

Wishing all our readers a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2018



EMSA'S REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS SERVICE STARTS IN PORTUGAL SUPPORTING MULTIPURPOSE MARITIME SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS

On 6 December, EMSA began the first Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) assisted operations for Portuguese authorities with the help of the contracted REACT Consortium. For more than 60 hours the RPAS has been flying over the sea in support of multipurpose maritime monitoring and surveillance operations in order to detect illegal activities and marine pollution, check fishery activities and monitor the separation of maritime traffic. The aircraft is equipped with an electro-optical camera as well as an infra-red sensor and laser illuminator for night operations. In addition, there is an AIS and a distress signal receiver on board as well as a still camera which provide greater detail on the ships being monitored. The operations are led by the national coordination committee (CNCM), which brings together several Portuguese Authorities and entities such as the Directorate for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services (DGRM), the National Maritime Authority (AMN), the National Republican Guard (GNR), the Judiciary Police (PJ), the Border Control Service (SEF), the Navy, the Portuguese Air Force, and others. EMSA is making the RPAS services available over a three-month period.



STUDY SHEDS LIGHT ON TWO HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES FOR SAFER SHIP RECYCLING

EMSA's study on two hazardous substances (PFOS and HBCDD) mentioned in the EU's Ship Recycling Regulation is now published and [available on the website](#). In addition to the 13 substances stated in the Hong Kong Convention for safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships, two substances have been added to the EU's Ship Recycling Regulation, namely perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and the brominated flame retardant hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD). The hazardous substances study developed in close cooperation with DNV-GL closes knowledge gaps regarding the properties and use of PFOS and HBCDD. It demonstrates that these two hazardous substances can be found on board ships and rigs, and offers insight for the implementation of the current regulation, updated material lists, sampling, handling and analysis of these substances.



RAISING AWARENESS OF CYBER ATTACK RISKS IN THE MARITIME DOMAIN

A workshop on cyber attack prevention in the maritime domain, co-organised by EMSA and the German Chairmanship of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF), was held at EMSA on 12-13 December. Experts from the European Commission, maritime administrations, EU agencies, industry and ECGFF members shared their knowledge, best practices and experience on cyber management both from the IT and maritime-related perspectives. Participation by member state authorities was strong with some 90 participants attending the workshop. The main objective was to raise awareness of the risk of cyber attacks in the maritime domain as well as to discover more on how to detect cyber attacks such as spoofing and jamming.

DOWNLOAD OF MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS PUBLICATIONS TOPS 80 000

The [Annual Overviews of Marine Casualties and Incidents](#) first published by EMSA on its website in 2014 have now been downloaded over 80 000 times, according to the combined figures. The latest edition, made available in November 2017, has already been downloaded over 5 200 times. The publication offers a comprehensive analysis of the nature of marine accidents, ranging from high level key figures on fatalities, injuries, ships involved, etc. to detailed information on location, contributing factors and consequences analysed by ship type including cargo ships, fishing vessels and passenger ships.



ANNUAL OVERVIEW OF MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS 2017



NATIONAL TRAINING FOR IRELAND, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN

EMSA staff have recently been busy in Madrid, Dublin and Lisbon training member states on the agency's evolving portfolio of maritime information services. On 26 September SafeSeaNet training took place at the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Madrid (SASEMAR). The training was attended by 15 persons from the *Dirección General de la Marina Mercante, Puertos del Estado* and SASEMAR working with SafeSeaNet in the areas of Vessel Traffic Services and Search and Rescue. On 11-12 October, training on the SafeSeaNet Ecosystem Graphical User Interface (SEG) and Copernicus Maritime Surveillance took place at the Irish Coast Guard National Maritime Operations Centre in Dublin. Twenty five participants from the Irish Coast Guard, Air Corps, Naval Service, Customs Authorities and Marine Survey Office attended. The course covered all aspects of EMSA's Integrated Maritime Services, including the use of Automatic Behaviour Monitoring Tools and Copernicus services to support maritime surveillance operations. Finally on 25-26 October, CleanSeaNet training on the SEG took place at *Direção-Geral da Autoridade Marítima* (DGAM) in Lisbon for 13 participants.



EQUASIS PUBLISHES ANNUAL REVIEW ON WORLD SHIPPING FLEET

Equasis published its review of the 2016 World's Merchant Shipping Fleet. This annually published report provides a picture of the world's fleet derived from data contained in the Equasis database and examines the fleet's composition, characteristics and performance. Statistics are grouped into themes which include: the overall fleet population; ships affiliated to Classification Societies; ships affiliated to P&I Clubs; Port State Control records; and, ships affiliated to Vetting Programmes and Trade Associations. This report is widely used within the shipping industry and other associated industries linked to it, and can be found on the [EMSA website](#). Equasis is a free, public-access database, funded by nine countries and EMSA, providing safety and environmentally related information on ships and companies in order to improve transparency in the shipping industry and reduce sub-standard shipping.



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VACANCIES: Reserve list for a Maritime Support Services Officer with IT background (FGIV) (deadline: 9/2/2018)
PROCUREMENT: Expressions of interest for an external database of experts (deadline: 19/12/2020); Framework contract for the development of studies on Port Reception Facilities (deadline: 2/2/2018)