



AMWS E-News March 2024

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"Welcome to the March 2024 Edition of the AMWS E-News" - Chairman, Mr David

In this edition of the newsletter, there are two articles that focus on the issue of piracy, and specifically a recent spike in piracy related incidents in the Gulf of Aden....

[Video of David's remarks for March 2024 can be viewed here >>](#)



Photo: Courtesy of US Central Command

IMO Secretary-General Conveys Condolences & Renews Call for Collective Action to Protect Seafarers. IMO March 2024

IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez issued the following statement:

"It is deeply saddening to follow the horrific reports of the casualties on the merchant vessel **True Confidence**, following an attack on the ship southwest of Aden, in Yemen.

I extend my deepest condolences and those of the entire IMO family to the families of those who have lost their lives, and our thoughts are with those who have been injured. Innocent seafarers should never become collateral victims.

I want to thank the efforts of all ships in the area in assisting the vessel and particularly its crew. We all need to do more to protect seafarers.

I once again call for collective action to fortify the safety of those who serve at sea. International trade depends on international shipping and international shipping cannot go on without seafarers."

[View the IMO Secretary-General's Statement here >>](#)



Maritime Ececutive File Photo

Piracy Attacks on the Rise again off the Cost of Somalia. The Maritime Executive, 20th March 2024

An unidentified Liberian-flagged bulk carrier successfully repelled an attack by suspected pirates today in the Gulf of Aden, east of Somalia, as reported by EUNAVFOR and the Maritime Security Center for the Horn of Africa, who have warned of a notable surge in piracy-related incidents in the area. The approach, consistent with outlined tactics, occurred southeast of Salalah, Oman, where the bulk carrier encountered a small boat carrying seven individuals and a ladder. The warning suggests that pirates operate from seized dhows, using them to blend in with local activity and as a base for attacks, wherein small boats approach to assess the security of targeted vessels.

Today's incident saw the small boat follow typical procedures, pursuing the bulk carrier for 20 minutes before being deterred by security guards who fired warning shots, prompting the small boat to retreat. The warning also indicates the potential presence of multiple pirate action groups operating off the Somalia coast, emphasizing the ongoing threat to maritime security in the region.

[Access the Maritime Executive article here >>](#)



AMC - "Anchored in Excellence". UTAS- Alumni & Friends, March 2024

In recent weeks, the Australian Maritime College proudly celebrated the accomplishments of twenty-three graduates from the Class of 2023. In a ceremony held in Launceston, they were honored for their successful completion of their studies. Additionally, in December, AMC recognized the achievements of its students by awarding twenty prizes across sixteen categories, benefiting both graduates and those continuing their studies into 2024. These accolades, made possible through philanthropic gifts and generous donations from industry partners, often include cash prizes. For a comprehensive list of the AMC Prizes and Awards for 2023, please refer to the following link.

[AMC Prize and Award Recipients 2023 >>](#)



"Sayonara" to North West Shipping Gas Carriers. DCN 21st March 2024

The closure of a significant chapter in Australian shipping has been marked by the final voyages of the last four steam turbine LNG carriers belonging to the North West Shelf Shipping Services Co. As the gas reserves of the North West Shelf Project neared depletion in June 2023, the decision was made to sell these long-serving vessels.

Northwest Sanderling has already reached Singapore from Kawasaki, Japan, for transfer to new Owners, while Northwest Sandpiper is currently en route from Anegasaki, Japan. Northwest Stormpetrel embarked on its final journey from Dampier to Japan on March 6th, and Northwest Snipe set sail from Dampier to Sakai on March 16th.

Celebrating the final departure of Northwest Stormpetrel from Dampier, the BHP Shipping Facebook page noted its impressive service history, having completed 397 commercial voyages over nearly three decades and delivering enough LNG to power every Australian home for over four years.



First Bunkering and Tests of Ammonia as Marine Fuel completed in Singapore by Australian Company Fortescue Group. The Maritime Executive, 15th March 2024

In a significant development for the future of alternative marine fuels, the world's first bunkering of ammonia and engine tests occurred in Singapore on the Fortescue Green Pioneer, an offshore supply vessel retrofitted by Australia's Fortescue Group. The vessel, originally outfitted with diesel-electric Cummins main engines, underwent conversion to enable two of its engines to run on ammonia alongside diesel. This testing, initiated in 2022 and carried out at Fortescue's facility in Perth, Australia, has progressed with the vessel's retrofitting at Seatrium's Benoi yard. Andrew Forrest, Fortescue's chairman, showcased the vessel at the COP28 conference in Dubai, advocating for port infrastructure development to support ammonia as a marine fuel. Although the ship couldn't sail on ammonia due to infrastructure limitations, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore collaborated with partners to conduct workshops on safety protocols and developed training procedures for ammonia handling.

[Link to the Maritime Executive article here >>](#)



The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund Ltd (MNWMF)

59th Annual Commemoration at the Merchant Navy Memorial and Columbarium and the Official Opening of the New and Remedial Works
1 Hawthorn Avenue, Rookwood Necropolis
Sunday 14th April 2024 - Commencing at 1100 hrs

The Beacon:

Monthly Section Illuminating Interesting Activities, Trends, and Developments within the Australian Maritime Industry



Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation. B berth, Victoria Key, Fremantle

STS Leeuwin II, Western Australia's sail-training tall ship, embodies the essence of a bygone era with its three-masted 1850s-style barquentine design. Operated by the Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation Limited in Western Australia, this majestic vessel is more than just a ship; it's a platform for transformative experiences. Managed by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, the foundation, a registered charity, ensures that the ship maintains the highest standards in environmental management, safety, and social responsibility, including conscientious operation around wildlife. Accredited as a Blue Flag vessel, STS Leeuwin II stands as a beacon of excellence in maritime education.

Primarily catering to youth programs, the ship offers life-changing experiences aimed at developing core skills and supporting high school students with academic units. The Leeuwin Explorer Voyages, in particular, have a profound impact on young individuals, fostering resilience and enhancing employability.

However, STS Leeuwin II isn't just for the youth. It provides opportunities for guests to sail aboard the vessel and immerse themselves in the age-old art of setting sails and enjoying outdoor activities with friends and family.

Are you interested in participating or volunteering on the ship? [Find out more by accessing the STS Leeuwin webpage here >>](#)



The AMWS Vision

"To ensure all seafarers and their dependents, irrespective of nationality, gender, or beliefs, are treated with dignity, respect, and compassion".

Interested in this AMWS vision and want to know more?

[Consider becoming an AMWS member >>](#)