



Australian Maritime Digest

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The Australian Maritime Digest is compiled by the Australian Association for Maritime Affairs – www.aama.asn.au -and published monthly for the benefit of the Australian maritime community.



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6 May 2014 - Marina management software seminar – Sydney 17
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 7-11 June 2014 – World Aquaculture Conference – Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide 17
 11-12 June 2014 - 12th ASEAN Ports & Shipping Conference – Jakarta, Indonesia 17
 25-27 June 2014 - Advanced Structural Integrity Management for Offshore Installations including topside & FPSO – Singapore 17
 7-11 July 2014 - Australian Marine Sciences Association Conference – Canberra 17
 29-30 July 2014 - Defence and Industry Conference - Adelaide 17
 26-27 August 2014 - Dredging and Reclamation conference – Brisbane 17
 17-18 September 2014 - 10th Ballast Water Management Summit – Singapore 17
 13-14 October 2014 – Intermanager AGM 2014 to run alongside ship management conference – Singapore 18
 16-18 October 2014 - 3rd Annual World Congress of Ocean & Investment and Trade Fair-2014 – Dalian, China 18
 22-23 October 2014 – Ship Recycling Summit – Singapore 18
 29-30 October 2014 - 11th Ballast Water Management Summit – Hamburg 18
 27-31 October 2014 – Euronaval – Paris Le Bourget, France 18
 11-14 November 2014 – 23rd 2014 NSW Coastal Conference – Ulladulla NSW 18
 19-20 November 2014 - ACI's 9th Vessel Efficiency & Fuel Management Summit – Singapore 18
 3-5 May 2015 – Marine15 recreational marine business and safety conference – Gold Coast 18
 2-4 February 2016 – 2016 Pacific International Maritime Exposition – Sydney Exhibition Centre, Glebe Island 18

EDITORIAL

Australian Association for Maritime Affairs

The objectives of the Australian Association for Maritime Affairs are to generate greater public awareness of maritime affairs, and to encourage well-informed decision making on maritime issues.

www.aama.asn.au

Extraordinary General Meeting of the AAMA – 5 June 2014

The Board of the Australian Association for Maritime Affairs (AAMA) gives notice to all Members of the Association of an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held at:

17.30 on Thursday, 5 June 2014

at the offices of the
Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)
82 Northbourne Avenue
Braddon ACT 2612

to address a motion “*That this Extraordinary General Meeting of the Australian Association for Maritime Affairs agrees that the Association be wound up on 30 June 2014 and any remaining funds be donated to the Australian Marine Environment Protection Association.*”

AAMA Members who are able to attend should muster by the rear (Mort Street) entrance of the AMSA building by 17.30 to be admitted to the building. Interstate members who wish to participate may do so by telephone but need to advise admin@aama.asn.au by 2 June so that telephone reception facilities can be provided at the meeting.

Richard Griffiths
Board Member

New e-mail address to submit papers for the Australian Journal of Maritime and Ocean Affairs (AJMOA)

With the likely winding up of the AAMA itself, the current e-mail address for submitting papers for publication in AJMOA - admin@aama.asn.au - will become inoperative from 30 June 2014 when the domain name registration lapses. Effective immediately, papers for publication in AJMOA should be submitted directly to the AJMOA Editor, Prof. Marcus Haward, at M.G.Haward@utas.edu.au

Papers submitted to admin@aama.asn.au will, of course, continue to be forwarded to Prof. Hayward by AAMA staff until that date.

Would readers please advise their colleagues of this change?

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do not necessarily reflect those of the
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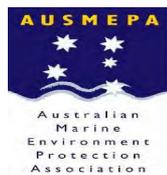
Maritime Australia Limited
PO Box 4095, Geelong, VIC 3220
Web site: www.pacific2013.com.au



Australasian Hydrographic Society
93 Ashworth Avenue, Belrose NSW 2085
Web site: www.ahs.asn.au



Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)
GPO Box 2181, Canberra ACT 2601
Web site: www.amsa.gov.au



Australian Marine Environment Protection Association (AUSMEPA)
PO Box 7122, Sippy Downs QLD 4557
Web site: www.ausmepa.org.au



Commonwealth Fisheries Association (CFA)
PO Box 9022, Deakin ACT 2600
Web site: www.comfish.com.au



GW Marine Consultants Pty Ltd
Unit 5, 13 Wheatley Street, Gosnells WA 6110
Web site: www.gwmarine.com.au



Australian Maritime College
Newnham Drive, Newnham TAS 7248
Web site: www.amc.edu.au

The Board of the Australian Association for Maritime Affairs thanks its corporate supporters.



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MARITIME DEFENCE, CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION

Keel laying ceremony for the Australian Customs and Border Protection Vessel (ACV) *Cape Leveque*

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Scott Morrison [took](#) part in a time-honoured keel laying ceremony for the Australian Customs and Border Protection Vessel (ACV) *Cape Leveque* held in Henderson, Western Australia. Minister Morrison said this was the sixth vessel in the Cape Class Patrol Boat fleet.

Senior Australian Defence Force appointments announced

The Prime Minister, Mr Abbott, [announced](#) “The Government will recommend to the Governor-General a number of senior Australian Defence Force appointments. Air Marshal Mark Binskin AC will become Chief of the Defence Force when General David Hurley AC, DSC completes his tenure on 3 July 2014.” and “The Government will also recommend the Governor-General appoint Vice Admiral Ray Griggs, AO, CSC, RAN as Vice Chief of the Defence Force and Rear Admiral Tim Barrett, AM, CSC, RAN as the incoming Chief of Navy. Both would commence their appointments on 3 July 2014 for a period of four years. The Government will recommend that the Chief of Army, Lieutenant General David Morrison, AO, and the Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Geoff Brown, AO, remain in their current positions until July 2015.”

Defence White Paper

The Prime Minister, Mr Abbott, [announced](#) “The Government will develop a Defence White Paper to be released next year which will underpin a costed, affordable plan to achieve Australia’s defence and national security objectives. The White Paper will align defence policy with military strategy and deliver an affordable Australian Defence Force structure. The Government is committed to returning Defence spending to two per cent of Australia’s Gross Domestic Product in the next decade as our budgetary position improves. The Defence White Paper will assist in developing a costed acquisition programme and a 10-year Defence Capability Plan and an updated Defence Industry Policy Statement.”

Japan-Australia Summit Meeting – Defence cooperation

The joint [communiqué](#) of the meeting between Australian Prime Minister Abbott and Japanese Prime Minister Abe said, *inter alia*, “9. The two leaders affirmed their intention to elevate the bilateral security and defence relationship to a new level, building on the 2007 Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation and reflecting the recent growth in defence cooperation. The two leaders discussed the importance of further expanding combined defence training through improved interoperability between the two countries’ defence organisations. In this regard, they tasked Foreign and Defence Ministers, at their next ‘2+2’ consultations in Tokyo in June this year, to develop recommendations for Prime Ministerial consideration to enhance practical bilateral defence cooperation.” and “11. The two leaders noted the two countries’ complementary strengths and shared interests in cooperation on defence science, technology and equipment, and decided to commence negotiations towards a framework agreement in this field. They instructed 2+2 Ministers to oversee joint research on marine hydrodynamics as an initial area of science and technology cooperation.”

Social media commentary by Royal Australian Navy personnel

The Chief of Navy [announced](#) “In January this year both the ABC and Fairfax media carried stories regarding alleged inappropriate use of social media by members of the Royal Australian Navy. The reporting had a focus on inappropriate comments relating to border protection operations and the alleged involvement of Navy people in the Australian Defence League (ADL), an anti-Islamic Group.” and “Several sailors have had their employment terminated or have been issued with notices of cause for termination. Others have received a range of disciplinary punishments or other administrative sanctions including formal warnings and either formal or informal counselling depending on the circumstances of the case.”

Final Coles Review into submarine sustainment

The Minister for Defence, Senator Johnston, and the Minister for Finance, Senator Cormann, [announced](#) “The fourth and final review into the Collins Class submarine sustainment program, released today by expert John Coles, confirms that submarine maintenance and availability has significantly improved. The review findings have been welcomed by Minister for Defence David Johnston and Minister for Finance Mathias Cormann. The [report](#) found that two and frequently three submarines are now available for deployment at any one time. In the recent past, we were often reliant on a single boat.”

The Role of Submarines in a Maritime Strategy

In a speech to ASPI, the Chief of Navy, VADM Griggs, [outlined](#) the strategic rationale for submarines in Australia’s defence forces.

Minister for Defence Speech at the ASPI conference - Future Submarine Project

In a [speech](#) at the ASPI conference, the Minister for Defence, Senator Johnston, announced a major reassessment of the assumptions and parameters of the Future Submarine Project. [See also the [transcript](#) of a subsequent media interview with regard to approaches to naval shipbuilding in general - Editor]

Launch of *Maritime Security handbook: stowaways by sea*

The Nautical Institute announced the launch of this publication, which is aimed at helping people who have to deal with stowaways by giving advice on the preparation and training that is needed both onboard and ashore. It is available from The Nautical Institute price: £20; ISBN: 978 1 906915 47 6 <http://www.nautinst.org/pubs>

HMAS *Darwin* provides emergency medical assistance for French fishing vessel

Defence [announced](#) “While patrolling in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Africa, Royal Australian Navy ship HMAS *Darwin* provided emergency medical assistance for a heart attack victim on a French fishing vessel. The French Fishing Vessel (FV) Cape Saint Vincent called for assistance late on the night of the 10th of April. The French Joint Headquarters requested *Darwin*’s assistance through the United Kingdom led Combined Task Force (CTF) 150.”

Action taken on inadvertent incursion into Indonesian territorial waters

Defence [reported](#) “In February this year the Customs and Border Protection Service and Defence released [sic] a joint review in relation to the positioning of vessels engaged in Operation Sovereign Borders.” and “The Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Ray Griggs has concluded his considerations into these issues and made a number of decisions in relation to the seven RAN ship Commanding Officers involved noting that more than one ship was involved in each incursion.”

RAN Taskforce responsible for leading \$2 billion drug intercept home from Middle East

Defence [announced](#) “The 25-member Royal Australian Navy counter terrorism taskforce, Combined Taskforce 150 (CTF150), returned to Australia today after a successful five month Middle East deployment, which resulted in the interdiction of significant amounts of drugs headed to fund violent and extremist organisations.”

Illegal foreign fishing vessel intercepted West of Darwin

The Customs and Border Protection Service, in association with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, [announced](#) “Border Protection Command (BPC), working closely with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA), has apprehended a foreign fishing vessel approximately 275 nautical miles West of Darwin suspected of illegally fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone.”

Royal Australian Navy seizes record 1032 kg of heroin

Defence [reported](#) “On the eve of Anzac Day commemorations, Royal Australian Navy frigate HMAS *Darwin* seized and destroyed more than one tonne of heroin. The record 1032 kilograms of heroin was discovered on board a dhow in the Indian Ocean, approximately 27 nautical miles east of Mombasa, Kenya.”

Japanese Minister of Defense discussions

In a [statement](#) on the visit to view the search for Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370, the Australian Minister for Defence, Senator Johnston, said “... it was likely Australia and Japan would oversee research on marine hydrodynamics as an initial area of science and technology cooperation, in addition to negotiating a framework agreement on defence science, technology and equipment.”

23 nations heading to Hawaii for RIMPAC as exercise details emerge

Stars and Stripes [reported](#) “Twenty-three nations, about 40 ships, six submarines, hundreds of aircraft and 25,000 people are participating in this year's Rim of the Pacific war games in and around Hawaii June 26 to Aug. 1, the [US] Navy said.”

The US *Navy Times* [reported](#) “China plans to bring four ships to Hawaii this summer as its vessels participate in the world's largest naval exercises for the first time.”

Border Protection Command intercepts two foreign fishing vessels north-west of Darwin

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) [reported](#) “Border Protection Command (BPC) has apprehended two foreign fishing vessels suspected of illegally fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone. The vessels were both detected by an Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) Dash-8 surveillance aircraft, working under the coordination of BPC.”

HMAS *Huon* Presented with the Gloucester Cup by the Governor-General

Defence [announced](#) “HMAS *Huon* was today [30 Apr] presented with the Royal Australian Navy's most prestigious award for outstanding performance by His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. The time honoured and highly esteemed Gloucester Cup was presented to 49 men and women of *Huon* for excelling above all others throughout 2013 in operations, safety, seamanship, reliability and training.”

China Seas Developments – April

Reuters [reported](#) “China summoned the Philippines ambassador on Monday [31 Mar] to lodge a strong complaint over Manila's seeking of international arbitration in a festering territorial dispute over the South China Sea.”

The *Voice of Russia* [reported](#) “Warships of Russia, Indonesia, Japan, Vietnam, Australia and the Philippines are engaged in the first stage of the Komodo 2014 multilateral exercises in the South China Sea, Russian Pacific Fleet spokesman Capt. 1st Rank Roman Martov said on Monday [31 Mar].”

The *Asia Times* [Hong Kong] [reported](#) “In a significant policy shift, Indonesian officials on March 12 announced that China's nine-dash line map outlining its claims in the South China Sea overlaps with Indonesia's Riau province, which includes the Natuna Island chain.”

ZeeNews [India] [reported](#) “The United States is scrapping plans for a Navy ship to join a fleet review in China after key ally, Japan, was not invited, US officials said on Thursday [3 Apr], in a move that came just ahead of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's trip to Japan and China.”

The US *Navy Times* [reported](#) “In a face-off between the defense chiefs of China and the U.S., Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel told his Chinese counterpart on Tuesday [8 Apr] that his country does not have the right to unilaterally establish an air defense zone over disputed islands with no consultation. And he said America will protect Japan, the Philippines and other allies locked in disputes with China, as laid out in U.S. treaty obligations.”

The People's Daily [reported](#) “In his speech at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia, Chinese premier Li Keqiang said that China would respond decisively to any provocation on the South China Sea.”

WantChinaTimes [Taiwan] [reported](#) “The Chinese navy announced on Tuesday [15 Apr] that an international fleet review has been canceled for the Western Pacific Naval Symposium to be held later this month in eastern China's Qingdao.”

The Hindu Business Line [reported](#) “China's new initiative to build a “maritime silk road” to boost connectivity between the Asia-Pacific region and the Indian Ocean will prioritise building ports and improving infrastructure in littoral countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, according to official reports.”

WantChinaTimes [Taiwan] [reported](#) “The Chinese government is stepping up its efforts to revive the Maritime Silk Road, with port construction as a priority, Chinese media reported on Wednesday [16 Apr]. The plan is expected to focus on infrastructure construction of countries along the route, including ports in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, the Chinese-language China Securities Journal said.”

The Times of India [reported](#) “Indian warship INS Shivalik arrived in eastern China's Qingdao port on Sunday [20 Apr] to participate in a multinational naval show from Wednesday. This is the first time navies of India and Pakistan are jointly participating in an international naval demonstration in a third country, sources said.”

The Japan News [reported](#) “The [Japanese] Maritime Self-Defense Force has joined 20 other navies, including those of the United States, China and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, in agreeing to a naval code of conduct that bans weaponry radar-locking on military ships of other countries, government sources said Monday [21 Apr].” The Code for Unplanned Encounters at Sea is expected to be adopted at the Western Pacific Naval Symposium opening in Qingdao on Tuesday.”

Radio Australia [reported](#) “Japan's government has warned that the seizure of a Japanese ship in Shanghai over pre-wartime debts threatened its ties with China and could undermine the basis of their diplomatic relationship.”

Swiss Info quoted Reuters to [report](#) “Countries embroiled in territorial rows in the East and South China Seas agreed on Tuesday [22 Apr] to abide by a maritime communications deal to try to ensure accidental naval altercations do not develop into a conflict.”

Stars and Stripes [reported](#) “The disputed Senkaku Islands fall under the scope of the Japan-United States security alliance, President Barack Obama told a news conference Thursday [24 Apr] in a move that likely will provoke another sharp critique from Beijing.”

DefenseWorld [reported](#) “China is building underwater surveillance systems to detect submarines and began developing the project in 2011. The system is apparently similar to the one used by the US during the Cold War. The development of the system is to counter the much feared invading by the foreign warships and it also enables China to monitor submarines operating off its coasts and, presumably, in the South China Sea.”

The US *Navy Times* [reported](#) “China's navy commissioned 17 new warships last year, the most of any nation. In a little more than a decade, it's expected to have three aircraft carriers, giving it more clout than ever in a region of contested seas and festering territorial disputes.”

The Hindu [reported](#) “As the Indian Navy's INS Shivalik prepared to leave Qingdao port on Friday [25 Apr] after a six-day stay in China, both countries declared that the missile frigate's visit had gone a long way in deepening strategic trust between two navies that are increasingly coming into contact on the high seas.”

Z News [India] [reported](#) “China today [25 Apr] summoned American and Japanese ambassadors here separately and lodged protest over a joint statement issued during US President Barack Obama's visit to Tokyo that asserted their bilateral security treaty was applicable to the disputed islands in the East China Sea.”

Bloomberg [reported](#) “The Philippines and the U.S. signed an agreement that will boost the American troop presence in the Southeast Asian nation, as President **Barack Obama** said America's strategic rebalancing to **Asia** isn't aimed at combating a rising **China**.”

The New York Times Editorial Board [opined](#) on 27 April “The United States, China, Japan and 18 other nations around the Pacific agreed last week to a much-needed naval code of conduct, which should reduce uncertainties and the possibility of unintended conflict. The Code for Unplanned Encounters at Sea provides a maneuvering and signal manual to reduce interference during naval ship and aircraft encounters.” [That's probably pretty close to being the US Government's view - Editor]

Operation Sovereign Borders updates – April

The Minister for Immigration and Border Protection released these updates: [4 Apr](#), [11 Apr](#), [18 Apr](#), [26 Apr](#).

SHIPPING, SHIPBUILDING & PORTS

Adapting to change around the Indian Ocean rim

The CSIRO [announced](#) “Experts from countries around the Indian Ocean rim are meeting this week [31 Mar – 4 Apr] in India to discuss ways to improve their disaster resilience and improve management of future climate risk. The meeting of Indian Ocean Rim Climate Change Adaptation Officials, under the auspices of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), is the first meeting of delegates from around the Indian Ocean rim to discuss the implications of future climate risk. The workshop, which is being co-organised by CSIRO, was announced as part of a \$1.175 million package during the IORA Council of Ministers' Meeting in Perth in November 2013.”

Keel laying ceremony for the Australian Customs and Border Protection Vessel (ACV) *Cape Leveque*

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Scott Morrison [took](#) part in a time-honoured keel laying ceremony for the Australian Customs and Border Protection Vessel (ACV) *Cape Leveque* held in Henderson, Western Australia. Minister Morrison said this was the sixth vessel in the Cape Class Patrol Boat fleet.

Bunbury port's new assembly facility

Farm Weekly [reported](#) “Bunbury will get a new road train assembly facility, after the federal government announced a \$10.8 million funding package last week.”

Temporary prohibition notice – public access to SA's Oceanlinx Ltd's stranded wave energy generator

The South Australian Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure [announced](#) “A temporary prohibition notice has been issued under the Marine Parks Act 2007 to restrict public access for safety reasons to the Oceanlinx Ltd wave energy generator, currently stranded approximately 1.4 kilometres off Carrickalinga Beach in the Encounter Marine Park.” and “The wave convertor was stranded about 1.4 kilometres off shore after difficulties arose while it was being towed from Port Adelaide to Port MacDonnell to be situated as a wave energy convertor.”

Better Access for Esperance Port

The Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, Mr Truss, [announced](#) “Productivity at Esperance Port is set to increase with the \$120 million port access upgrade officially opening today [2 Apr].” and “The upgrade redefined access to the port by removing level crossings and building new access roads to safely separate heavy vehicles and rail freight,”

Prospects and challenges of the European shipping industry

The Vice President of the European Commission said in a [speech](#) to the European Community Shipowners' Association “ We want shipping to prosper, to provide more and better employment and to drive innovation, so that it can serve a flexible, sustainable and competitive European economy.”

Proposal for a revision of the EU Visa Code for seafarers

Inter Manager [reported](#) “The European Community of Shipowners’ Associations, representing the interests of the national shipowners’ associations of the EU and Norway, and CLIA Europe, representing Europe’s cruise industry, welcome the proposal for a revision of the EU Visa Code as a first important development for visa facilitation for seafarers.”

ACCC seeks views on CBH's proposed new bulk wheat port terminal access undertaking

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission [invites](#) submissions from interested parties in the bulk wheat export industry on CBH’s proposed new Port Terminal Services Access Undertaking. The undertaking would provide access for third party exporters to CBH’s port terminal services for bulk wheat export at its four port terminals in Western Australia.

New Chairman of Infrastructure Australia

The Prime Minister, Mr Abbott, [announced](#) “Mark Birrell will succeed Sir Rod Eddington as the new Chairman of Infrastructure Australia when his term expires on 8 April 2014. Sir Rod has agreed to take up a role with the APEC Business Advisory Council at the request of the Prime Minister and recommended Mr Birrell as his replacement. Mr Birrell is currently a member of Infrastructure Australia.” [Two ongoing inquiries, a new Act yet to be passed, a new Cabinet Committee to oversight Infrastructure Australia, a whole new way of selecting and funding infrastructure projects through the States and the Commonwealth Treasury, and now a new Chair. Cynics might wonder whether someone's real aim is not to delay the expenditure of real money – Editor]

Lack of IMO action on Ballast Water Management

InterManager [reported](#) on the recent IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) meeting “.... there remains a continuing lack of confidence in the type approval testing procedures which fail to provide treatment equipment ‘fit for purpose’ in real world operation. Further, there is a need to address the long term acceptability of ‘first generation’ treatment equipment that has been fitted and operated in good faith in advance of BWM ratification. A proposal to develop an MEPC resolution on the intent to address such concerns together with amendments to the G8 Guidelines was debated quite forcefully. Eleven EU countries together with CANADA, KOREA and SINGAPORE were firmly opposed, slightly out-voting others in support. However, a Norwegian proposal requesting the Secretariat to explore the possibility of conducting a study (which NORWAY offered to fund), on the implementation of the BW performance standard in Regulation D-2, found favour, as also did proposals to amend Guidelines (G8) set out in paragraph 11 of the document MEPC 66/2/11.”

Deep Sea Shipping Will Rely on Ports Bunkering Facilities to Supply Vessels with LNG

The *Handy Shipping Guide* [reported](#) “Much of what [Lloyd’s Register](#) concerns itself with these days, as do many others, is the drive toward cleaner shipping systems, and a key part of the proposed future for fuelling the next generation of freight and passenger carriers is likely to be the rapid expansion of vessels powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG). The trick therefore, just as with land based attempts at environmental and performance improvements, is for a sufficiently reliable infrastructure for refuelling, in this case deep sea vessels, being in place.”

Reforms to revitalise coastal shipping

The Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, Mr Truss, [announced](#) “The Australian Government is inviting input on reforms to revitalise coastal shipping in Australia, with the release of its [Regulation of Coastal Shipping Options Paper](#) today [8 Apr].” and “This options paper is the first step in unlocking the regulatory shackles on shippers and boosting Australia's competitiveness. The Paper also includes a discussion on regulatory settings for the cruise industry.”

Launch of *Maritime Security handbook: stowaways by sea*

The Nautical Institute announced the launch of this publication, which is aimed at helping people who have to deal with stowaways by giving advice on the preparation and training that is needed both onboard and ashore. It is available from The Nautical Institute price: £20; ISBN: 978 1 906915 47 6 <http://www.nautinst.org/pubs>

Minister for Defence Speech at the ASPI conference - Future Submarine Project

In a [speech](#) at the ASPI conference, the Minister for Defence, Senator Johnston, announced a major reassessment of the assumptions and parameters of the Future Submarine Project. [See also the [transcript](#) of a subsequent media interview with regard to approaches to naval shipbuilding in general – Editor]

Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention

The International Chamber of Shipping [reported](#) “Governments, maritime employer representatives co - ordinated by the International Shipping Federation (ISF) and their counterparts from the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) met this week at the International Labour Organization in Geneva for the first meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee (STC) established under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006). During the meeting agreement was reached

for amendments to the Convention to ensure the provision of financial security systems to assist seafarers in the event of their abandonment and for compensation for seafarers' contractual claims for death and personal injury."

ACCC draft decision to reduce regulation at Graincorp's Newcastle port terminal

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has [issued](#) a draft decision proposing to consent to GrainCorp's application to vary its Port Terminal Services Access Undertaking at its Newcastle bulk grain facility. "The variation would provide GrainCorp with greater flexibility to compete against the two bulk wheat export operations at the Port of Newcastle" ACCC Chairman Rod Sims said. GrainCorp has applied to the ACCC to vary its undertaking to allow its Carrington terminal in Newcastle to be subject to minimal regulation. GrainCorp submits it now faces competition from two other bulk wheat export facilities. GrainCorp also notes the other facilities are not subject to access regulation and argues that it is at a competitive disadvantage as a result.

Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks enters into force

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) [announced](#) "The Nairobi International Convention on the Removal Wrecks will enter into force on 14 April 2015 following the deposit, on 14 April 2014, of an instrument of ratification by Denmark, with the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Among several provisions, the Convention will place financial responsibility for the removal of certain hazardous wrecks on shipowners, making insurance, or some other form of financial security, compulsory."

Possible merger between the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach

Port Technology International [reported](#) "A commission formed to promote prosperity and stability to the Californian city of Los Angeles has suggested a possible merger between the [ports of Los Angeles](#) and Long Beach. The Blue Ribbon Commission 2020 stated that by unifying under a single banner, the two ports would not only create the busiest complex in the United States, but would stand out as the fifth busiest port in the world."

2002 Passenger ship liability and compensation treaty enters into force

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) [announced](#) "The Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 2002, which substantially raises the limits of liability for the death of, or personal injury to, a passenger on a ship, enters into force on 23 April 2014."

Interim Appointment of John Fitzgerald to Infrastructure Australia

Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss [announced](#) "John Fitzgerald has been appointed as the interim Acting Australian Government Infrastructure Coordinator, pending the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer as part of the government's reforms to make Infrastructure Australia more independent and transparent."

Sea Swift launch first ever outer Torres Strait islands cruise

Sea Swift [announced](#) "Travellers will be able to cruise the stunning outer Torres Strait islands in Far North Queensland for the first time ever in a unique remote adventure to be launched next month. Sea Swift's MV Malu Titan, a real working cargo barge, operates a weekly freight service between Horn Island and various islands of the Torres Strait, as well as down the western side of Cape York Peninsula to Weipa and Aurukun. Now for the first time, members of the general public can experience the wonders of the outer Torres Strait islands and the cultural diversity of the people with a choice of four- or seven-night cruises aboard the Malu Titan."

Modern marine equipment rules for safer EU ships

The European Commission [announced](#) "The European Parliament has adopted today [15 Apr] the Commission's proposed new Directive on marine equipment. Better rules on marine equipment in the EU will result in safer journeys for the ships and their crew, less red tape for Member States, reduced costs for business, and increased competitiveness of the EU industry."

Unsubstantiated Shipping Surcharges

Commenting on an a move which might attract the attention of Australia's ACCC, *The Maritime Executive* [reported](#) "At its recent annual meeting in Los Angeles, the Global Shippers' Forum (GSF) agreed to organize a new global campaign to confront the imposition of unsubstantiated shipping surcharges, terminal charges and more than 20 other non-negotiable local charges on shippers worldwide."

European Commission clarifies EU rules on cabotage

The Commission [said](#) "The European Commission has given new guidance on the interpretation of the regulation to provide cabotage within a Member State, thus providing an internal market for the provision of maritime transport services. With the new guidance competent authorities will have more legal certainty when awarding public service contracts and imposing public service obligations. Shipowners will also benefit from more legal clarity, allowing them to better organise their business in Europe."

Esperance port industrial dispute drags on

The Esperance Express [WA] [reported](#) "ESPERANCE Ports Sea and Land (EPSL) management says pay rise negotiations are in the hands of port workers as the dispute over a new enterprise bargaining agreement (EBA) drags on."

Piracy is at its lowest first-quarter level since 2007

The International Chamber of Commerce's International Maritime Bureau (IMB) has [revealed](#) that piracy on the world's seas is at its lowest first-quarter level since 2007, but warns that the threat is still present. The latest IMB Piracy Report, published today [24 Apr], shows 49 piracy incidents in the first quarter of 2014 – the lowest first quarter figure since 2007, when 41 incidents were recorded.

Global shipping vulnerable to hackers

Computing [reported](#) “The shipping industry is vulnerable to hackers, as cargo ships begin to use more and more connected devices and automated systems while traversing the open seas. These cyber security loopholes could be exploited to make a freighters' cargo an easy target for teams of pirates and cyber criminals.”

Five European ports in joint LNG venture

The Port of Rotterdam [reported](#) “On Friday 25 April the port authorities of Antwerp, Mannheim, Rotterdam, Strasbourg and Switzerland signed a joint venture for the introduction of LNG. This involves cooperation in research, promotion, knowledge transfer, legislation and bunker infrastructure. The agreements follow on from the LNG Master plan of the Rhine-Main-Danube corridor in which all participants are involved. The aim of this master plan is to put liquefied natural gas to full scale use as a fuel for inland shipping on the Rhine-Main-Danube corridor.”

Baltic Exchange to implement new capesize vessel description & routes

As a further step in its attempts to revise its Capesize Index, the Baltic Exchange [announced](#) “The Baltic Exchange will be making changes to the Baltic Capesize Index including a change to its vessel description, amends to the route weightings and the addition of three new routes on 6 May 2014. The move follows a trial which began in February and formal consultation with the dry bulk market. The existing routes and new routes will be published side-by-side until there is no further open interest in either Forward Freight Agreements (FFAs) or options to be settled.”

No ban on Filipino seafarers

InterManager [reported](#) “At the Committee on the Safety of the Sea (COSS) held 23 April, EU Member States endorsed the recommendation from the European Commission not to de-recognise Filipino seafarer certificates of competency. Instead, the Philippines administration will report back to the EC every three months.” [That probably averts chaos in the world shipping industry, until the next maritime disaster forces another look at competency – Editor]

Five Year Port Development Plan for NSW Ports

NSW Ports [announced](#) “The purpose of the [Five Year Port Development Plan](#) for Port Botany, Port Kembla, Cooks River Intermodal Terminal and Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre is to: outline development objectives and proposals for the Port and Intermodal Terminal precincts managed by NSW Ports; and identify future freight requirements outside the Port and Intermodal Terminal precincts.”

Two Million Tonnes of Iron Ore Exported from Port Hedland in 24 Hours

The Port Hedland Port Authority [reported](#) “For the first time, the Port Hedland Port Authority (PHPA) has facilitated the export of more than two million tonnes of iron ore in just 24 hours. The milestone was achieved on the morning and evening tide on 28 April 2014, resulting in a total of 2,028,105 tonnes exported. As a result the Port managed 24 vessel movements in the 24 hour period.” [Best get in (out?) quickly, before the tug strikes – Editor]

Commonwealth and State Environment Ministers meeting

Commonwealth and State Environment Ministers met in Canberra on 30 April and released a [statement](#) covering: National Review of Environmental Regulation; Emissions Reduction Fund; Clean Air; and Packaging Impacts. [All aspects of the statement appear to have a maritime dimension – Editor]

Infrastructure and Regional Development for the 21st Century

In a [speech](#) to the National Press Club, the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, Mr Truss, addressed maritime reforms, saying “So we must ensure that our ports and our shipping industry are productive and competitive in the global marketplace.”

World Shipping Outlook – April

As a reference point for many of the following reports on the world shipping outlook, here is the [Baltic Dry Index](#).

SteelGuru [India] [reported](#) “Mr Arun Gupta, CMD at Shipping Corporation of India, said in an interview that “In mid-2013 asset prices touched their bottom. Ship owners who had deep pockets have been ordering vessels. Therefore, freight rates will not improve unless owners are united and there's some self discipline and moratorium on not ordering vessels.””

Carbon Positive [reported](#) “It's been dubbed a niche segment, one which requires a lot of investment in know-how and up until recently, a market with small but stable dividends. But, as of late, the LPG shipping market has come on its own, blossoming into a record breaking freight rate market, as demand has grown exponentially, when compared with the available fleet. According to its latest report, Poten & Partners noted that “while the large crude oil tankers slip into what seems like a second quarter slumber, buzz continues to build around the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) sector.””

The Port of Los Angeles [reported](#) “The Port of Los Angeles has released its March 2014 containerized [cargo volumes](#). In March 2014, overall volumes increased 34 percent compared to March 2013. In part, this increase may reflect the timing of multi-week Chinese New Year factory closures, which occurred in Asia on January 31.”

Fox Business [reported](#) “Shipping companies are turning to equity markets to fill a growing funding gap, betting that investors hungry for decent returns will provide capital to a sector recovering from its worst downturn since the 1980s.”

Bloomberg Businessweek [reported](#) “Shipping banks need to refinance about \$35 billion euros in loans in the next two years amid the container industry's prolonged crisis, according to Deutsche Bank AG. (DBK)”

International Business Times [reported](#) “And yet, despite the precipitous drop in the Baltic Dry Index (BDI) since January, shipping experts are for now feeling OK about prospects for their industry and the larger fate of the global economy. Rather than indicating a painful economic pullback, the drop in the utilization rate of the world's freighter fleet speaks to less alarming factors, and is actually part of a more positive upward trend.”

The Port of Rotterdam Authority [reported](#) “The Port of Rotterdam’s throughput in the first quarter of 2014, at 109 million tonnes, was 0.2% below the level for the corresponding period last year. Split up by goods type, less crude oil (-2%), mineral oil products (-14%) and other liquid bulk cargo (-14%) were transferred. On the positive side, iron ore and scrap (+5%), coal (+15%), agribulk (+69%), other dry bulk cargo (+13%), containers (+1%), roll on/roll off (+9%) and other mixed cargo (+9%) did better.” [Worth reading for the CEO's comments on the 2014 outlook and the changes in the structure of maritime trade – Editor (then contemplate Rotterdam's throughput when compared with Australian ports!)]

Steel Guru [India] [reported](#) “MIDF Research believes that the worst in the dry bulk shipping sector is over, as fundamentals have improved, supported by better global economic conditions as well as the rollout of railway projects in China.”

Arabian Supply Chain [reported](#) “The ports industry in India has been buoyed by signs of a recovery, with 12 government-owned major ports registering a 1.78 per cent growth in traffic for the period between April 2013 and March 2014. The growth comes after two years of falling cargo volumes, giving those in the ports industry hope for some recovery this year.”

Bloomberg *BusinessWeek* [reported](#) “Reederei Heinrich, a 149-year-old German shipping company, risks losing two of its three vessels unless it repays loans as financial stress in the industry spreads to banks facing a European Central Bank review.”

On the other hand, Bloomberg itself [reported](#) “Norddeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, one of the world’s top shipping lenders, almost tripled full-year profit, helped by a tax gain, and predicted a challenging 2014 as the shipping crisis drags on.”

UN, US & EU Sanctions on Iranian shipping – April developments

FARS newsagency [Iran] [reported](#) “Iran on Monday inaugurated a shuttle shipping line between its Southern port of Bandar Abbas and China's Dalian and Lianyungang ports.”

Business Standard [India] [reported](#) “An Indian national, along with the chief executive of a US-based company, has been charged with illegally shipping machinery to sanctions-hit Iran, federal prosecutors announced today. In a statement, US Attorney Peter Smith alleged that Pennsylvania-based Hetran allegedly manufactured a horizontal lathe, also described as a bar peeling machine (peeler), valued at more than USD 800,000 and weighing in excess of 50,000 pounds.”

FISHERIES

Port State Measures Agreement to strengthen inspection standards against illegally caught fish

The Pew Environment group [reported](#) “The United States Senate on April 3 took a strong stand in the global fight against illegal fishing by ratifying a treaty that will prevent illegally caught fish from entering the market through ports around the world. The treaty, called the Port State Measures Agreement, or PSMA, also would empower port officials to prohibit foreign vessels that are suspected of illegal activity from receiving port services and access. By cutting off market access for illegally caught fish, the treaty will erode the profit incentive that drives the activity.”

Illegal clam fishing boats seized

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) [says](#) it has seized four illegal boats carrying hundreds of illegally-harvested giant clams and sea cucumbers (trepan) in Northern Australia following a coordinated operation by Border Protection Command (BPC), including the Royal Australian Navy, the Department of the Environment and AFMA. The seized vessels were destroyed on 4 April.

European Parliament concludes five years of Common Fisheries Policy reform

The Pew environment group [reported](#) “On April 16, the European Parliament effectively concluded the EU Common Fisheries Policy reform with the adoption of the final piece of legislation, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, or EMFF. Launched in 2009 to remedy policies that encouraged overfishing, [the reform has taken over five years](#). In May 2013, European legislators took an historic step by agreeing to a reformed EU Common Fisheries Policy. This included a commitment to recover and maintain fish stocks above levels needed to produce maximum sustainable yield, and to end EU overfishing “by 2015 where possible and by 2020 at the latest”. In December 2013, the European Parliament adopted the basic fisheries regulation, which came into force on January 1st 2014. Later in January, a political deal was reached on the EU fisheries subsidies regime, the EMFF, which should support implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy. This deal was adopted by the European Parliament today [16 Apr].”

Illegal foreign fishing vessel intercepted West of Darwin

The Customs and Border Protection Service, in association with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, [announced](#) “Border Protection Command (BPC), working closely with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA), has apprehended a foreign fishing vessel approximately 275 nautical miles West of Darwin suspected of illegally fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone.”

AFMA simplifies rules and increases security of statutory fishing rights

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) [announced](#) “Up until now, fishers in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery and the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery were allowed to take fish species that are subject to quota home for personal use without it being deducted from quota holdings. But starting from 1 May 2014, fishers will have any quoted fish taken for personal use deducted from their quota holdings.”

Protected Zone Joint Authority Stakeholder Meeting held on Thursday Island

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) [announced](#) “A meeting of the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) and an associated stakeholder meeting was held on 8-9 April 2014 on Thursday Island.” and “The stakeholder meeting, which was held on 8 April, provided an opportunity for traditional fishers, traditional owners and commercial fishers to discuss current fisheries issues with PZJA members and officials. The main topic raised in this meeting was the aspirations of Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal people to achieve 100% ownership of Torres Strait fisheries.”

Overfishing has wiped out 96 percent of Pacific bluefin tuna

In a report published by Vox and disseminated by the Pew Environment Group, Vox [said](#) “A [new assessment](#) published Monday [28 Apr] estimates that bluefin tuna numbers in the northern Pacific Ocean are still 96 percent below their historic baseline — the same as last year. (This number was pointed out by Amanda Nickson, director of global tuna conservation for the Pew Charitable Trusts.)”

Fishing capacity: EU Member States comply with obligations to downsize their fleet – but more can be done

The European Commission [announced](#) “The European Commission's annual [report](#) on the European fishing fleet shows some progress towards achieving a balance between capacity and available fishing opportunities. However more remains to be done to ensure that stocks are managed in accordance with the objective of Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and the Commission considers that there is still a need for active fleet capacity adjustment measures by Member States in order to achieve this.”

Border Protection Command intercepts two foreign fishing vessels north-west of Darwin

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) [reported](#) “Border Protection Command (BPC) has apprehended two foreign fishing vessels suspected of illegally fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone. The vessels were both detected by an Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) Dash-8 surveillance aircraft, working under the coordination of BPC.”

Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery Total Allowable Catch Determination 2014

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) made this [determination](#), which determines the total allowable catch for Patagonian Toothfish and catch limits for other species in the Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery for the 2014/2015 fishing year.

Small Pelagic Fishery Total Allowable Catch (Quota Species) Determination 2014

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) made this [determination](#), which determines the total allowable catch for each quota species and sub-area for the 2014 fishing season in the Small Pelagic Fishery.

Fisheries Legislation (Management Plans) Amendment 2013 (No. 1)

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) made this [determination](#), which amends the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery Management Plan 2002 and the Southern and Eastern Scafish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003 by removing provisions authorising the take of quota species for domestic or private use.

Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan Amendment 2013

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) made this [determination](#), which amends the Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan 2009 to make it consistent with the Fisheries Management Regulations 1992.

RESOURCE EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT

2014 Offshore Petroleum Acreage Release announced

The Minister for Industry Ian Macfarlane formally [released](#) the latest offshore petroleum exploration areas. Minister Macfarlane announced that 30 areas in ten hydrocarbon provinces would be available for petroleum exploration in Commonwealth waters. This year, the government has introduced cash bidding for four selected areas while the work program bidding process continues to apply for the remaining 26 areas. The 26 work program Release Areas are located in Commonwealth waters offshore Northern Territory and Western Australia, and include a large frontier area covering the Eyre Sub-basin in the Bight Basin.

UN starts stakeholder consultation on deep-sea mining

The UN's International Seabed Authority (ISA) [says](#) it is starting a process of stakeholder consultation in advance of developing draft regulations for the exploitation of polymetallic nodules. The consultation includes issues relating to the environmental management of deep-sea mining. The ISA has released a survey [document](#).

MARINE SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Adapting to change around the Indian Ocean rim

The CSIRO [announced](#) “Experts from countries around the Indian Ocean rim are meeting this week [31 Mar – 4 Apr] in India to discuss ways to improve their disaster resilience and improve management of future climate risk. The meeting of Indian Ocean Rim Climate Change Adaptation Officials, under the auspices of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), is the first meeting of delegates from

around the Indian Ocean rim to discuss the implications of future climate risk. The workshop, which is being co-organised by CSIRO, was announced as part of a \$1.175 million package during the IORA Council of Ministers' Meeting in Perth in November 2013."

Corals don't lie: centuries of rising sea levels and temperature data revealed

The Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) [announced](#) "AIMS scientists together with a team from The University of Western Australia, CSIRO and the University of San Diego have analysed coral cores from the eastern Indian Ocean to understand how the unique coral reefs of Western Australia are affected by changing ocean currents and water temperatures. The research was published today in the international journal *Nature Communications*. The findings give new insights into how La Niña, a climate swing in the tropical Pacific, affects the Leeuwin current and how our oceans are changing."

Lack of IMO action on Ballast Water Management

InterManager [reported](#) on the recent IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) meeting "... there remains a continuing lack of confidence in the type approval testing procedures which fail to provide treatment equipment 'fit for purpose' in real world operation. Further, there is a need to address the long term acceptability of 'first generation' treatment equipment that has been fitted and operated in good faith in advance of BWM ratification. A proposal to develop an MEPC resolution on the intent to address such concerns together with amendments to the G8 Guidelines was debated quite forcefully. Eleven EU countries together with CANADA, KOREA and SINGAPORE were firmly opposed, slightly out-voting others in support. However, a Norwegian proposal requesting the Secretariat to explore the possibility of conducting a study (which NORWAY offered to fund), on the implementation of the BW performance standard in Regulation D-2, found favour, as also did proposals to amend Guidelines (G8) set out in paragraph 11 of the document MEPC 66/2/11."

EPBC Act Invitation for Public Comment – WA Shark Hazard Mitigation Drum Line Program

The Department of the Environment is [calling](#) for public comment on a proposal by the WA Department of the Premier and Cabinet to extend the shark hazard mitigation drum line program.

Wanted: young filmmakers to put the spotlight on marine debris

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) [said](#) "Aspiring young David Attenboroughs are invited to promote the issue of marine debris across the Great Barrier Reef through the lens of a video camera. These school holidays, the Gladstone Local Marine Advisory Committee (LMAC) is calling on the region's young video makers to grab their cameras to increase awareness about an issue which threatens marine life on the Great Barrier Reef and around the world."

Ocean Acidification robs reef fish of their fear of predators

The Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) [said](#) "Research on the behaviour of coral reef fish at naturally-occurring carbon dioxide seeps in Milne Bay in eastern Papua New Guinea has shown that continuous exposure to increased levels of carbon dioxide dramatically alters the way fish respond to predators."

New heritage management plan for Dent Island Lightstation in Queensland's Whitsundays

The Minister for the Environment, Mr Hunt, [announced](#) "As we continue to celebrate Australian Heritage Week, a new heritage management plan for a lighthouse in Queensland's Whitsundays is helping to keep our past alive and tell its stories. The newly completed plan sets out how the historical Dent Island Lightstation in the Whitsundays will be protected into the future."

250,000 crown-of-thorns starfish culled

The Minister for the Environment, Mr Hunt, [announced](#) "250,000 crown-of-thorns starfish (COTS) have now been culled on the Great Barrier Reef due to a new control measure and additional vessel to combat the pest."

New patrol boat to beef up protection for the Reef

The Minister for the Environment, Mr Hunt, and the QLD National Parks Minister Steve Dickson, [announced](#) "A new patrol vessel, jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Queensland governments, will soon take to the water to monitor and protect the Great Barrier Reef." and "The new vessel is expected to be operational in May and will replace the 24 year old *Kerra Lyn* which has been an integral part of field work and enforcement activities for the past two decades."

Reef Trust Discussion Paper released

The Minister for the Environment, Mr Hunt, and the QLD Minister for Environment and Heritage, Mr Powell, [announced](#) "The [Reef Trust Discussion Paper](#) has today been released by the Commonwealth and Queensland governments. The Reef Trust is a key election commitment for the Australian Government under the broader Reef 2050 Plan. The Reef Trust will put the focus firmly on improving coastal habitat, water quality and enhancing species protection along the Great Barrier Reef and will be jointly coordinated by the Australian and Queensland Governments, and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority with advice from the Australian Institute of Marine Science."

New Caledonia's marine park

The Pew Charitable Trusts [commended](#) the New Caledonian government for taking an important step forward in its commitment to establishing a large marine park in its vast waters. The government issued a decree on April 24 authorizing development of a management plan for the park, which would be known as the New Caledonia Coral Sea Natural Park. The move advances the

government's earlier pledge to create a marine park spanning its exclusive economic zone, which is 1.2 million square kilometers—more than twice the size of mainland France.

Commonwealth and State Environment Ministers meeting

Commonwealth and State Environment Ministers met in Canberra on 30 April and released a [statement](#) covering: National Review of Environmental Regulation; Emissions Reduction Fund; Clean Air; and Packaging Impacts. [All aspects of the statement appear to have a maritime dimension – Editor]

UN starts stakeholder consultation on deep-sea mining

The UN's International Seabed Authority (ISA) [says](#) it is starting a process of stakeholder consultation in advance of developing draft regulations for the exploitation of polymetallic nodules. The consultation includes issues relating to the environmental management of deep-sea mining. The ISA has released a survey [document](#).

AMSA 2014 CONFERENCE

INVESTIGATING OUR MARINE NATION

- Marine Habitat Mapping • The Land - Sea Boundary
- Marine Management and Policy • Marine Global Change
- Marine Outreach and Communication • Remote sensing and bio-optics



Dates to Note (Closing time is 11:59pm AEST)

On Registration
 1 September 2013
 30 November 2013
 21 January 2014
 21 January 2014
 14 March 2014
 14 April 2014
 21 April 2014
 30 April 2014
 9 June 2014

6 July 2014

7 - 10 July 2014

Abstract Submission, Registration & Conference Dates

Book your accommodation. Don't miss out!
 Call for Symposia OPENS
 Call for Symposia CLOSED
 Abstract Submission OPENS
 Registration for the Conference OPENS.
 Abstract Submission CLOSES
 Authors notified of acceptance of abstracts
 CLOSE of Earlybird Registration prices
 Presenter registration CLOSES
 CLOSE of Standard Registration prices.
 No refunds for cancellations after this date, but a substitute person can be nominated.
 Exhibition Stand setup from 2pm
 Registration and Poster Hanging at National Convention Centre from 2pm - 4pm
 Welcome Function - War Memorial 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
 AMSA2013 Conference Sessions and Social Events

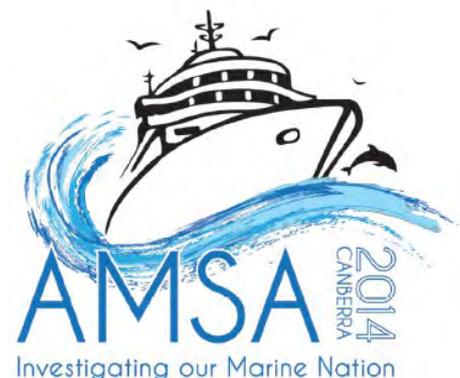
Iconic Function Venues

Australian War Memorial
 (Welcome Function)

Old Parliament House
 (Conference Dinner)

Conference Venue

National Convention Centre - Canberra



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

If you have comment to make on an article in a previous *Digest*, or if you wish to comment on a maritime issue that you think *should* be addressed, please e-mail news@aama.asn.au with “Letter to the Editor” in the subject field. Please keep your “letter” to 100-150 words and include hyperlinks to any supporting documentation.

SOMETHING TO SAY?**The Australian Maritime Digest**

(ISSN 2201-7003)

Why not advertise in the *Australian Maritime Digest*, particularly if your advertisement is relevant to a current story? Your advertisement would reach right into the heart of the maritime community – those who would be most interested in your organisation, its events and its products. Advertising is accepted at the discretion of the Editor and rates are based on \$330 for a quarter page.

Contact the Editor, Richard Griffiths: news@aama.asn.au

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

6 May 2014 - Marina management software seminar – Sydney

Marina Industries Association has brought together the three main marina software providers for a morning seminar to present their software packages and answer questions from participants. For details, click [here](#).

21-22 May 2014 - QLD Marina Study Tour – Brisbane and the Gold Coast

The Marina Industries Association (MIA) is pleased to offer a three day marina study tour visiting a great variety of boatyards in Brisbane and the Gold Coast in Queensland with a visit to the Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show. For details, click [here](#)

7-11 June 2014 – World Aquaculture Conference – Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide

Australia is hosting World Aquaculture for the first time since 1999. This annual event will incorporate the biennial Australasian Aquaculture conference and trade show. Call for papers by 1 November 2013. For details, click [here](#)

11-12 June 2014 - 12th ASEAN Ports & Shipping Conference – Jakarta, Indonesia

There will be a two days Conference featuring 35 world-class senior executive speakers who will analyse latest global transport and logistics challenges and opportunities attended by a gathering of 500 senior executive harbour masters, harbour engineers, port engineers, maintenance supervisors and procurement decision makers together with leading shipping lines, shippers, cargo owners, importers / exporters, freight forwarders, logistics companies, ports, terminal operating companies, port equipment and services suppliers. For details, click [here](#)

25-27 June 2014 - Advanced Structural Integrity Management for Offshore Installations including topside & FPSO – Singapore

“It aims at providing practicing engineers with effective guidelines on how anomalies affect structural strength of the offshore facilities, how to assess the anomalies and fitness-for-purpose, how to apply fundamentals to practical structures and solve the actual problems in your offshore field.” For details, e-mail stella@yf-asia.com.

7-11 July 2014 - Australian Marine Sciences Association Conference – Canberra

The conference theme is *Investigating our Marine Nation* with sub-themes of: Marine Habitat Mapping, The Land - Sea Boundary, Marine Management and Policy, Marine Global Change, and Marine Outreach and Communication

29-30 July 2014 - Defence and Industry Conference - Adelaide

The conference will bring together Defence officials and representatives of Defence Industry from across the country and around the world. To maximise affordability of the conference, a trade show will not be held in conjunction with the D+I Conference in 2014. For press release, click [here](#)

26-27 August 2014 - Dredging and Reclamation conference – Brisbane

This year’s [Dredging & Reclamation Conference](#) will showcase a range of best practice case studies from major ports and port authorities, local councils, resources companies and consulting engineers with the aim of providing you with the take away strategies to overcome the challenges you face.

17-18 September 2014 - 10th Ballast Water Management Summit – Singapore

The 2014 event will provide you with real case studies of how shipowners have gone through the process of selection and integration of ballast water systems. For details, click [here](#)

13-14 October 2014 – Intermanager AGM 2014 to run alongside ship management conference – Singapore

The AGM will be held on Monday October 13 followed by an evening reception for all participants. Then on Tuesday October 14 members will have the chance to attend the International Ship Owning and Ship Management Summit for a discounted rate. For initial details, click [here](#)

16-18 October 2014 - 3rd Annual World Congress of Ocean & Investment and Trade Fair-2014 – Dalian, China

To be held in the Dalian International Conference Center with the theme of “Blue Economy, Smart Development” For details, click [here](#)

22-23 October 2014 – Ship Recycling Summit – Singapore

[ACI's Ship Recycling Summit](#) will allow the key stakeholders: shipowners, brokers, cash buyers, steel merchants and ship breaking yards to come together in an informal setting to discuss the challenges that they each face in meeting the Hong Kong convention requirements and the challenges brought about by new EU regulation.

29-30 October 2014 - 11th Ballast Water Management Summit – Hamburg

[ACI's 11th Ballast Water Management Summit](#) will focus on helping the shipping industry understand the state of play with the compulsory introduction of expensive and complex Ballast Water Management Systems on Vessels.

27-31 October 2014 – Euronaval – Paris Le Bourget, France

Euronaval claims to be the world’s leading trade show for naval defence and maritime security and safety. For details, click [here](#).

11-14 November 2014 – 23rd 2014 NSW Coastal Conference – Ulladulla NSW

The conference will consider the wide range of benefits the coast offers in underpinning social, economic, cultural and environmental values for everyone including Aboriginal communities, coastal communities, tourists, businesses, oyster farmers etc. There will be particular focus on linking research to management and on community participation in managing a sustainable coastline. Call for abstracts is now open. For details, click [here](#)

19-20 November 2014 - ACI's 9th Vessel Efficiency & Fuel Management Summit – Singapore

The conference will examine the performance enhancing options available to ship owners and ship managers for efficiency maximisation and increased profitability. Special focus will be put on how to increase the fleet’s fuel optimisation rate, providing proven techniques as showcased by real case studies. For details, click [here](#)

3-5 May 2015 – Marine15 recreational marine business and safety conference – Gold Coast

The conference program will again be structured with the three streams of boating business, boating safety and marinas. Press [statement](#)

2-4 February 2016 – 2016 Pacific International Maritime Exposition – Sydney Exhibition Centre, Glebe Island

The commercial maritime and naval defence showcase for the Asia Pacific. For details, click [here](#)

**There is no charge for entries under
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THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS Inc.

ABN: 44 236 050 719

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