

# International Chamber of Shipping

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**TO: ALL FULL AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

**Copy: Shipping Policy Committee  
Marine Committee  
Construction & Equipment Sub-Committee**

## US DEVELOPMENTS - APRIL 2016

**Action required: To note the attached report from the Chamber of Shipping of America (CSA).**

Attached at **Annex A**, please find the monthly report from CSA for April 2016.

The report contains *inter alia*:

1. News on the finalised regulations relative to the new U.S. ballast water reporting and recordkeeping requirements. CSA explains that the United States Coast Guard (USCG) has recently published a notice informing the industry that the new reporting form must be used from 1 May 2016.
2. News that the USCG has finalised the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) Guidelines, which will be applicable to tanker and non-tanker vessels from 10 June 2016.
3. Information on a policy letter issued on 26 February 2016 by the USCG, concerning the U.S. Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises (GIUEs) and their possible implications for the shipping industry.
4. News that the USCG issued a Policy Letter on the renewal timeline and process for Vessel Security Plans (VSP), Alternative Security Programs (ASP) and Facility Security Plans (FSP). The CSA report explains, *inter alia*, that the renewal VSP, ASP and FSP must be submitted to the USCG 60 days prior to the expiration of the current approved plan.
5. News that the USCG has issued its final rule (effective on 9 May 2016) requiring the carriage of discharge removal equipment for ships carrying oil in bulk as cargo. According to the CSA, the final rule does not introduce any new requirements but rather reinforces and makes final the provisions of an interim rule originally published on 22 December 1993 which changed and evolved over the past 20 years. The CSA report also sheds light on the explicit requirements outlined in the final rule.

6. News that the USCG has revised the Oil Spill Removal Organization (OSRO) Guidelines, which focus on the requirements applicable to OSROs and will become effective on 30 November 2016. The CSA report also highlights the changes contained in the revised OSRO guidelines.
7. Information on a recent CARB Marine Notice regarding the California Ocean Going Vessel Fuel regulation, which was first finalized in 2008 and amended in 2011. CSA explains that following a review CARB determined that IMO/US (ECA) requirements applicable to vessels trading in California waters do NOT achieve equivalent reductions consistent with the existing California regulations.

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