



US Maritime Administration

Office of Maritime Security (MAR-420)

U.S. Maritime Alerts, Warnings, and Notifications Sub-Working Group (AWN Sub-WG) Update

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Examples of Recent AWN Events



shipspotting.org



Cimsec.org



www.yvesnet.com



Leon Klinghoffer

cleveland.com



Esteban González

vesseltracker.com



Scott Adam
Jean Adam
Phyllis Macay
Robert Riggle



Jerzy Nowak

vesseltracker.com



Capt. Richard Phillips

U.S. Maritime AWN Overview



- April 2014 - The AWN Project was Initiated by the National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office (NMIO) under the auspices of the Maritime Domain Awareness Executive Steering Committee (MDA ESC).
- October 2014 - In conjunction with the MARAD Office of Maritime Security (MAR-420), NMIO finalized the AWN “As-Is” Study that reviewed the current process for which the USG issues AWN to the U.S. maritime industry and U.S. mariners.
 - Industry representatives from Officer Unions and Management across the following sectors assisted in the project:
 - the deep sea
 - offshore service
 - drilling unit
 - maritime security
- February 2015 - NMIO presented the findings of this study to the National Security Council’s (NSC) Maritime Security Working Group (MSWG) for action.
 - The AWN “As-Is” Study recommended that a sub-working group review options to improve AWN.
 - An interagency AWN Sub-WG is authorized and chartered under the MSWG with NMIO being designated the Chair of this body.

U.S. Maritime AWN Overview (cont.)

- 02 March 2015 – The first Sub-WG meeting was held at the MARAD Operations Center, and is convened monthly on a bi-weekly basis until March 2016.
 - The AWN Sub-WG consists of representatives from the following USG agencies: NMIO, Department of State, Department of Defense, Department of Transportation, and Department of Homeland Security.
- 08 May 2015 – Members from American Maritime Officers (AMO); Masters, Mates and Pilots (MMP); and the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association (MEBA), as well as representatives from the Chamber of Shipping of America (CSA), Offshore Marine Service Association (OMSA), and International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) unanimously support the creation of a U.S. Maritime Alert Message.
- 22 July 2015 – NMIO's largest Maritime Industry National Maritime Interagency Advisory Group (NIAG) Meeting to date was held at the Department of Transportation.
 - Comprised roughly one hundred participants approximating 50% USG interagency and 50% industry participation.
 - Key Note Speaker Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA), Chairman of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, brought home the significance of this excellent forum where practical solutions to complex maritime issues can be addressed through this 50/50 approach to problem solving.
- 10 August 2015 – The AWN Project transitions from NMIO to MARAD

AWN Sub-WG Consensus Items



The AWN Sub-WG comprised of NMIO and the Departments of State, Defense, Transportation, and Homeland Security concur on the following items:

- ***Recommended actions are spaced out from present to 48 months to take into account budgetary constraints and future IT architecture construction.***
- The USG AWN audience is U.S. maritime flagged, owned, operated, or of vital national economic or security interest (expanded sector maritime involvement).
- There are three echelons of focus for AWN provided by the USG:
 - Echelon 1: Corporate Level – Company Security Officer (CSO's)/Designated Person Ashore (DPA)
 - Echelon 2: Vessel Level – Vessel Security Officer (VSO's)/Ship's Crew
 - Echelon 3: The Individual Mariner – DOS Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (S.T.E.P.)

U.S. Maritime Alert Message

- Recommend an immediate public release called a “three liner” alert message to confirm/deny that a reported event has occurred in the Maritime Domain, and to sustain U.S. maritime industry engagement.

Example U.S. Maritime Alert Message

U.S. Maritime Alert Message

Example template for Department of Transportation MARAD Advisory 2015-1:

A maritime (threat/emergency/*incident*) has been reported in the (**STRAIT OF HORMUZ IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME**) in the vicinity of position (**26-39.43N 056-15.0E**) on (**28 APRIL @0905Z**). It (*has/has not*) been confirmed. The nature of the event is reported to be **H** (see Event Description list below). Exercise caution when transiting this area. Recommend vessels act in accordance with recognized international law, national law/regulations, and company policy. If appropriate, further information may be forthcoming.

- Event Description:
 - A. Threat by standing sovereign military forces
 - B. Threat by asymmetrical military, insurgent or criminal agents
 - C. A declaration of hostilities toward the U.S. government, property and/or persons
 - D. A failure to recognize the Sovereign Immunity of U.S. government/U.S. flagged government chartered commercial vessels
 - E. Claims to seize contraband
 - F. Expanded unrecognized territorial sea claims
 - G. Temporary closures of internationally recognized sea lanes
 - H. Seizure, attempted seizure or harassment of vessels
 - I. Other infringements outside the norm of internationally recognized maritime commerce or treaty
 - J. Other immediate maritime event (HAZMAT-Chemical, Biological, Radiological; Environmental, Natural Disaster, etc.)
- POC: Lead USG Agency Contact Information

AWN Sub-WG Initiatives



- Throughout 2015, the AWN Sub-WG has initiated several ground breaking efforts to improve USG global communications with industry:
 - A standardized U.S. Maritime AWN Alert Message to warn U.S. maritime interests of an impending concern within minutes as opposed to the current several days to weeks long process.
 - A revision of the in-effect 1970's documents to reflect current interagency MOU's or protocols to enhance interagency coordination and communication in response to maritime events.
 - Long term options for one-stop shop websites, portals and/or communications mediums to significantly improve the efficiency of information dissemination from multiple USG agencies to the U.S. maritime industry.

Questions

POCs:

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