the Seas* and *Celebrity Cruises*, respectively, are on the high seas, somewhere between Cape Canaveral, Florida, and a private island in The Bahamas, neither able to come home because of the closure of the island's ports to incoming passengers and the blow dealt by COVID-19 to the cruise industry.

**Seafarers grounded in pandemic add to strain on supply chains.** *Japan Times*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/04/07/business/stranded-seafarers-pandemic-strain-on-supply-chains/> Port restrictions and cancelled flights are straining the ability for shipping firms to replace seafarers, further weakening global supply chains already snarled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**RightShip and Human Rights at Sea Join Forces to help Improve Welfare for Seafarers around the World.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/07/rightship-and-human-rights-at-sea-join-forces-to-help-improve-welfare-for-seafarers-around-the-world/> RightShip, the world's leading maritime risk due diligence and environmental assessment organisation, and the independent civil society charity, Human Rights at Sea, have signed a new long-term partnership agreement to help improve seafarer welfare.

**ICS and ITF call on G20 to support the "Unsung Heroes of Global Trade".** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/04/07/ics-and-itf-call-on-g20-to-support-the-unsung-heroes-of-global-trade-> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) have issued a joint call on behalf of seafarers to governments to facilitate the essential movement of seafarers and marine personnel. [Message to G20 Leaders and Ministers on Facilitating Essential Movement of Seafarers and Marine Personnel](#) 📄

**Coronavirus: Grand Princess returns to San Francisco to restock supplies, activists worried about crew members.** Amy Hollyfield and Luz Pena. *ABC News (US)*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://abc7news.com/health/activists-worried-about-crew-members-still-aboard-grand-princess-cruise-ship/6084076/> 📄 Over a month ago, 19 crew members and 2 passengers aboard the *Grand Princess* Cruise ship tested positive for COVID-19.

**Morrison Government condemned for treatment of cruise ship crews.** *Maritime Union of Australia*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.mua.org.au/news/morrison-government-condemned-treatment-cruise-ship-crews> The Maritime Union of Australia and the International Transport Workers' Federation condemn the brutal treatment of more than 15,000 international crew from more than 50 nationalities engaged in the cruise ship industry in Australian waters.

**'Loving the unlovable' - Mission sends 'gifts of friendship' to Ruby Princess crew.** Ben Langford. *Illawarra Mercury (Australia)*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/6716371/loving-the-unlovable-wollongong-sends-friendship-to-ruby-princess-crew/> Wollongong may not like how the *Ruby Princess* ended up being docked in Port Kembla, but that's all the more reason to reach out to the ship's crew, community leaders said.

**Long read: Crew wellbeing during COVID-19.** Stephen Cousins. *Safety at Sea*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/long-read-crew-wellbeing-during-covid-19/> Countries around the world are closing borders to prevent the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), which has left thousands of seafarers being forced to stay on board and continue to work, despite having completed their allotted contracts.

**Nautilus International urges immediate solutions for crew change restrictions.** *Nautilus International*. 8 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/press\\_centre/nautilus-international-urges-immediate-solutions-for-crew-change-restrictions/](https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/press_centre/nautilus-international-urges-immediate-solutions-for-crew-change-restrictions/) Maritime professionals' Union, Nautilus International, is calling on governments and the shipping industry to look for immediate solutions for crew changes as countries begin extending the coronavirus lockdown.

**UK must bring home British crew stuck onboard *Ruby Princess* cruise ship.** *Nautilus International*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/uk-must-bring-home-ruby-princess-cruise-ship-crew-detained-in-australia/> Nautilus International is calling on the UK government to assist its members onboard the Bermuda-flagged cruise ship *Ruby Princess*, which has been quarantined in New South Wales (NSW) by the Australian government.

**Aussie seafarers seal qualification extension amid Covid-19.** Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/aussie-seafarers-seal-qualification-extension-amid-covid-19/2-1-789864> Australian seafarers are to receive an automatic six-month extension on their qualifications in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Seafarers' suppers fed by triple barrel supply pipeline.** Janet Porter. *Lloyd's List*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131804/Seafarers-suppers-fed-by-triple-barrel-supply-pipeline> With tens of thousands of seafarers trapped on ships, and many more on offshore installations, the challenge of supplying food and other essentials requires meticulous preparation, says Wrist chief Jens Holger Nielsen.

**Indian seafarer dies of COVID-19 in Florida.** *The Hindu (India)*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/indian-seafarer-dies-of-covid-19-in-florida/article31302638.ece> Even as 17,000 Indian seafarers wait for a policy to be finalised for their return, a Mumbai family has lost a 48-year-old earning member, Andrew Fernandes.

**The Lloyd's List Podcast: How to help shipping's stranded seafarers.** *Lloyd's List*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131904/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-How-to-help-shippings-stranded-seafarers> With shipping companies continuing to postpone crew exchange and extend employment contracts as the only way of overcoming the coronavirus travel and quarantine restrictions, the industry has a ticking time bomb on its hands.

**Thousands of Indian seafarers stranded due to coronavirus curbs.** Sania Farooqui. *Aljazeera*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/coronavirus-lockdown-strands-thousands-indian-seafarers-200412093941314.html> Tens of thousands of Indian crew members, stranded on cargo and cruise ships across the world due to the coronavirus pandemic, are still waiting to be brought home.

**OP-ED. A UK Marine Pilot's Perspective of Seafarer's Challenges.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/13/op-ed-a-uk-marine-pilots-perspective-of-seafarers-challenges/> Port of London Authority marine Pilot, Ms. Ivana Carrioni-Burnett, provides a personal opinion and insight into her recent experiences in UK waters as a newly qualified Pilot in relation to her interactions with seafarers away from their families, including during the COVID-19 crisis.

**Cruise industry begins mass repatriation of crews back to Asia.** Jonathan Boonzaier and Michael Juliano. *TradeWinds*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/cruise-and-ferry/cruise-industry-begins-mass-repatriation-of-crews-back-to-asia/2-1-790936> Several cruise majors have begun to use their own cruiseships to repatriate non-essential crew stranded on board idled vessels.

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): Managing Ship and Seafarer Certificates during the Pandemic.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2TWfdFd> This guidance provides information for shipowners and operators on managing ship and seafarer certificates during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.



**Extension of STCW certificates issued by Singapore.** *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notice/detail/fad9402b-cd4e-4d7f-9236-3e59ee1b0f9b> Applicable to: Holders of certificates of competency and GMDSS General/Restricted Operator Certificate issued by Singapore, Flag states, Port States and Shipowners, ship managers, agents and anyone who engage the services of seafarers holding certificates of competency and GMDSS General/Restricted Operator Certificate issued by Singapore.

**Employees sue Celebrity Cruises over COVID-19 response.** Amanda Maile and Mina Kaji. *ABC News (US)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://abcnews.go.com/Business/cruise-employees-sue-celebrity-covid-19-response/story?id=70147214> 📰 A class action lawsuit filed Tuesday on behalf of over a thousand Celebrity Cruises employees alleges the company failed to protect its crew members working aboard ships amid the novel coronavirus outbreak.

**1200 care packages delivered to Ruby Princess, with love from Wollongong.** Kate McIlwain. *Illawarra Mercury (Australia)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/6721621/1200-care-packages-delivered-to-ruby-princess-with-love-from-wollongong/> At least one in 10 crew members who remain on the troubled *Ruby Princess* cruise ship have now tested positive for COVID-19.

**‘Nobody Cares About the Little People’: Cruise Crews File Covid-19 Suit.** Frances Robles. *New York Times*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/14/us/coronavirus-cruise-ship-crew-lawsuit.html> As governments around the world have grappled with how to rescue cruise ship passengers stuck on board luxury vessels hit with the coronavirus, another group has remained largely forgotten: the marooned crews.

**MARINA extends validity of statutory certificates issued by the agency and its Recognized Organizations (ROs) until 31 May 2020.** *Government of the Philippines*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://marina.gov.ph/2020/04/15/marina-extends-validity-of-statutory-certificates-issued-by-the-agency-and-its-recognized-organizations-ros-until-31-may-2020/> The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) extends the validity of statutory certificates previously issued by the agency and its Recognized Organizations (ROs) for Philippine registered ships engaged in the international trade until 31 May 2020, as a contingency measure to ensure that the flow of commerce remains undisrupted during the COVID-19 outbreak.

**Worried wife of a seafarer launches campaign to ensure zero contact in ports during coronavirus crisis.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/worried-wife-of-a-seafarer-launches-campaign-to-ensure-zero-contact-in-ports-during-coronavirus-crisis/> More than 4,700 people have signed a petition on change.org demanding a zero contact policy in ports around the world.

**IATA and ICS: Governments must facilitate ship crew changes.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <http://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/04/15/iata-and-ics-governments-must-facilitate-ship-crew-changes> The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) are jointly calling on governments to take urgent measures to facilitate crew change flights for seafarers.

**ECSA and ETF call for coordinated EU action on crew changes.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-and-etf-call-coordinated-eu-action-crew-changes> In a letter addressed to European Commissioners, jointly signed by ECSA and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), the two maritime social partners call for special measures to be taken with the greatest urgency. [Joint Letter](#) 📄

**Actions to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on cruise ship seafarers.** *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 15 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/actions-mitigate-impact-covid-19-cruise-ship-seafarers>

Covid-19 has had a swift and brutal impact on the cruise industry and on seafarers working in the industry.

**Facing the challenge called Covid-19.** Ambassador Carlos Salinas. *Manila Times*. 15 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/04/15/business/maritime-business/facing-the-challenge-called-covid-19/713979/>

Reflecting on the possible impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) on the future of humanity, Israeli historian, philosopher and best-selling author Yuval Noah Harari called it “perhaps the biggest crisis of our generation” and “the worst epidemic in at least 100 years,” and said “the decisions people and governments take in the next few weeks will probably shape the world for years to come.”

**Coronavirus: Forgotten sailors stranded at sea face long wait to return home.** Nick Webster. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 15 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.thenational.ae/uae/transport/coronavirus-forgotten-sailors-stranded-at-sea-face-long-wait-to-return-home-1.1006257>

Merchant sailors face months of isolation at sea as the coronavirus crisis blocks ships from docking at UAE ports while other vessels have been abandoned altogether.

**Sweeteners for seafarers as desperate owners buy time.** Adam Corbett and Irene Ang.

*TradeWinds*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/sweeteners-for-seafarers-as-desperate-owners-buy-time/2-1-791957>

CMA CGM is offering crew a \$500 bonus each to extend their employment contracts as travel restrictions bring the crew exchange problem to crisis point.

**Liverpool Seafarers Centre lobbies for clearer rules on seafarer repatriation.** *Liverpool*

*Seafarers Centre*. 15 April 2020. Available from:

<http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2020/04/15/liverpool-seafarers-centre-lobbies-for-clearer-rules-on-seafarer-repatriation/>

Ecumenical charity Liverpool Seafarers Centre has written to the UK maritime minister Kelly Tolhurst and leading NGOs including the International Maritime Organisation calling for clearer rules and guidance on seafarer repatriation.

**Roger Harris of ISWAN on Coronavirus response and the Seafarers' Emergency Fund.**

*International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 15 April 2020. Available from:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DV\\_eZ2r84ds&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DV_eZ2r84ds&feature=youtu.be)

Roger Harris of the International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network explains the coronavirus response of Seafarer Help and the Seafarers' Emergency Fund.

**Seafarers in limbo as coronavirus hits shipping.** Tim Bowler. *BBC News*. 16 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-52289303>

With the world in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, the shipping industry is already feeling the impact as the global economy heads into a deep recession.

**Collective crew changes at designated ports needed to relieve 100,000 'fatigued' seafarers, says Union.** *Nautilus International*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3ctfRAi>

Nautilus is supporting calls for collective crew changes at designated ports, which it says are urgently needed to relieve tired Merchant Navy seafarers enabling world trade during the coronavirus pandemic.

**ESPO and FEPORT urge Member States to enable crew changes in all ports.** *European Sea*

*Ports Organisation (ESPO)*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.espo.be/news/espo-and-feport-urge-member-states-to-enable-crew->

Ever since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, all European ports have been fully operational and continue to do everything they can to fulfil their essential role in the supply chain and provide citizens, health services and businesses in Europe with the products and material they need.

**New £2 Million Fund from Seafarers UK to Help Seafarers Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic.** *Seafarers UK*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.seafarers.uk/news/new-2-million-fund-from-seafarers-uk-to-help-seafarers-impacted-by-the-covid-19-pandemic/> In response to the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on merchant seafarers, fishers and their families, Seafarers UK has created a new Seafarers UK COVID-19 Emergency Fund of £2 million, with grants being awarded immediately to delivery partners providing advice and support for individual seafarers affected by the widespread coronavirus impacts.

**Plight of stranded SA seafarers abroad receiving Government attention: SAMSA.** *South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://blog.samsa.org.za/2020/04/20/plight-of-stranded-sa-seafarers-abroad-receiving-government-attention-samsa/> With an increasing number of South Africans reportedly stranded at airports across the world, among these, South African seafarers mainly on board cruise liners, efforts are being made across various Government departments in the country to bring about effective action to their aid.

**Crew restrictions drive a shift to Chinese seafarers.** Bob Rust. *TradeWinds*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/crew-restrictions-drive-a-shift-to-chinese-seafarers/2-1-786632> First the coronavirus epidemic trapped on-duty crews at work without relief.

**Shipping Industry Personnel: Coping, Caring, Serving.** *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/shipping/20200421/shipping-industry-personnel-coping-caring-serving> When shipping professionals speak of a 'supply chain', they are referring not only to how things such as warehouses, containers, ships and ports are interconnected in global trade.

**Social Protection of Fishers and Development of the Geneva Declaration on Human Rights at Sea.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/21/social-protection-of-fishers-and-development-of-the-geneva-declaration-on-human-rights-at-sea/> The need for improvement in the awareness, understanding and betterment of human rights standards in the global fishing industry and associated supply chains continues to be a focal point of advocacy by international supporters of the concept that 'human rights apply at sea, as they do on land'.

**Ruby Princess workers trapped onboard as ship prepares to set sail: Labor.** Kate McIlwain. *Illawarra Mercury (Australia)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/6729624/im-scared-ruby-princess-workers-remain-trapped-on-board-ship-labor-says/?cs=12> As the *Ruby Princess* prepares to leave Port Kembla this afternoon, the NSW Opposition says some crew members remain onboard against their wishes with no clear pathway to their home countries.

**Chaplains go online to help seafarers cope with COVID-19.** Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/chaplains-go-online-to-help-seafarers-cope-with-covid-19> A digital chaplaincy service has been launched by the Mission to Seafarers in response to the need for seafarers to be provided with remote support.

**Seafarers continue to highlight their worries and concerns to Human Rights at Sea.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/21/seafarers-continue-to-highlight-their-worries-and-concerns-to-human-rights-at-sea/> A steady stream of contact from concerned seafarers continues to flow into the UK charity, Human Rights at Sea.

**COVID-19: Seafarers' trying journeys.** *European Transport Workers' Federation.* 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.etf-europe.org/covid-19-seafarers-difficult-journeys/> At a time when a lot of people are required to stay home to help efforts to limit COVID-19 infections, several groups of workers have no opportunity to stop.

**Abandoned at sea in the midst of a pandemic.** *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).* 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/abandoned-sea-midst-pandemic> Three Greek seafarers and 22 of their shipmates on two bulk carriers at anchor in the Port of Djibouti are among a rising tide of crew abandoned around the world at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**COVID-19: Government paves way for return of stuck seafarers to homes, issues guidelines for crew change.** *Economic Times (India).* 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3eEPjh4> The government has come out with guidelines for change of crew at Indian ports, a move that will put an end to hardships faced by stuck seafarers and pave way for them to return to their homes.

**In Galveston, seafarers center sits alone as mariners are kept on ships.** John Wayne. *Galveston County Daily News (US).* 22 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.galvnews.com/news/free/article\\_d176fc2c-e869-59ec-8edb-ef5b2aa00402.html](https://www.galvnews.com/news/free/article_d176fc2c-e869-59ec-8edb-ef5b2aa00402.html) At the Galveston Seafarers Center, the answer is cleaning up and getting to things that might not have been done while the organization was busy helping mariners coming off ships berthed at the Port of Galveston.

**Seafarers Welfare Board for New Zealand fully concurs with HRAS Report.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS).* 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/04/22/seafarers-welfare-board-for-new-zealand-fully-concurs-with-hras-report/> Following the 16 April publication of the commissioned Human Rights at Sea report New Zealand: Under-Funding of Seafarers' Welfare Services and Poor MLC Compliance and Counsel's Opinion into the sustainability of seafarer welfare centres in New Zealand, the Seafarers Welfare Board for New Zealand has issued a follow-up press release. [New Zealand Under-Funding of Seafarers' Welfare Services and Poor MLC Compliance](#) 📄

**Ships around the world urged to honk their support for the essential work seafarers are carrying out during the coronavirus crisis.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com.* 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2U1ovzL> 📄 Rather like the land-based efforts to recognise the extraordinary work of essential workers during the coronavirus crisis, shipping is beginning to make quite a noise in support of its seafarers.

**A son's story of a father stranded onboard a vital ship in the global supply chain.** *Nautilus International.* 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/a-sons-story-of-a-father-stranded-onboard-a-vital-ship-in-the-global-supply-chain/> 📄 Like many Nautilus International members, containership chief officer Chris Kuiken should have been relieved from his ship with a crew change a long time ago.

**The Mission launches a digital chaplaincy support service for seafarers.** *Mission to Seafarers.* 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/the-mission-launches-a-digital-chaplaincy-support-service-for-seafarers> Mission to Seafarers announced the launch of a digital chaplaincy service, in response to the need for seafarers to be provided with remote support.

**ICS and ITF call on ships to sound horns to support “unsung heroes of global trade” for International Workers’ Day.** *International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF)*. 24 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/ics-and-itf-call-ships-sound-horns-support-unsung-heroes-global-trade-international-workers> The International Chamber of Shipping and its global network of national member associations and the International Transport Workers’ Federation and its 215 seafarers’ unions are calling on seafarers across the world to sound their ships’ horns when in port at 12.00 local time on International Workers’ Day on 1 May 2020.

**A Cruise Liner Captain’s Perspective on Recent Events.** *Maritime Executive*. 26 April 2020.

Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/a-cruise-liner-captain-s-perspective-on-recent-events> Much has been said about cruising over the past two months, and most of it has been negative.

**COVID-19: Govt extends validity of seafarers certificate by 6 months.** *Economic Times (India)*.

27 April 2020. Available from: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/covid-19-govt-extends-validity-of-seafarers-certificate-by-6-months/articleshow/75408241.cms> Noting that the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic has impacted 2 million seafarers worldwide, the government has extended the validity of Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC) for seamen for six months.

**COVID-19: Liberia Calls For Flag States To Join Together In Effort To Facilitate Crew Change.**

*Liberian Registry*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.liscr.com/blog/covid-19-liberia-calls-flag-states-join-together-effort-facilitate-crew-change> The Liberian Registry continues its efforts toward the recognition of seafarers as “key workers” and for much needed crew-exchange to be allowed at key ports globally during the global COVID-19 pandemic, and is looking to enlist the help of other flag States in this mission.

**#IWMD20: ITF demands urgent protections for transport workers.** *International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF)*.

28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/iwmd20-itf-demands-urgent-protections-transport-workers> The battle against Covid-19 will not be won without transport workers, they are the lifeblood of the global economy and vital to successfully responding to the challenge of Covid-19.

**Satcom Global offers free telephone vouchers to crew members.** *Ship-technology.com*.

28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/news/satcom-global-telephone-vouchers-crew-members/> Satcom Global has launched a crew calling initiative, offering free telephone vouchers to its Satcom Global Aura VSAT customers.

**Crew Change for ‘Key Workers’ at Sea Must be Top of the Industry’s Agenda, says**

**INTERCARGO.** *International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO)*. 28 April 2020.

Available from: [https://www.intercargo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/INTERCARGO-MEDIA-RELEASE\\_28\\_04\\_2020.pdf](https://www.intercargo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/INTERCARGO-MEDIA-RELEASE_28_04_2020.pdf) As International Labour Day on May 1 approaches, it is more important than ever to remember the critical role played by seafarers in continuing to transport food, medicines and other essential goods during the COVID-19 pandemic, says INTERCARGO.

**Seafarers are frontliners too.** John Revill. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 29 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarers-are-frontliners-too/> During these trying times under the movement control order (MCO) imposed to combat the Covid-19 threat, healthcare workers and those ensuring adherence to the MCO have been recognised as “frontliners” for the yeomen deeds they perform.

**India opens the door for crew to return home.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 29 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/india-opens-the-door-for-crew-to-return-home/2-1-800447> The Indian Government has outlined a series of conditions for crew exchange while the country operates under lockdown to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

**Covid-19 cannot be used to lower wages and standards for ferry workers.** *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 29 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/covid-19-cannot-be-used-lower-wages-and-standards-ferry-workers> At a time when seafarers are keeping the world moving, Covid-19 cannot be used as an excuse to lower the wage and working conditions of seafarers.

**In two weeks 150,000 seafarers will be trapped on their ship.** *ShippingWatch*. 30 April 2020.

Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12110551.ece> There is still no solution to the problem with crews that cannot be changed due to the coronavirus.

## SEARCH & RESCUE

**Underwater drones to improve search and rescue operations.** Gabriella Twining. *Safety at Sea*.

1 April 2020. Available from: <https://safetyatsea.net/news/2020/underwater-drones-to-improve-search-and-rescue-operations/> Sibiu Pro and Sibiu Nano portable remotely operated underwater vehicles (ROV) have been developed to enhance an array of marine operations including; aquaculture, inspections, and search and rescue (SAR) operations.

**How coronavirus sparked a fresh stand-off in the Mediterranean.** Ivan Martin. *Times of Malta*.

14 April 2020. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/how-coronavirus-sparked-a-fresh-stand-off-in-the-mediterranean.785531> When a Spanish rescue vessel left the Sicilian port of Syracuse on Sunday morning, its orders from the Italian authorities were clear: head straight back home.

**A Safer Approach to Water Rescue with New ISO Guidelines.** *Ocean News & Technology*.

14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.oceannews.com/news/milestones/a-safer-approach-to-water-rescue-with-new-iso-guidelines> Prevention is better than cure, especially when it comes to accidents at sea.

**Rescue group, EU officials dispute fate of 85 sea migrants.** *EurActiv*. 14 April 2020. Available

from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/news/rescue-group-eu-officials-dispute-fate-of-85-sea-migrants/> Europe's coast guards and rescue agencies were at loggerheads Monday (13 April) about the fate of four dinghies and up to 85 migrants potentially lost at sea after setting off from Libya.

**During virus crisis states should ensure rescue at sea and allow safe disembarkation.** *Council of Europe*. 16 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/during-virus-crisis-states-should-ensure-rescue-at-sea-and-allow-safe-disembarkation> "Despite the unprecedented challenges European countries face due to COVID-19, saving lives at sea and disembarking survivors in a safe port must continue", stated today Dunja Mijatović, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights.

**EU states use COVID-19 to shirk search and rescue obligations as MSF ends Ocean Viking partnership.** *Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF)*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.msf.org/eu-states-use-covid-19-shirk-search-and-rescue-obligations> European governments must stop using the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity to enforce deadly migration control policies and must immediately lift the obstacles preventing NGOs from saving lives at sea, says Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in an urgent call today.

## SHIP RECYCLING

**GMS Responds to BBC Report on Ship Recycling in Alang.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/gms-responds-to-bbc-report-on-ship-recycling-in-alang/> To our readers and business associates in the industry: as a subset of media ethics, 'journalistic ethics' is comprised of principals of ethics and good practice that apply to journalists across various types of news mediums.

**Gujarat: No work, cash running out, workers want out of Alang.** Avinash Nair. *Indian Express*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://indianexpress.com/article/coronavirus/gujarat-no-work-cash-running-out-workers-want-out-of-alang-6349136/> "If Alang was Delhi, I would have fled home," says Rajendra Chauhan, hammering nails into planks of wood stained with oil and grease.

**Platform publishes South Asia Quarterly Update #21.** *NGO Shipbreaking Platform*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.shipbreakingplatform.org/platform-publishes-south-asia-quarterly-update-21/> There were a total of 166 ships broken in the first quarter of 2020.

**Indian ship recycling yards resume operations.** Inderpreet Walia. *Lloyd's List*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132047/Indian-ship-recycling-yards-resume-operations> After almost a month-long complete lockdown of the country, ship recycling yards in India reopen.

**Toxic ship heading for Bangladesh.** Pinaki Roy. *Daily Star (Bangladesh)*. 30 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/toxic-ship-heading-bangladesh-1898122> A shipbreaking company is set to illegally import a highly toxic ship for scrapping, risking workers' health and environmental damage.

## SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

**Shipbuilding Faces Uncertain Waters.** Allan E. Jordan. *Maritime Executive*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/shipbuilding-faces-uncertain-waters> The global suspension of cruise operations and the reduction in commercial shipping due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) have broad ramifications for many business sectors, including the shipbuilding industry.

**Wärtsilä signs agreement with Kuribayashi Steamship in Japan for deployment of innovative gate rudder technology.** *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/30-03-2020-wartsila-signs-agreement-with-kuribayashi-steamship-in-japan-for-deployment-of-innovative-gate-rudder-technology-2672893> The technology group Wärtsilä, with the consent of all joint Japanese patent holders developing gate rudder technology, has announced the signing of a Licence and Co-operation Agreement with Kuribayashi Steamship Co for future development, sales and servicing of the gate rudders.

**Royal Navy welcomes it's 'greenest warship since the age of sail' HMS Tamar into Portsmouth.** Tom Cotterill. *Portsmouth News (UK)*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/defence/royal-navy-welcomes-its-greenest-warship-age-sail-hms-tamar-portsmouth-2526825> HMS Tamar is the fourth of five new offshore patrol vessels (OPV) to have sailed into her home city after being pieced together in a shipyard in Glasgow.

**CSSC wins big LNG carrier order from Qatar.** Malcolm Latache. *ShipInsight*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/cssc-wins-big-lng-carrier-order-from-qatar> Qatar petroleum have signed a \$3Bn deal for an unspecified number of LNG carriers with China's CSSC state-owned shipbuilder.

**HMM gets its hands on world's biggest boxship — a 24,000 teu giant.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/hmm-gets-its-hands-on-worlds-biggest-boxship-a-24-000-teu-giant/2-1-796820> South Korea's HMM claimed a new record on Thursday as it took delivery of the largest-ever containership.

**HMM Names World's Largest Container Vessel, 'HMM Algeciras'.** *Hyundai Merchant Marine (HMM)*. 23 April 2020. Available from: [http://www.hmm21.com/cms/company/engn/introduce/prcenter/news/1207889\\_7540.jsp](http://www.hmm21.com/cms/company/engn/introduce/prcenter/news/1207889_7540.jsp) HMM held a naming ceremony for a 24,000 TEU-class containership 'HMM Algeciras', the world's largest containership, at the DSME (Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering)'s Okpo shipyard in Geoje, Korea.

**Coronavirus having 'severe impact' on newbuilding activity, Clarksons says.** Lucy Hine. *TradeWinds*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/coronavirus-having-severe-impact-on-newbuilding-activity-clarksons-says/2-1-798031> Investment in newbuildings in the first three months of this year was at the lowest quarterly figure for 11 years, according to Clarksons Research.

**ClassNK grants world-first AiP to Imabari Shipbuilding for their concept design of a 180,000 DWT LPG dual fuelled bulk carrier.** *ClassNK*. 27 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.classnk.de/hp/en/hp\\_news.aspx?id=4925&type=press\\_release&layout=1](https://www.classnk.de/hp/en/hp_news.aspx?id=4925&type=press_release&layout=1) Leading Classification Society ClassNK granted an Approval in Principle (AiP) to Imabari Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. for their concept design of a 180,000 DWT LPG dual fuelled bulk carrier developed in cooperation with Mitsubishi Shipbuilding Co., Ltd.

## SHIPPING

**Coronavirus and shipping briefing: Tanker rates collapse while the outlook weakens for containers.** *Lloyd's List*. 25 March 2020. Available from: <https://lloydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131673/Coronavirus-and-shipping-briefing-Tanker-rates-collapse-while-the-outlook-weakens-for-containers> In this new weekly briefing covering the coronavirus outbreak and its impact on shipping, the Lloyd's List analyst team offer valuable insight, commentary and analysis on a sector-by-sector basis.

**Stena Bulk performs a test running an MR tanker on 100% biofuel.** *Stena Bulk*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.stenabulk.com/press-and-news/press-releases/stena-bulk-performs-test-running-mr-tanker-100-biofuel> The fuel is the MR1-100 bio-fuel oil, produced from used cooking oil and supplied by GoodFuels in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.



**Nuclear container ship sails up Gulf of Ob, delivers 20,000 tons of goods to Arctic natural gas field.** Atle Staalesen. *Independent Barents Observer (Norway)*. 27 March 2020. Available from: <https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/industry-and-energy/2020/03/nuclear-container-ship-sails-gulf-ob-delivers-20000-tons-og-goods-arctic> Only few weeks after it got its propellers shifted and hull maintained in St. Petersburg, the «Sevmorput» this week arrived in the Utrenneye port in Gydan, the peninsula that now is key investment area for natural gas company Novatek.

**COVID19: Cyprus shipping delays tonnage tax.** *Financial Mirror (Cyprus)*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.financialmirror.com/2020/03/29/covid19-cyprus-shipping-delays-tonnage-tax/> The Deputy Ministry for Shipping is extending the deadline for payment of the Cyprus Registry Maintenance Annual Fee and the tonnage tax of Cyprus ships by two months due to the health emergency.

**LNG as marine fuel video - The first step towards deep-sea shipping GHG reduction.** *Society for Gas as a Marine Fuel (SGMF)*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.sgmf.info/posts/lng-as-marine-fuel-the-first-step-towards-deep-sea-shipping-ghg-reduction> The Society for Gas as a Marine Fuel (SGMF) has released a video explaining why Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is currently the only viable solution available that can cut emissions from deep-sea shipping as newer, cleaner options are developed.

**Shippers shocked by scale and speed of blanked sailing announcements.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shippers-shocked-by-scale-and-speed-of-blanked-sailing-announcements/> Carriers are rushing through blanked sailing announcements on a scale and speed never seen before, giving shippers very little chance to make alternative plans.

**A Humanitarian Crisis: Response to Cruise Ships Stranded at Sea Tests Our Deepest Human Values.** Orlando Ashford. *Holland America Line*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.hollandamerica.com/blog/ships/ms-rotterdam/a-humanitarian-crisis-response-to-cruise-ships-stranded-at-sea-tests-our-deepest-human-values/> The coronavirus (COVID-19) has run rampant through neighbourhoods, businesses and nations, catching all us off guard.

**Inmarsat joins Decarbonising Shipping programme.** *Inmarsat*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.inmarsat.com/news/inmarsat-joins-decarbonising-shipping-programme/> Inmarsat is pleased to announce it is a founding member of Asia's first 'Decarbonising Shipping' initiative to harness the power of start-ups to meet UN targets on greenhouse gas emissions, which launched earlier this month.

**Corona crisis works against shipping's climate plans.** Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12048501.ece> The IMO's climate plan could be pressed for time due to the coronavirus outbreak, which has so far pushed back important meetings with no new dates set.

**WEBINAR: COVID-19 in shipping - Market and Legal Impacts.** *Seatrade Maritime News*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yywjfzXcynk&feature=youtu.be> In this webinar, Seatrade Maritime News, in association with Maritime Strategies International and Holman Fenwick Willian focus on key shipping segments; container ships, dry bulk and oil tankers.

**As those aboard the *Zaandam* cruise wait, Carnival, county scramble to figure out plan.**

Taylor Dolven and Samantha J. Gross. *Miami Herald (US)*. 31 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/tourism-cruises/article241647566.html> Sick people on board the *Zaandam* and *Rotterdam* cruise ships fear they are dying as they steam toward South Florida. But Broward County and Carnival Corporation have yet to agree on a plan that will allow them on shore once they arrive.

**COVID-19: NIMASA, NSC collaborate to sustain shipping business in Nigeria.** Amaka Anagor. *Business Day (Nigeria)*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://businessday.ng/maritime/article/covid-19-nimasa-nsc-collaborate-to-sustain-shipping-business-in-nigeria/> While Federal and State Governments work to contain the spread of Coronavirus, otherwise known as COVID-19, the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), and the port economic regulator, Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC), have agreed to join forces towards ensuring the smooth port operations during the 14-days lockdown in Lagos.

**The impact of Covid-19 on global shipping: part 1, system shock.** Adele Berti.

*Ship-technology.com*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/impact-of-covid-19-on-shipping/> The rapid spread of coronavirus has had a major impact on global shipping markets, with the slump in demand for goods from China having a ripple effect on everything from container ships to oil tankers.

**ECSA Board: Shipping industry keeps Europe running but will need more EU support to recover.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-board-shipping-industry-keeps-europe-running-will-need-more-eu-support-recover> In their meeting on 2 April, ECSA's Board of Directors thanks all maritime professionals across the whole shipping industry for their dedication and sacrifices made to continue the supply of goods and equipment and the necessary transport services to millions of citizens currently affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Groundbreaking coatings developments to boost carbon emissions savings.** Rebecca Moore. *Container Shipping & Trade*. 2 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/groundbreaking-coatings-developments-to-boost-carbon-emissions-savings-58759> Norwegian coatings supplier Jotun is offering a new hull cleaning system designed for challenging vessel operations that if widely adopted, could help to reduce shipping's carbon emissions.

**Shipping industry responding to the COVID-19 pandemic – Keeping the lights on with a response strategy plan.** Athanasios Spanos and Nikolaos Karamesinis. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shipping-industry-responding-to-the-covid-19-pandemic/> The COVID-19 outbreak has been causing a huge impact on people's lives, families and communities.

**LR leading drive to maintain supply chains during COVID-19 pandemic.** *Lloyd's Register*. 3 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/latest-news/leading-drive-to-maintain-supply-chains-during-covid-19-pandemic/> Active and focused support for IMO's recommendations on ensuring shipping services and seafarers can deliver vital goods critical to responding and overcoming this pandemic.

**Denmark's shipping industry focuses on carbon emissions.** *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)*. 3 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.rina.org.uk/Denmarks\\_shipping\\_industry\\_focuses\\_on\\_carbon\\_emissions.html](https://www.rina.org.uk/Denmarks_shipping_industry_focuses_on_carbon_emissions.html) Since 2017, Danish Shipping has seen a growth of 7% in its number of ships and has surpassed its 10% target increase in operational tonnage.

**Caught between COVID-19 and the deep sea.** P Ramdas. *New Indian Express*. 5 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2020/apr/05/caught-between-covid-and-the-deep-sea-2125881.html> Borders remain closed. Airstrips are shut. But merchant vessels continue to traverse the seas with the onerous task of connecting continents and keeping supply chains open.

**Global cruise ship fleets lose US\$4 billion in value as coronavirus pandemic idles industry, halving the number of vessels at sea.** Ryan Swift. *South China Morning Post*. 5 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/business/companies/article/3078347/global-cruise-ship-fleets-lose-us4-billion-value-coronavirus> Cruise ships, which can cost upwards of US\$1 billion each, have begun to fall in value as buyers and investors shun the once-lucrative industry that has lost its appeal amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Coronavirus is disrupting the supply of ships as well as demand.** Peter Sand. *BIMCO*. 6 April 2020. Available from: [https://www.bimco.org/news/market\\_analysis/2020/20200403\\_coronavirus\\_is\\_disrupting\\_the\\_supply\\_of\\_ships\\_as\\_well\\_as\\_demand](https://www.bimco.org/news/market_analysis/2020/20200403_coronavirus_is_disrupting_the_supply_of_ships_as_well_as_demand) The coronavirus outbreak has affected all aspects of the shipping industry, lowering, if not wiping out, demand growth prospects for the year across all segments.

**Stena Line to furlough 600 employees and make 150 redundant in UK and the Republic of Ireland due to COVID-19.** *Stena Line*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <http://news.stenaline.co.uk/pressreleases/stena-line-to-furlough-600-employees-and-make-150-redundant-in-uk-and-the-republic-of-ireland-due-to-covid-19-2989302> Swedish owned ferry company Stena Line has announced that it plans to furlough 600 employees with 150 redundancies across the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

**Maersk extends suspension of crew changes.** Christian Carlsen and Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12062189.ece> The suspension of crew changes on Maersk's ships is extended by a month, informs captain and board member of the shipping company.

**Countries propose environmental rating system for vessels.** Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12062944.ece> It should be much easier for parties collaborating with the shipping industry to understand a ship's environmental profile, and this should be achieved through a rating system adopted by the UN, according to new proposal submitted to the IMO.

**Cutting greenhouse gas emissions from LNG engines.** *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 6 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/06-04-2020-cutting-greenhouse-gas-emissions-from-lng-engines> As shipping looks to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, few fuels have been as energetically discussed as liquified natural gas (LNG).

**Joint ETF-ECSA Declaration of Intention to Address the Enhanced Participation of Women in European Shipping.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/joint-etf-ecsa-declaration-intention-address-enhanced-participation-women-european-shipping> The European social partners for maritime transport, the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) and the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA), are jointly seeking to increase the participation of women in careers in the European shipping industry.

**Maersk maintains its ambitious climate targets despite coronavirus.** Katrine Grønvald Raun. *ShippingWatch*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12065602.ece> While some worry that the coronavirus outbreak could end up postponing key milestones in shipping's climate work, nothing has changed at the world's biggest container shipping line, Maersk, the company's head of regulatory affairs, Simon Bergulf, tells ShippingWatch.

**Coronavirus will trigger revolutionary change in shipping.** Frank Coles. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/coronavirus-will-trigger-revolutionary-change-in-shipping-58867> In a few short months, the mayhem wrought by coronavirus has changed the world.

**Drewry begins tracking weekly containership cancelled sailings and waiting times.** *Drewry Shipping Consultants*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.drewry.co.uk/news/drewry-begins-tracking-weekly-containership-cancelled-sailings-and-waiting-times> Responding to unprecedented market volatility following the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak, Drewry Supply Chain Advisors, the logistics consultancy arm of Drewry Shipping Consultants, is pleased to announce the launch of two new container shipping tracking services reporting cancelled sailings and ship waiting times every week.

**VTT to assess bio- and waste-based oils suitable for power plants and ships.** *VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland*. 7 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.vttresearch.com/en/news-and-ideas/vtt-assess-bio-and-waste-based-oils-suitable-power-plants-and-ships> In a three-year Business Finland BioFlex project, VTT and partners are exploring how suitable fuel oils made from biomass and waste plastics are for power plants and ship diesel engines.

**Wrong-footed shippers could face lengthy HSFO shortages.** Britt Russell-Webster, Paul Hickin, Tom Washington and Sarah-Jane Flaws. *S&P Global Platts*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/oil/040820-wrong-footed-shippers-could-face-lengthy-hsfo-shortages> The marine fuel market has been flipped on its head this year, with fears there would be a lack of IMO-compliant premium bunker fuels as shippers rushed to meet the new rules on sulfur content not materializing—instead shortages of its sulfurous cousin have emerged.

**Inactive boxship fleet to surpass 3m teu for the first time.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/inactive-boxship-fleet-to-surpass-3m-teu-for-the-first-time/> The sudden massive volume of blanked sailings announced in recent days is set to create new records in terms of the inactive containership fleet, which analysts at Alphaliner are now saying will breach the 3m teu mark for the first time meaning some 13% of the entire global box fleet will be out of work.

**Taking Stock of China's Actions to Steer Green Shipping.** Barbara Finamore. *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*. 9 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/barbara-finamore/taking-stock-chinas-actions-steer-green-shipping> As the world copes with the unprecedented public health crisis posed by the coronavirus, many people are experiencing extreme hardship from threats to their health and financial well-being.

**Could a reborn cruise industry be a better environmental steward?** Nick O'Malley. *Brisbane Times (Australia)*. 12 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/environment/climate-change/could-a-reborn-cruise-industry-be-a-better-environmental-steward-20200409-p54iqo.html> Well before the *Ruby Princess* came to the attention of Australian police the ship's parent company, Carnival Corporation, was involved in another scandal on the other side of the world involving something called, colourfully enough, a magic pipe - a home-made device that would eventually cost the company \$US60 million in fines.

**'Major disruption' and a bumpy ride ahead, warns Clarksons.** Julian Bray. *TradeWinds*. 13 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipbroking/-major-disruption-and-a-bumpy-ride-ahead-warns-clarksons/2-1-790712> Shipping faces a major demand shock this year due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic as bad as that seen in the 2008/2009 global financial crisis, according to influential market research.

**Drewry Maritime Financial Insight: Shipping Facing the Pandemic Crisis Effect.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/drewry-maritime-financial-insight-shipping-facing-the-pandemic-crisis-effect/> Container shipping: Container shipping stock prices have been in full retreat with early March witnessing a market storm as stock markets around the world sold off and investors struggled to calculate the economic fallout from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

**Shipping industry requests European Commission to put public consultations and impact assessments on hold.** *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/shipping-industry-requests-european-commission-put-public-consultations-and-impact-assessments> ECSA, together with the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA Europe), the European Dredging Association (EuDA) and Interferry sent a joint letter to the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, requesting that all public consultations and impact assessments be put on hold, due to the current specific situation created by the COVID-19 outbreak. [Joint Letter](#)

**How coronavirus 'stress tests' will change ocean shipping.** Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/how-coronavirus-stress-tests-will-change-ocean-shipping> The coronavirus pandemic will permanently change ocean shipping, but how? The short answer is: It depends on how long the outbreak lasts.

**New alliance of shipowners want politicians to ensure crew changes.** Thomas Christiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12074939.ece> Shipping lines like Norden and Grieg Star as well as ship managers like V. Group and Synergy have banded together in a distress call to politicians, who should immediately ensure that crews can be changed aboard vessels.

**This could be the end of the line for cruise ships.** Freya Higgins-Desbiolles. *The Conversation*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/this-could-be-the-end-of-the-line-for-cruise-ships-135937> Stranded cruise ships have become a symbol of the COVID-19 pandemic. Passengers and crew are desperate to get off but the ports to which they've headed don't want them.

**Union takes leading role in new UK diversity taskforce.** *Nautilus International*. 14 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/union-takes-leading-role-in-new-uk-diversity-taskforce/> Nautilus International has taken a lead role in a new initiative to encourage diversity in the UK maritime industry.

**I am not captivated by carbon capture.** Paul Gunton. *ShipInsight*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/i-am-not-captivated-by-carbon-capture> I confess that I am a bit late bringing you news that a small UK company has been awarded government funding to explore the potential of using on-board carbon capture to deliver a carbon-free future for global shipping.

**Coronavirus in the Caribbean: Container volumes plunge.** Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/coronavirus-in-the-caribbean-island-container-volumes-plunge> In the first article of a two-part series, FreightWaves examines how COVID-19 affects regional container markets and carriers serving the Caribbean Basin.

**Coronavirus in the Caribbean: Container hubs in crosshairs.** Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/coronavirus-in-the-caribbean-container-hubs-in-crosshairs> In the second article of a two-part series, FreightWaves examines how COVID-19 affects the Caribbean Basin's all-important transshipment hubs.

**Throughput volume falls in an exceptional first quarter.** *Port of Rotterdam*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/throughput-volume-falls-in-an-exceptional-first-quarter> The coronavirus pandemic led to highly exceptional conditions in the first quarter of 2020, with severe worldwide disruption of production processes and logistical chains.

**ABS warns shipping is in danger of missing key carbon reduction target.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/abs-warns-shipping-is-in-danger-of-missing-key-carbon-reduction-target/2-1-793069> Shipping could fall short of its goal to cut carbon emissions in half by 2050, analysis by classification society ABS suggests.

**ABS Unveils Latest Trends and Projections for Future Fuels and Decarbonization.** *ABS (American Bureau of Shipping)*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://ww2.eagle.org/en/news/press-room/abs-unveils-latest-trends-and-projections-for-future-fuels-and-decarbonization.html> ABS has published the latest trends and projections on carbon-reduction strategies for shipping as the industry looks to meet decarbonization ambitions. [Setting the Course to Low Carbon Shipping](#) 📄

**NTU and SMI launch comprehensive report to help the shipping industry adopt alternative and greener fuels.** *Singapore Maritime Institute (SMI)*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritimeinstitute.sg/Events-Activities?tabs=news&year=2020&modal=78> Completed last month, the 12-month study covers the technological, environmental and economic considerations in adopting alternative fuels. It evaluates the characteristics of four fuels, namely, liquefied natural gas (LNG), methanol, biodiesel, and hydrogen, and outlines ways to incorporate them into existing ship systems. [Alternative Fuels for International Shipping](#) 📄

**The Poseidon Principles - Part 2 – Implementation.** Marie-Anne Moussalli and Ioanna Tsekoura. *Clyde & Co LLP*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/the-poseidon-principles-part-2-implementation> The Third Principle, "the Enforcement Principle", requires that the lender ensures ongoing compliance with the Principles by including a covenant requiring the borrower to provide the necessary information in order for the lender to comply with the Principles.

**Clyde & Co moderates Decarbonization panel at Capital Link International Shipping Forum.** *Clyde & Co LLP*. 17 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/clyde-co-moderates-decarbonization-panel-at-capital-link-shipping-forum> At the 2020 Capital Link International Shipping Forum, John Keough moderated a panel on decarbonization and green shipping that discussed the reduction of greenhouse emissions as the next challenge which will have transformational impact on the shipping industry. [Full Panel Discussion](#) 📄

**Where are all the cruise ships now?** Mary Bond. *Seatrade Cruise News*. 17 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.seatrade-cruise.com/news/where-are-all-cruise-ships-now> With over 95% of the world's oceangoing cruise ships in temporary layup, berthed or at close anchor, and the final few making their way to a safe haven, Seatrade with the help of Informa's Lloyd's List Intelligence made-to-measure data has drawn up where the vessels are currently located.

**Could coronavirus derail shipping's decarbonisation agenda?** Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*.

17 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131983/Could-coronavirus-derail-shippings-decarbonisation-agenda> Is zero carbon shipping on the back burner, or could the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic actually help to drive decarbonisation as governments consider stimulus packages and investments to rebuild economic growth, re-setting the carbon trajectory in the process?

**The Lloyd's List Podcast: Is shipping sailing into a great depression?** *Lloyd's List*.

17 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1131952/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Is-shipping-sailing-into-a-great-depression> The doom-laden forecasts have been coming thick and fast this week, warning of the steepest downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s, a lost decade of growth in Latin America and a shrinking Chinese economy for the first time since 1992.

**A flag state's duty of care during a pandemic.** *Superyacht News*. 20 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.superyachtnews.com/business/a-flag-states-duty-of-care-during-a-pandemic> During the coronavirus pandemic, a number of cruise ships have been repeatedly refused permission to dock and disembark passengers amid precautionary measures to curb the spread of the virus. In light of these incidents, the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) publicly criticised flag states for failing to protect seafarer and passenger health.

**Class analyses suggest no single fuel type for zero-carbon shipping.** Richard Clayton.

*Lloyd's List*. 20 April 2020. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132003/Class-analyses-suggest-no-single-fuel-type-for-zero-carbon-shipping> Studies released by ABS and LR into future fuels examine changing trade patterns, ship types, and fuel prices to conclude that finding a single solution to meet IMO targets is a highly complex.

**LR and UMAS publish Techno-Economic Assessment of Zero-Carbon Fuels** *University*

*Maritime Advisory Services (UMAS)*. 20 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.umas.co.uk/Latest/Post/421> LR and UMAS have published their latest assessment of the current and future fuels available to shipping to help define the optimum solutions as the maritime industry seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**'Bad neighbour': will the cruise industry resume its rise in Australia after coronavirus?**

Ben Smee. *The Guardian*. 20 April 2020. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2020/apr/22/bad-neighbour-will-the-cruise-industry-ever-be-the-same-again-after-coronavirus> Plans to welcome larger ships and more frequent visits to Australia are now in limbo amid uncertainty about when – or if – the business will recover.

**Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.** Alfred Buttigieg. *Times of Malta*. 20 April 2020.

Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions.786707> Transport by sea and ports is the major global route by which nations deliver the diverse cargoes of goods, food and materials across the world.

**Angola Joins WISTA International.** *Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://wistainternational.com/news/angola-joins-wista-international/> WISTA International welcomes Angola to the global network of women in shipping, trading and logistics this month as the 51<sup>st</sup> National WISTA Association (NWA).

**Update On Cruise Industry Response To COVID-19.** *Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)*. 21 April 2020. Available from: <https://cruising.org/news-and-research/press-room/2020/april/clia-covid-19-toolkit> As the world continues to address challenges regarding COVID-19, Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has been working with local and national governments around the world, as well as leading health authorities and our partners across the wider cruise community to coordinate our efforts during the ongoing suspension of worldwide cruise operations.

**Hapag-Lloyd publishes 2019 sustainability report.** *Hapag-Lloyd*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hapag-loyd.com/en/press/releases/2020/04/on-course--hapag-loyd-publishes-2019-sustainability-report.html> Significant reductions in CO2 emissions per container transported, a successful conversion of the vessel fleet to operate using low-sulphur fuel oil, and considerable improvements in quality – these are the key advances that Hapag-Lloyd made in the 2019 financial year in terms of its sustainability strategy. [Sustainability Report 2019](#) 📄

**The Registry Information Sharing Compact is a major step forward in sanctions enforcement.** Steve Osborne. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 22 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/the-registry-information-sharing-compact-is-a-major-step-forward-in-sanctions-enforcement/> On 21 February 2020 details were first published of an historic and unprecedented information-sharing agreement among the world's three biggest open shipping registries – Panama, Marshall Islands and Liberia.

**LNG as a marine fuel: Holy Grail or empty promise?** John Snyder. *LNG Shipping & Terminals*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/lng-as-a-marine-fuel-holy-grail-or-empty-promise-59060> Proponents of LNG as a marine fuel contend it offers immediate environmental benefits and a clear path to decarbonisation, while critics focus on the problem of methane slip.

**The financial cost of low-carbon transformation in shipping.** Adele Berti. *Ship-technology.com*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/cost-of-decarbonising-shipping/> Climate change is posing serious financial challenges to the shipping industry, which is naturally volatile and in constant search of stable sources of investment.

**Major oil fluctuations rub off on shipping lines' fuel prices.** Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12093913.ece> The massive fluctuations in the oil price in recent days mean that the price of low-sulfur in the US on Wednesday was lower than that of high-sulfur fuel, notes shipping analyst Lars Jensen.

**OCIMF Covid-19 Update Bulletin #8 - Inspection guidance during the global COVID-19 pandemic.** *Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF)*. 23 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.ocimf.org/news/news-articles/ocimf-covid-19-update-bulletin-8-inspection-guidance-during-the-global-covid-19-pandemic.aspx> This contains the latest information from OCIMF for inspectors and supersedes guidance to inspectors as issued in bulletin #7 on 6 April 2020.



**South Korea's billion dollar aid to strained shipping companies faces harsh criticism: "The last thing we need".** Tomas Kristiansen, Christian Carlsen and Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12097211.ece> It is "very worrying" that South Korea plans to help the country's shipping companies with USD 1 billion, says Danish Shipping, which fears that this could lead to further overcapacity in an already strained market.

**The Lloyd's List Podcast: The View from Singapore.** *Lloyd's List*. 24 April 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132081/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-The-View-from-Singapore> We should have been in Singapore this week, setting the agenda for digitalisation and decarbonisation.

**Oil market faces storage crisis in a world awash with crude.** Jillian Ambrose. *The Guardian*. 25 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/apr/25/oil-market-storage-crisis-coronavirus-plummeting-demand> Supergiant oil tankers are floating outside the world's largest shipping ports with enough oil to meet the world's daily demand twice over.

**Abu Dhabi's 'Horns of Hope' campaign unites global ports.** *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 25 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1665041/corporate-news> Global ports have joined together under the banner of Abu Dhabi Ports' "Horns of Hope" initiative to show support for those engaged on the frontlines with the coronavirus pandemic.

**And we thought IMO 2020 would be challenging....** Adrian Tolson. *Splash 247.com*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/and-we-thought-imo-2020-would-be-challenging/> Remember the old good days when we thought IMO 2020 would be challenging?

**ICS after South Korean state aid: "We must ensure level playing field".** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12101280.ece> The International Chamber of Shipping, ICS, emphasizes the need for fair competition in a comment to ShippingWatch on the South Korean state's million-dollar aid scheme for the national shipping industry.

**Baltic standard drives cruise wastewater systems.** Rebecca Moore. *Passenger Ship Technology*. 27 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/balticnbstandard-drivesnbpcruise-wastewater-systemsnb59120> Scanship chief commercial officer Bjorn Abraham Bache tells Passenger Ship Technology "The market for wastewater treatment is becoming stricter and stricter, more and more ship operators understand the need to have advanced systems.

**Global webinar puts spotlight on environmental regulations.** *DNV GL*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/news/global-webinar-puts-spotlight-on-environmental-regulations-173755> In DNV GL's latest global webinar, environmental experts looked at the range of ongoing environmental regulations working to improve the sustainability of the shipping industry.

**BIMCO floating storage clause for tankers: What to cover.** Grant Hunter. *BIMCO*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20200427-floating-storage-clause-for-tankers> The practice of charterers using oil tankers for floating storage is certainly not a new concept.

**Carbon quotas for shipping feature on EU's fall agenda.** Tomas Kristiansen and Daniel Logan Berg-Munch. *ShippingWatch*. 28 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12104149.ece> The German EU chairmanship, set to begin in July, maintains that carbon quotas will be implemented on shipping.

**S&B Viewpoint: Can Russia Cling on to Its Bunker Market Share in the IMO 2020 Era?**

Jack Jordan. *Ship & Bunker*. 29 April 2020. Available from:

<https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/731483-sb-viewpoint-can-russia-cling-on-to-its-bunker-market-share-in-the-imo-2020-era> Russia, historically at the heart of the bunker market with its cheap supply of high sulfur fuel oil, is struggling to hang onto its market share this year with the advent of IMO 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic.

**IMO 2020: The Marine Insurance Perspective.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 29 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/imo-2020-the-marine-insurance-perspective/> 2020 began with one of the most significant changes to the global maritime industry: the enforcement of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO)'s 2020 Sulphur Cap.

**Carriers likely to face high seas after coronavirus crisis.** Lars Jensen. *Lloyd's List*. 29 April 2020.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132118/Carriers-likely-to-face-high-seas-after-coronavirus-crisis> The short-term impact of the coronavirus pandemic spread is becoming acutely visible to all participants in the global supply chain.

**Shipping guru crystal ball: less globalization, more tech.** Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*.

29 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/shipping-guru-crystal-ball-less-globalization-more-tech> When the leading sage of ocean shipping, Martin Stopford, gave a Zoom presentation on Tuesday, it called to mind a classic Grateful Dead concert: extremely long, frequently brilliant, often memorable, improvisational, meandering off on tangents, and rough around the edges in a good way.

**DSV's redundancy plan will affect businesses globally.** Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*.

30 April 2020. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/logistics/article12110190.ece> DSV Panalpina will lay off 3,000 employees as part of a global cost saving plan due to the coronavirus outbreak.

**Global shipping fleet to sound horns on labour day to raise alarm over need for urgent crew change.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 30 April 2020. Available from:

<https://bit.ly/307P3Dm> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) are coordinating ships around the world to sound their horns when in port at 12.00 local time on Labour Day - 1 May.

[Seafarers Supporting Global Trade during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

**International Transport Forum warns governments to be careful bailing out debt-laden carriers.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 30 April 2020. Available from:

<https://splash247.com/international-transport-forum-warns-governments-to-be-careful-bailing-out-debt-laden-carriers/> The International Transport Forum (ITF), which works under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, is set to lock horns with the liner community once again, issuing a 10-page report yesterday cautioning government from rushing to bail out of debt-laden carriers in the coming months.

**Europe should not give cruising a blank cheque.** Sönke Diesener. *EurActiv*. 30 April 2020.

Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/opinion/europe-should-not-give-cruising-a-blank-cheque/> The lobby group Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has sent a letter to the European Commission asking for a series of aid for the sector.

## RESEARCH

Radunsky K and Cadman T. **Governing the Sun: The Challenges of Geoengineering.** *International Journal of Social Quality*. Winter 2019. Available from: <https://www.berghahnjournals.com/view/journals/ijsq/9/2/ijsq090203.xml> Governments have previously sought to reduce climate-change-inducing concentrations of carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere through mitigation and adaptation activities, with limited success.

Visalli ME, Best BD, et al. **Data-driven approach for highlighting priority areas for protection in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction.** *Marine Policy*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X19309194> One of the aims of the United Nations (UN) negotiations on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) is to develop a legal process for the establishment of area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, in ABNJ.

De Santo EM, Mendenhall E, et al. **Stuck in the middle with you (and not much time left): The third intergovernmental conference on biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction.** *Marine Policy*. 29 March 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X19308334> The third of four scheduled Inter-Governmental Conferences on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction met in New York in August 2019.

Milner J, Hamilton I, et al. **Health benefits of policies to reduce carbon emissions.** *BMJ*. 30 March 2020. Available from: <https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/368/bmj.l6758.full.pdf> James Milner and colleagues argue that carefully considered policies to lower carbon emissions can also improve health, and we should use these benefits to push for strong climate action.

Kelly A, Lannuzel D, et al. **Microplastic contamination in east Antarctic sea ice.** *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. 4 April 2020. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X20302484> The durability of plastics in the marine environment has led to concerns regarding the pervasiveness of this debris in remote polar habitats.

Matthews LP, Fournet MEH, et al. **Acoustically advertising male harbour seals in southeast Alaska do not make biologically relevant acoustic adjustments in the presence of vessel noise.** *Biology Letters*. 8 April 2020. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2019.0795> Aquatically breeding harbour seal (*Phoca vitulina*) males use underwater vocalizations during the breeding season to establish underwater territories, defend territories against intruder males, and possibly to attract females.

Pendleton L, Evans K, et al. **Opinion: We need a global movement to transform ocean science for a better world.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 15 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/early/2020/04/15/2005485117.full.pdf> The ocean is our planet's largest life-support system.

Serra P and Fancello G. **Towards the IMO's GHG Goals: A Critical Overview of the Perspectives and Challenges of the Main Options for Decarbonizing International Shipping.** *Sustainability*. 16 April 2020. Available from: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/12/8/3220> The Initial Strategy on reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from ships adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 2018 commits the IMO to reduce total GHG emissions of shipping by at least 50% by 2050.

Kane IA, Clare MA, et al. **Seafloor microplastic hotspots controlled by deep-sea circulation.** *Science*. 30 April 2020. Available from: <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/early/2020/04/29/science.aba5899.full.pdf> While microplastics are known to pervade the global seafloor, the processes that control their dispersal and concentration in the deep sea remain largely unknown.

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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.