NEWSLETTER No. 232

EMSA European Maritime Safety Agency

QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

OCTOBER 2024

EMSA RELEASES THE NAVISON REPORT TO PROVIDE NEW INSIGHTS ON UNDERWATER NOISE

The NAVIs SONus (NAVISON) report is the first pan-European report to provide historical and future forecast underwater noise data for all European seas. Underwater noise from ships is recognised as a stress factor for marine life, particularly for cetaceans like whales and dolphins, who use sound to communicate with each other. It can harm marine biodiversity and cause behavioural changes in animals. Using a single methodology, NAVISON maps underwater noise levels in all European seas for the first time, providing a comprehensive, pan-European overview, and allowing quantitative likefor-like comparisons of shipping contributions to ambient sound between regions, vessel categories, years, and forecast scenarios. According to the report, the areas that currently have the highest sound pressure level (SPL) values in Europe are: parts of the English Channel; the Strait of Gibraltar; parts of the Adriatic Sea; the Dardanelles Strait; and some regions in the Baltic Sea. The lowest values are recorded in the northwest part of the northeast Atlantic Ocean, particularly around the Denmark Strait and the Irminger Sea, the southern part of Mediterranean Sea, and the east of Black Sea. NAVISON also uses forecast sound maps to predict the future impact of maritime technology and operational measures on the mitigation of underwater noise caused by shipping for 2023, 2040, and 2050, under four different scenarios. The report is available to download on EMSA's website.

Comparison 63 Hz Cold and average 022 annual average Cold and average 0 Cold and average 0

NAVISON provides detailed sound maps of European waters, using a single methodology for the first time. The report also provides future forecast sound maps, under four different scenarios.

ADRIATIC SEA SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE 2024 CONCLUDES SUCCESSFULLY

The Adriatic Sea Search and Rescue Exercise 2024 (SARex 2024) has successfully concluded, reinforcing cross-border coordination and crisis response capabilities among maritime authorities of Croatia, Italy and Slovenia. The exercise, part of the MMO Adria 2024 framework, took place across multiple locations in the northern Adriatic Sea on 1-2 October 2024, with EMSA coordinating closely with the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) and Frontex participating as an observer. The exercise tested operational readiness through a combination of practical and tabletop exercises designed to simulate realworld scenarios. It involved Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCCs) and Maritime Rescue Sub Centres (MRSCs) from Rijeka and Pula (Croatia), Rome, Trieste and Venice (Italy), and Koper (Slovenia). Assets from these countries operated in the air, at sea, and onshore, with EFCA's vessel Ocean Sentinel playing a key role. SARex 2024 was structured around four main operational activities: search and rescue operations; communication and coordination; Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE); and pollution monitoring. SARex 2024 brought together a wide array of participants, including representatives from the Italian Coast Guard, the Slovenian Maritime Administration, and Croatia's Ministry of the Sea, Transport, and Infrastructure. The joint exercise demonstrated the importance of seamless communication and coordinated decision-making in effectively managing maritime emergencies.



SARex 2024 involved multiple authorities in the Adriatic as well as EMSA and EFCA, with Frontex participating as an observer.

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CISE AT THE CENTRE OF DISCUSSION IN BRUSSELS

On 17 October 2024, the EU's maritime community met in Brussels to discuss the present challenges in the maritime security domain and the role of CISE in bringing maritime authorities together for a stronger and more effective response to them. The "CISE high-level event", organised by the European Commission's DG MARE in cooperation with EMSA and CISE-ALERT Project, brought together 180 participants and high-level speakers representing a broad range of EU bodies and maritime authorities from across the EU. The event celebrated the launch of the CISE Operational Phase on 1 July 2024, which is one of the major achievements of the European Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) and its Action Plan. During the conference, the involved maritime authorities presented the positive results of the extensive testing of information sharing through CISE in different operational activities, including the protection of critical maritime infrastructure, the fight against illegal activities at sea, pollution response, cybersecurity, etc. Amongst the main topics discussed were the future developments of CISE, the need to further promote this tool and to implement the CISE CLASSIFIED Network, which will facilitate the cooperation between military, law enforcement and civilian authorities in the EU.





Delegates discussed the evolution of CISE and its future role in maritime security in the EU.

EMSA HOLDS THE 3RD MARITIME CYBERSECURITY CONFERENCE

On 3 October, the 3rd EMSA Maritime Cybersecurity Conference took place at EMSA premises, in Lisbon. The event was attended by representatives of the European Commission, the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), 21 countries, international and European associations, industry and academia. The main theme of the conference was 'Exploring options for effective information sharing in the EU on maritime cybersecurity'. The main topics covered included the effectiveness of regulation in enhancing cybersecurity in the maritime domain, industry initiatives on information sharing for maritime cybersecurity and challenges, opportunities, and the way ahead on information sharing for maritime cybersecurity. As highlighted by EMSA's Executive Director, Ms Maja Markovčić Kostelac, during the opening of the Conference: "Cybersecurity is a multifaceted risk that goes beyond technology...no single organisation can address this risk alone. Broader cooperation and sharing of relevant information are needed." Participants had the chance to hear from high level speakers representing the European Commission, ENISA, and the three most notable information sharing initiatives on cybersecurity in the maritime domain, namely the European Maritime ISAC, France Cyber Maritime and NORMA Cyber. During the afternoon working sessions participants were able to work in groups and explore options for the development of an information sharing function at the EU level. This in-person event gave the opportunity to all attendees to share best practices and foster collaboration in safeguarding maritime cybersecurity. What became apparent during the conference was that there is a belief among stakeholders that a maritimespecific information sharing function on cybersecurity should be developed at the EU level. EMSA focuses its activities on cybersecurity on two main topics for the imminent future: information sharing and capacity building.



Our Executive Director opens the 3rd Maritime Cybersecurity Conference, held at EMSA.

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VACANCIES: Seconded National Expert (SNE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) services, deadline extended (25/11/2024); See website for more.

PROCUREMENT: Secure destruction of data carriers (04/11/2024); Provision of publications and subscriptions (12/11/2024). See website for more.