

# MEMBER ALERT



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## LATEST VESSEL SECURITY PUBLICATIONS AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The fifth edition of [Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Security in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea](#) also known as BMP5 has recently been published under the auspices of several shipping industry associations including BIMCO, Intertanko, Intercargo, OCIMF, the ICS and the International Group of P&I Clubs.

BMP5 takes a global approach to all areas where the threat of piracy exists, and has replaced the previous BMP4 guidance “Protection against Somalia Based Piracy”. In addition to BMP5, your Managers draw Members’ attention to the following security guidance which has also recently been published:

- [Global Counter Piracy Guidance for Companies, Masters, and Seafarers](#) (GCPG) published June 2018, which contains guidance on piracy and armed robbery to be used by seafarers around the world.
- [Guidelines for Owners, Operators and Masters for protection against piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea region](#) (Version 3, June 2018), to be read in conjunction with GCPG.
- OCIMF’s first edition [Guidelines to Harden Vessels](#) released July 25, 2018 is a new information paper that recommends a layered defense methodology for hardening vessels to help prevent unauthorized boarding.

Members are encouraged to adhere to the latest industry guidance and best practices in order to minimize both the physical risks of transiting the areas in question and the possibility of subsequent allegations of unseaworthiness and/or breach of duty which might be raised by charterers, cargo owners or other third parties in the event of an attempted, or completed, incident of piracy.

Members are reminded that the Club maintains a dedicated space on its website which contains a range of information, including answers to frequently asked questions on the subject, and guidance for Members on the hiring of armed guards. It also provides links

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to other industry information on piracy and armed robbery. It is available at:

<http://www.american-club.com/page/piracy>.

Members are encouraged to refer to this section of the Club's website or contact the Managers directly should they have questions about this matter, or generally.