

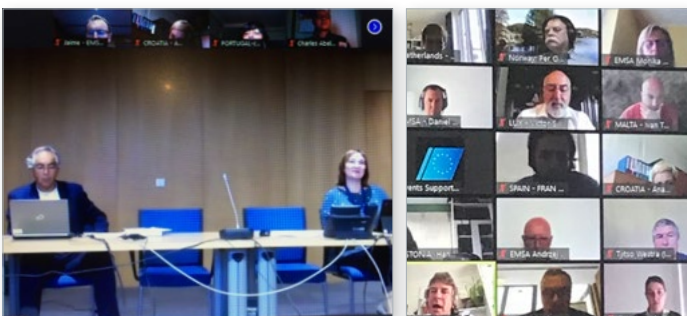
EMSA STAFF DONATES EQUIPMENT TO THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Hoping to lend a hand in the fight against COVID-19, EMSA staff promoted an internal initiative and gathered funds to buy medical equipment to donate to the Portuguese National Health Service. With almost 200 donors, the EMSA staff initiative collected a little over 16.000 euros, enough to buy one monitor, two sets of accessories and protective medical equipment for a Portuguese hospital. The activity was coordinated with local authorities, who listed the needs of national health facilities. The equipment will soon be delivered to a hospital chosen by the Portuguese health authorities. The Portuguese National Health Service addressed a letter of thanks to the group of staff for the “generous contribution” that will “help the local hospitals in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic”.



EMSA HELD FIRST VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

On May 4th EMSA held its first virtual workshop, with 49 participants from all over the EU, representing the Commission, the EU member states, Norway, Iceland and the social partners. The main objective of the workshop was the identification of areas relating to seafarer training and certification that are in need of review in the STCW Convention and Code, with a view to a possible EU proposal for IMO. The workshop was originally meant to take place at EMSA in April but, due to the current COVID-19 outbreak, took place in May in virtual form, and achieved its objectives through active participation of all experts.



NEW DISPERSANT STOCKPILES SET UP IN BALTIC SEA AND NORTH SEA AREAS

EMSA has established two new dispersant stockpiles associated with its Equipment Assistance Service (EAS) arrangements in the Baltic Sea, Frederikshavn (Denmark), and in the North Sea, Rotterdam (the Netherlands). The two stockpiles include several oil pollution response equipment sets such as combined oil containment and recovery systems, oil trawl nets and oil storage barges systems. Furthermore, in the EAS North Sea, a stock of oil dispersant and portable dispersant spraying systems are also available. More information on the equipment sets is available at EMSA’s [website](#).



FINAL REPORTS OF SAFEMASS STUDY ARE NOW ONLINE

The final reports of the **SAFEMASS** study were published on April 15th. The objective of the study which was carried out by DNVGL was to identify emerging risks and regulatory gaps resulting from the implementation of different degrees of autonomy. The first part of the study addresses emerging risks associated with low manning levels and longer periods of sailing with an unmanned bridge for three different types of vessels designed to operate with a high level of autonomy and control. The second part of the study addresses the emerging risk associated with three similar types of unmanned vessels being designed to operate remotely. Both parts include a hazard identification, fault tree analysis, and a set of recommended risk control options and measures. In the conclusion of the first part, the study suggests, among other things, that existing levels of automation models should be revised to be better suited for use in system engineering. In the second part, the study concludes that the need for supervision is directly related to the degree of system reliability (or unreliability).

EMSA FACTS & FIGURES 2019 JUST PUBLISHED

EMSA Facts and Figures 2019 presents a condensed account of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report, summarising how EMSA implements the tasks set out in its annual work programme. Visuals are used to cover many topics from staff numbers and nationalities to RPAS services or EMSA standby oil spill response vessels, equipment and dispersant stockpiles. This overview of the year’s activities helps to show how EMSA is effectively contributing to member states by coordinating and aggregating expertise and knowledge and harmonising the implementation of legislation and practice.

EMSA HELPS LOCATING BOATS IN THE BAY OF BENGAL

Several hundreds of Rohingya people, including women and children, have been drifting for weeks at sea in the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea. Following the request for assistance from the Commission Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), EMSA activated the contingency plan and provided five satellite images on March 30th and April 1st locating boats in the Bay of Bengal. The European Union urged the governments in the region to conduct a search and rescue operation and to find a solution for the safe disembarking of Rohingya people.



STUDY ON ELECTRICAL ENERGY STORAGE FOR SHIPS IS NOW PUBLISHED

The EMSA Study on Electrical Energy Storage for Ships was recently published and is available on the EMSA [website](#). Developed in close partnership with DNV-GL, the study addresses technology, feasibility, sustainability and safety aspects of maritime battery applications, representing an important instrument, assisting both the Commission’s initiatives and EU member states with a consolidated reference on this fast-developing technology. Despite current limitations in energy density, and challenging safety considerations, electrical energy storage is an important element in contributing to ships’ energy efficiency, emissions reduction and power production equipment performance. Hybrid or all-electric ship projects are covered in the study giving examples of practical applications. A safety assessment addresses the different hazards related to battery installations, providing a perspective on the possible safeguards to mitigate different safety risk.



RENEWED MARINE EQUIPMENT DATABASE MADE AVAILABLE

On April 20th an enhanced EMSA Marine Equipment Directive (MED) Database went live. This cloud based EMSA Maritime Digital Service covers all the products certified (currently around 170,000) under the Marine Equipment Directive (2014/90/EU), giving the relevant industry, e.g. shipyards, a reliable tool to check the validity of the certificates of marine equipment placed on the EU market. The database is also an essential information source for market surveillance authorities. The development of the tool was subject to an extensive testing period by the relevant MED stakeholders, whom EMSA would like to thank for their participation. Compared to the previous MED system, the new tool offers in addition support to the implementation of electronic tagging (e-tag) and the possibility to include the Document of Compliance (DoC). The MED Database is available for free registration at: portal.med.emsa.europa.eu.



EMCIP WEBINAR SESSIONS DELIVERED TO MEMBER STATES

Two webinar sessions were organised by EMSA, on April 23rd, on the European Marine Casualty Information Platform (EMCIP) to provide online helpdesk and familiarisation with the system’s functionalities to retrieve, export and analyse data on marine casualties and incidents. The sessions were attended remotely by 14 participants from seven member states and focussed on the various interfaces to run queries and to display information, including the recently developed graphical interface and business intelligence tools supporting automatic data processing for statistics and trends. Participants provided positive feedback on the webinar.



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VACANCIES: Head of Department ‘Corporate Services’ (21/5/2020); Reserve List for a Human Resources Specialist (21/5/2020)

PROCUREMENT: Provision of Services in Support to the EMSA Academy (11/6/2020); See website for more.