

Circular From GARD

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New 'one stop shop' for maritime security advice

International shipping industry organisations, supported by military organisations, have launched a new website dedicated to providing comprehensive maritime security guidance to companies and mariners.

The new Maritime Global Security website, www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org, is a collection of all security-related guidance produced by the industry, as well as links to other useful maritime and military security resources, and serves as a 'one stop shop' for maritime security advice. Drop-down menus allow users to find relevant information and guidance either based on generic types of maritime security risks, such as piracy, cyber, migration, stowaways, smuggling and armed conflicts and war, or based on geography and specific trading areas.

Central to the website are new best practice guides to assist companies and mariners to risk assess voyages and detect, avoid, deter or delay piracy attacks.

- The *Global Counter Piracy Guidance for Companies, Masters and Seafarers* is a new publication containing guidance on piracy, armed robbery that can be used by mariners around the world.
- The renowned BMP has been superseded by an updated version, the *BMP5: Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Security in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea*. The updated BMP continues to provide guidance for threats specific to the High Risk Area (HRA) in the Western Indian Ocean region but has been harmonised with the Global Counter Piracy Guidance document.
- The third edition of the *Guidelines for Owners, Operators and Masters for protection against piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea region* is also available.
- For vessels trading in South East Asia, the website refers to the existing *Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against ships in Asia* published by ReCAAP.

In a press release dated 28 June 2018, the authors of the website say *"in a world of increasingly complex security risks, it is essential that mariners and ships are protected. The new website will be a freely available facility where companies and mariners can access essential guidance and information to help them comprehensively prepare for voyages through areas of security risk."*

The potential consequences of not following industry best practices may be severe and Members and clients are advised to actively promote and use the new website and familiarise themselves with the relevant guidance documents. Further information is also available via Gard's website: [Trading area risks](#).

Source of Information: Gard P&I Club