



Navtech News: Summer 2019

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Summer is probably the surveyor's busiest times depending on latitudes. We wish you good business and accurate reporting. Here are some updates

Steel Antifouling

Yes, there are many steel vessels still afloat or in various states of repair. Commercial freighters and tankers notwithstanding. The new technology is to coat steel with plastics. Many of these coatings are inventions borrowed from the medical industry:

- CDP: Controlled depletion polymer: Rosin based that slowly leaches biocide
- FRC: Hydrophobic, slippery goo that won't let barnacles stick
- SPC: Self-polishing co- polymers. Most widely used. It's a biocidal that gradually wears or dissolves

Cybersecurity

Protect your clients IT. When inspecting IT systems including bridge navigation, communication and mechanical monitoring, a friendly reminder to have vessels protected against cyber fraud. The USCG is target focusing on cyberattacks both commercially and recreationally. IT on board is susceptible to the same threats as any other network, especially by sophisticated pirates. And now, enter the drones. One vulnerable weak link in channels and shipping lanes, harbors and commercial ports can set malware hacking, jamming, and taking advantage of vulnerable software flaws. Recommend hardware and software security.

Toxic Bloom Season

Please add eco responsibility to your repertoire for consultation during inspections. Red tide, (salt water) is on the way. Heat and salinity imbalances are known to contribute to this deadly fish killing algae.

Advise against washing boats with solvents and chemicals in hard spaces with runoff areas. Soaps increase harmful bacteria.

Stay in touch—remember if you are finishing continuing ed or certification exams....please send.