



S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

Broader Horizons



A Monthly Maritime Bulletin and Perspectives of the Maritime Security Programme at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

Featured *MSP Perspective*:



GPS TERRORISM

Tackling the maritime cyber security challenge - p. 1

By Ristian Atriandi Supriyanto

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Maritime Security Programme, RSIS

Editorial Team

Jane Chan

Ristian Atriandi Supriyanto

Henrick Tsjeng Zhizhao

Contact Us

For comments /
suggestions /requests,
kindly write to us at

RSISMSP@ntu.edu.sg

Tackling the maritime cyber security challenge

By Ristian Atriandi Supriyanto
Associate Research Fellow, Maritime Security Programme

Around 80% of global trade by volume and over 70% by value is carried by sea. This is especially so for Asia. [A 2012 UN report](#) found that world seaborne shipments grew at an annual average rate of 3%, rising from 2.6 billion tons in 1970 to 8.4 billion tons in 2010 – with a majority increasingly shared by Asia. Out of the world's top 20 container ports, 14 are located in Asia.

These figures highlight the importance accorded to maritime transport, and its associated critical infrastructures, including the information and communication technology (ICT). As the maritime sector becomes more digitised, so does its reliance on ICT systems. ICT is increasingly used to enable essential maritime operations, from navigation to propulsion, from freight management to traffic control communications. However, reliance also begets vulnerability, in which maritime ICT systems could be attacked for malicious purposes. Unfortunately, [a 2011 report](#) by the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) found that maritime cyber security awareness is either very low or even non-existent. Apparently, there is a tendency to define critical maritime infrastructures chiefly, if not solely, in their physical form. But the maritime and cyberspace domains are now becoming more inextricably linked. This is a challenge that all maritime stakeholders must tackle.

Like any other ICT-intensive sector, the ICT systems in the maritime sector are not immune to attacks. At the low-end of the spectrum, the maritime ICT systems could be attacked in the form of 'cyber crime' to commit fraud, forgery, or data theft. For example, pirates or terrorists could obtain restricted information about a merchant vessel's data, including its destination, crews, and cargoes, which could facilitate its hijacking, or even an attack. ICT systems at ports could also be [exploited](#) by terrorists or criminals to disrupt its operational flow. At the high-end, cyber-attacks against a major port's ICT systems by a nation-state could even grind a national economy 'to a halt in a matter of days; shelves at grocery stores and gas tanks at service stations would run empty' according to [a recent US report](#).

In light of these vulnerabilities, how can maritime cyber security be best protected, particularly in the Asian maritime domain? First, governments could conduct campaigns to raise cyber security awareness among stakeholders in the maritime sector. Its principal aim is to encourage maritime stakeholders to view security beyond its physical form.

Secondly, there should be national and regional level strategies to specifically address maritime cyber security issues by identifying its vulnerabilities, threats, and prevention/mitigation measures. At the national level, some regional countries which have adopted national cyber security strategies should tailor them specifically for the maritime sector. For those which have not, they should start formulating these strategies. At the regional level, maritime cooperation should include activities in cyberspace. For example, maritime information sharing has been a common area for regional countries to cooperate, through initiatives like the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) or the Information Fusion Centre (IFC). Given the ICT-intensive nature of maritime information sharing, there should be measures applied to protect them from potential attacks, as well as to practice exercises/countermeasures in case an attack does occur.

Finally, the national and regional level strategies should aim at creating a 'standard' of good practices in maritime cyberspace. If there are [best management practices](#) (BMP) for merchant vessels to physically protect themselves against pirates, there should also be 'BMP' for cyber security. For example, as part of their awareness campaigns, national governments could put a 'minimum' cyber security standard to all its maritime stakeholders in the long-run, in which violations could be met with sanctions or penalties. At the regional level, ReCAAP and IFC could work on creating regional BMP and encourage its adoption by their contracting members. These cooperative arrangements may also coordinate with the UN International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to formulate a global cyber security BMP for the maritime sector, which could complement existing maritime security measures.

Naval Development & Policy

CHINA | 5 AUGUST | GLOBAL POST

Chinese navy launches new patrol route in the S. China Sea

After fortifying its naval outposts in the South China Sea, China has established a maritime surveillance patrol route that covers practically all disputed reefs, shoals and islets in the sea, even those within 85 nautical miles of the Philippines' westernmost island province of Palawan, a classified military report seen Monday by Kyodo News says.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 3 AUGUST | GMA NEWS

PHL acquiring French vessel for West PHL Sea

The Philippines said Saturday it is purchasing a surplus French Navy vessel to boost its forces in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea) where it has an ongoing territorial dispute with China. The 26-year-old "La Tapageuse" vessel is likely to be the first of several French ships that will be acquired by the Philippine coastguard as it contends with increasingly assertive Chinese forces. The 54.8-meter (180-foot) patrol ship will cost six million Euros (\$7.97 million) and is due to arrive in the country by April next year, a coastguard statement said.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN | 6 AUGUST | AGENCE-FRANCE PRESSE

Japan navy unveils biggest warship since WWII

YOKOHAMA, Japan — Japan unveiled its biggest warship since World War II on Tuesday, a \$1.2 billion helicopter carrier aimed at defending territorial claims, drawing criticism from regional rival China which accused its neighbour of "constant" military expansion. The ceremony to showcase the 248-metre (810-foot) vessel came as Shinzo Abe's conservative government, which took office last December, considers ditching the nation's pacifist constitution and beefing up the military.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 12 AUGUST | CHANNEL NEWS ASIA

India "milestone" as it launches own aircraft carrier

KOCHI, India: India launched its first indigenously-built aircraft carrier on Monday, a landmark moment in the US\$5 billion project that seeks to project the country's power and check the rising influence of China. When the INS Vikrant comes into full service in 2018, India will become the fifth nation to have designed and built its own aircraft carrier, pushing ahead of China to join an elite club that includes Britain, France, Russia and the United States.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA-INDIA | 12 AUGUST | THE TIMES OF INDIA

Aircraft carrier 'INS Vikrant' raises hackles in China

BEIJING: The launch of INS Vikrant has raised hackles in China, with Chinese defence experts saying the aircraft carrier would have great significance for India as it would allow the Indian Navy to wade into the Pacific Ocean - which Beijing considers as its backyard. "This bears great significance to Indian Navy. It makes India only the fifth country after the US, Russia, Britain and France to have such capabilities," senior captain Zhang Junshe, vice-president of China's Naval Research Institute, told the state-run CCTV on Monday.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 11 AUGUST | THE TIMES OF INDIA

Giant stride for nation, PM says on INS Arihant going 'critical'

NEW DELHI: Arihant, which translates as the 'destroyer of enemies' from Sanskrit, now has a new "heart" to take the battle to enemy shores. The miniaturized atomic reactor on board India's first indigenous nuclear submarine INS Arihant has "gone critical", in a big leap towards making the country's long-awaited "nuclear weapons triad" an operational reality.

[Full Report](#)

PAKISTAN | 8 AUGUST | DEFENSE NEWS

Pakistan's pledge to fund naval development met with skepticism

ISLAMABAD — Despite a pledge from Pakistan's minister of defense production that the Navy's modernization projects will move forward, analysts are skeptical that the cash-strapped government will actually fund the programs. The Associated Press of Pakistan stated Tanveer Hussain "ensured all necessary resources will be provided for timely completion of the projects to enhance the professional capabilities of Pakistan Navy," during a visit Tuesday to Naval Headquarters in Islamabad, during which he met with naval chief Adm. Mohammad Asif Sandila.

[Full Report](#)

TAIWAN | 14 AUGUST | DEFENSE NEWS

Taiwan displays new missile launch vehicle

TAIPEI — Taiwan's navy unveiled a prototype today of a road-mobile launcher carrier for the supersonic Hsiung Feng 3 (Brave Wind) anti-ship cruise missile at a pre-show press tour for the biennial Taipei Aerospace and Defense Technology Exhibition (TADTE). The show will run from Aug. 15 to 18. Chungshan Institute of Science and Technology (CSIST) officials said the launch canisters on the road-mobile launch vehicle were the same as the ones for ships.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 14 AUGUST | AL JAZEERA

Indian submarine sinks after explosion

An Indian navy submarine with about 18 sailors on board has caught fire after an explosion and sank at a port in Mumbai. Navy spokesperson Narendra Vispute said on Wednesday that efforts were being made to ascertain the safety of the personnel feared to be trapped on board the diesel-powered submarine. "There are no reports of casualties at the moment," he added.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 19 AUGUST | CHANNEL NEWS ASIA

India orders submarine review after deadly explosion

NEW DELHI: India has ordered checks on the weapons safety systems of all its submarines after a deadly explosion on a vessel last week which is thought to have killed 18 crewmen, its defence minister said on Monday. A.K. Antony also said naval divers were yet to fully access the Russian-built INS Sindhurakshak which sank in a Mumbai harbour last Wednesday after a series of explosions in which munitions ignited.

[Full Report](#)

TAIWAN-GAMBIA | 20 AUGUST | FOCUS TAIWAN

Taiwan to donate three patrol boats to The Gambia

Taipei, Aug. 20 (CNA) Taiwan will donate three more patrol boats to diplomatic ally The Gambia to help strengthen its ability to patrol its coast, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday. The African country will officially take over the boats at a ceremony there on Aug. 23 that will be attended by Gambian President Yahya J.J. Jammeh, said Winston Hu, deputy director-general of the ministry's Department of West Asian and African Affairs.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 26 AUGUST | GLOBAL POST

China building 1st amphibious assault ship in Shanghai

China is building in Shanghai its first amphibious assault ship capable of carrying multiple hovercraft and many helicopters, according to a think tank that monitors Asian defense issues. The full displacement of the assault ship, which may be put into commission as early as 2015 to strengthen China's naval landing operations, is 35,000 tons, according to the Kanwa Information Center, a Canada-based private think tank.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 28 AUGUST | THE TIMES OF INDIA

India's first military satellite will help keep tabs on Indian Ocean region

NEW DELHI: India's first dedicated military satellite GSAT-7 or "Rukmini", which will be launched by Arianespace from French Guiana on Friday, will provide the Navy with an almost 2,000-nautical-mile-footprint over the critical Indian Ocean region (IOR). Essentially a geo-stationary communication satellite to enable real-time networking of all Indian warships, submarines and aircraft with operational centres ashore, the 2,625kg Rukmini will also help the Navy keep a hawk-eye over both Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 29 AUGUST | DEFENSE NEWS

India issues global tender for maritime recon planes

NEW DELHI — India is on a global hunt to procure nine medium range maritime reconnaissance (MRMR) aircraft equipped with anti-ship missiles. The tender, worth more than \$2 billion, was sent to overseas defense majors Alenia of Italy; US-based Boeing and Lockheed Martin; Saab of Sweden; Germany's EADS, France-based Dassault; Embraer of Brazil and Bombardier of Canada.

[Full Report](#)

Taiwan plans to buy two warships from US

TAIPEI: Taiwan plans to purchase two warships from the United States as part of its efforts to modernise its forces against a perceived military threat from China, a lawmaker said on Friday. The defence ministry has listed Tw\$5.6 billion (US\$187 million) in its 2014 and 2015 budgets to buy two Perry-class frigates from the US navy, said lawmaker Lin Yu-fang, citing defence budgets submitted to the parliament.

[Full Report](#)

Maritime Safety and Security



BRUNEI | 29 AUGUST | KYODO NEWS

Asia-Pacific ministers seek "practical measures" to avoid conflicts at sea

The defense ministers or representatives of ASEAN and eight countries -- Japan, the United States, China, Russia, India, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand -- on Thursday said they agreed to establish "practical measures" to avoid maritime conflicts in the region. In a joint declaration issued at the end of the one-day "ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus, the ministers also stressed the need to renounce threats and the use of threats in dealing with security issues plaguing the region.

[Full Report Available Upon Request](#)

U.S.-CHINA | 1 AUGUST | REUTERS

China condemns U.S. Senate over sea dispute resolution

(Reuters) - China said on Thursday it had lodged a formal complaint with the United States after the U.S. Senate passed a resolution expressing concern about Chinese actions in the disputed East and South China Seas. The U.S. resolution, passed on Monday, listed several examples of worrying Chinese behavior, including China's issuing of an official map defining the contested South China Sea as within its national border and of Chinese surveillance ships entering waters disputed with Japan in the East China Sea.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 4 AUGUST | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Australian navy rescues troubled boat as Indonesia, Australia talk refugees

HONG KONG: Two people died and a third is missing after a boat sank in Hong Kong waters on Saturday, amid ongoing public concerns over the city's maritime safety following a fatal ferry crash last October. A search and rescue operation was launched after reports went out that a small wooden boat carrying eight people had sunk.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 5 AUGUST | REUTERS

China says in no hurry to sign South China Sea accord

Aug 5 (Reuters) - China is in no rush to sign a proposed agreement on maritime rules with Southeast Asia governing behaviour in the disputed South China Sea, and countries should not have unrealistic expectations, the Chinese foreign minister said on Monday. After years of resisting efforts by the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to start talks on the proposed Code of Conduct, China said it would host talks between senior officials in September.

[Full Report](#)

MALAYSIA | 6 AUGUST | WALL STREET JOURNAL

Malaysia ends sea rescue; 33 missing Indonesians believed dead

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysian rescuers have called off a search for 33 Indonesians still missing at sea after their boat sank late last Thursday. A wooden boat carrying 44 Indonesians believed to be mostly illegal workers in Malaysia capsized in choppy waters 13 nautical miles off southern Johor state, about three hours into its journey from Tanjung Sedili on the state's east coast en route to Indonesia's Batam island. They included including women and children. Four men, aged 26 to 31, were rescued Friday by fishermen and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency. Seven bodies were recovered.

[Full Report](#)

S. KOREA | 11 AUGUST | YONHAP NEWS

S. Korea seeks to host U.N. maritime law regional center

SEOUL, Aug. 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is seeking to host a new United Nations regional center for maritime law that will promote better understanding of sea boundaries and use of underwater resources, the government said Sunday. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) has proposed establishing three centers in the Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin American regions, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

[Full Report](#)

PAKISTAN | 13 AUGUST | DAWN

Pakistan yet to ratify maritime convention

ISLAMABAD, Aug 13: The 'Maritime Labour Convention' will enter into force on August 20 to regulate conditions for seafarers on more than 75 per cent of the world's gross tonnage of ships, International Labour Organisation (ILO) has announced. Pakistan is among the list of countries which have not yet ratified the convention. Currently, ILO has registered ratifications of the Convention by 45 ILO member States responsible for regulating conditions for seafarers on more than 75pc of the world's gross tonnage of ships.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 18 AUGUST | SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST

Philippine cargo company in ferry disaster linked to several maritime tragedies

A company whose cargo ship collided with a ferry in the Philippines, leaving 200 passengers dead or missing, confirmed yesterday its vessels were involved in four other tragedies that claimed over 5,000 lives between them. The first of those accidents was in 1987 when the firm's Dona Paz ferry collided with an oil tanker, leaving more than 4,300 dead in the world's worst peacetime maritime disaster.

Full Report Available Upon Request

AUSTRALIA | 20 AUGUST | BBC

More than 100 rescued after Australia asylum capsized

More than 100 people have been rescued after a boat carrying asylum-seekers capsized off Australia's Christmas Island. Australian maritime officials said they sent a navy ship after receiving a call for help from the boat. A total of 106 people were plucked from the water, with two suffering minor injuries, the

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) said. Search and rescue operations were continuing, AMSA said.

[Full Report](#)

S. KOREA-SOMALIA | 21 AUGUST | YONHAP NEWS

No S. Korean damage in H1 from Somali pirates

SEOUL, Aug. 21 (Yonhap) -- No piracy activities against South Korean ships in waters off Somalia were reported in the first half of 2013, the government said Wednesday, apparently due to an international crackdown to tackle piracy. The number of piracy cases in waters off the coast of Somalia came to eight in the January-June period, falling sharply from 69 a year earlier, with none of them targeting local ships, the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries said.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 23 AUGUST | FREEMAN

Marine pollution materials unused

CEBU, Philippines - While people donate their hair and other indigenous materials to combat the oil spill, at least P60 million worth of marine pollution control materials are allegedly gathering dust at the Coast Guard-Central Visayas stockyard. Cebu City Councilor Gerardo Carillo said he learned about the materials from a former official of the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) who wondered why local officials in Cebu are calling for donors of indigenous materials to control the oil spill when Coast Guard offices are provided with the necessary equipment.

[Full Report](#)

THAILAND | 23 AUGUST | NEW YORK TIMES

Thai officials play down effects of oil spill

KOH SAMET, Thailand — Two rescue operations were set in motion last month when a burst pipeline sent tons of crude oil gushing into the sea near this idyllic resort island. One was cleaning up the spill. The other was defending the image of Thailand's tourism industry, crucial to the country's increasingly fragile economy.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN-SOMALIA | 26 AUGUST | ALL AFRICA

Somalia: Japan may again send MSDF patrol aircraft for anti-piracy mission off Somalia

Japan will consider deploying Maritime Self-Defense Force P-3C patrol aircraft again to the multinational anti-piracy operations off Somalia, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said, according to Japanese officials. In a Sunday meeting with Vice Adm. John Miller, commander of the U.S. Navy 5th Fleet, in Bahrain, Abe said it is very important to contribute to the international community's efforts with the dispatch of the MSDF aircraft. Miller lauded the plane's capabilities, the officials said.

[Full Report](#)

U.S.-CHINA | 26 AUGUST | STARS AND STRIPES

US Navy seeks more cooperation with China in counter-piracy exercise

MANAMA, Bahrain — During a rare exercise involving U.S. and Chinese naval forces in the Gulf of Aden, the two countries' navies landed helicopters on each other's ships for the first time. Commodore Joseph Naman, a U.S. Navy captain and commander of Destroyer Squadron 50, called it "a significant milestone." In what could potentially be a small-scale rehearsal for the large-scale RIMPAC 2014 exercise in the Pacific, the two-day bilateral exercise in the Gulf of Aden that ended Sunday focused on counter-piracy operations.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES-VIETNAM | 28 AUGUST | GULF NEWS

Philippines, Vietnam to boost cooperation for maritime security

Manila: Philippines and Vietnam firmed up their defence co-operation to safeguard overlapping claims in the South China Sea, sources said. Vietnamese defence minister General Phung Quang Thanh and Philippine Defence Secretary Voltaire Gazmin discussed defence cooperation on their "mutual concerns" such as maritime territorial sovereignty and their 200 nautical miles exclusive economic zones in the South China Sea, statements from the defence ministries of Vietnam and the Philippines said after Thanh's two-day visit. It ended with a courtesy call to President Benigno Aquino on Tuesday.

[Full Report](#)

Shipping, Ports, and the Maritime Economy

CHINA-SRI LANKA | 5 AUGUST | INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES

China secures key maritime supply route with mega port project in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka has commissioned the first of three new container terminals in Colombo, backed by investment from China - which wants to enhance its presence in the world's busiest shipping lane. The \$500m Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT) is designed to handle very large ships, and its facilities will be on par with those available at established ports such as Singapore and Dubai. The investment - by state-run China Merchants Holdings (International) - will help China secure another maritime supply route, building on a string of major investments over the past 18 months.

[Full Report](#)

SRI LANKA | 2 AUGUST | LLOYDS LIST

Colombo and Hambantota declared free ports

The government of Sri Lanka has declared the ports of Colombo and Hambantota to be free ports, a measure aimed at building attractiveness of the ports as transshipment hubs to south and Southeast Asia. Sri Lanka aims to develop the export-processing zones at Katunayake and Koggala and Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport as bonded areas, or areas where normally dutiable goods can be processed and re-exported with duty charges.

Full Report Available On Request

CHINA | 7 AUGUST | PLATTS

Brightoil begins bunker fuel supply from Zhoushan port in east China

Hong Kong-listed Brightoil Petroleum started supplying bunker fuel from the port of Zhoushan in east China on Wednesday, said a company source. It delivered 850 mt of 380 CST grade bunker fuel to Zhoushan Wednesday, said the source. The company had earlier planned to start deliveries in the first half of July, but delayed to August. "Since it is a new port, we are quite cautious for the first order," said the source.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 8 AUGUST | WALL STREET JOURNAL

Weak demand, overcapacity continue to burden container-shipping companies

HONG KONG—Container-shipping companies battled weak freight demand in the second quarter, as they continued to be burdened by capacity added in the teeth of a global economic slowdown. Results from Orient Overseas (International) Ltd., Hapag-Lloyd AG, and Neptune Orient Lines Ltd. this week were mixed,

showing the uneven pace of recovery. Shipping-rate increases beginning in July could provide a second-half boost, analysts said, though overcapacity is expected to persist for some time.

Full Report Available Upon Request

SINGAPORE | 14 AUGUST | SHIP AND BUNKER

Oiltanking sells 45% of Singapore

Independent storage company Oiltanking GmbH (Oiltanking) says it has reached a deal with Macquarie Capital to sell 45 percent of the Helios fuel oil storage terminal on Jurong Island in Singapore. Oiltanking bought the terminal, Helios Terminal Corporation Pte. Ltd., from Chemoil Energy Limited [AV5.SI] (Chemoil) last year for \$285 million, and the storage company says it has been seeking a long-term partner for the facility. Macquarie Capital brings an investment focus, access to capital, and financial market capabilities to the facility, Oiltanking said.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 19 AUGUST | SINOSHIP NEWS

China's first private LNG bunkering project approved

According to information on Zhoushan government's website, the first private LNG bunkering station in China has been approved and will be built in Zhoushan by ENN Energy Holdings, a clean energy supplier headquartered in Hebei. The first phase of the project is expected to have a receiving capacity of 3m tons upon completion in March 2016. Total investment on the project is RMB4.75bn.

[Full Report](#)

MALAYSIA | 22 AUGUST | NEW STRAITS TIMES

Maritime sector to reap RM19 billion profit, provide 55,000 jobs in 2020, says Najib

PORT KLANG: The maritime sector is expected to achieve up to RM19 billion profit and provide over 55,000 jobs in 2020, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said today. Najib said he was confident that the industry would thrust Malaysia as a nation that has the capabilities not only in the petroleum automotive industry but also venture into building high technology ships.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 22 AUGUST | STRAITS TIMES

Chief engineer of ship fined and jailed for Singapore bunker fraud

THE Russian chief engineer of a ship was fined \$30,000 and jailed for two weeks for accepting a US\$8,400 (\$\$10,752) bribe from a cargo officer and submitting false documents to his employers to cover up the shortfall in the marine fuel. Antonov Sergey, 34, was also ordered to pay a penalty of \$8,640, which constitutes the US\$6,750 of the bribe that was not recovered.

[Full Report](#)

S. KOREA | 22 AUGUST | BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK

South Korea's bet on arctic shipping lanes

Sometime in late August, if all goes as planned, a Korean tanker will set sail from a South Korean port. Destination: Rotterdam. Nothing special about that port of call. What's unusual is the route—above Russia,

in waters once clogged with ice—which has largely melted. A vessel sailing via Russia can now make this 15,000-kilometer (9,300 miles) journey in 30 days, compared with the 40-day, 22,000-kilometer trip via the Indian Ocean and Suez Canal.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE-MEXICO | 28 AUGUST | BUSINESS TIMES

Mexico shipping seeks investment from Singapore

Mexico is looking to beef up its shipping and maritime capabilities and is aiming for Singapore investments to help it do so. A Mexican shipping delegation was in Singapore 27th August for meetings with six companies and also the Maritime Port Authority (MPA). Speaking to The Business Times, the head of Mexico's maritime and port authority and the delegation, Guillermo Ruiz de Teresa, said his team had met representatives of the Port of Singapore Authority (PSA), Keppel Corp, Sembcorp, Jurong Port, Portek International and the Kuok Group to discuss investment opportunities in Mexico's ports and shipyards.

Full Report Available Upon Request

CHINA | 29 AUGUST | SINOSHIP NEWS

China's largest inland port starts trials

Shanghai: China's largest inland logistics port project, Chongqing Guoyuan Port, has started trial operation. The RMB10bn project has a designed annual handling capacity of 30m tons. Currently it has put four berths into operation with another 12 berths starting operation by the end of this year. According to Chongqing port, currently it is building a railway that will connect Guoyuan Port to the Chongqing-Europe railway by 2014, and will become an important gateway port on the Yangtze River to Europe and the largest inland intermodal port in China.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 29 AUGUST | REUTERS

China mulls easing curbs to allow larger vessels, Vale may benefit

China is studying a plan to allow some of its ports to receive larger vessels, a move that may pave the way for Brazil's Vale SA to start delivering iron ore via its growing fleet of giant carriers. Chinese ship-owners have strongly opposed access for Vale's mega ships amid concerns they could worsen a shipping glut and steal market share, but their use would cut shipping costs of the raw material for China's steel mills.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 29 AUGUST | LLOYDS LIST

China Merchants Holdings posts strong profit growth

Hong Kong-based port operator China Merchants Holdings (International) has posted sturdy first-half profit growth, reaping the fruits of early acquisitions. State-owned CMHI, part of conglomerate China Merchants Group, reported net profit from recurring operations up 13% on-year to HK\$1.8bn (\$232.1m). Volume growth was buoyed by contributions from newly acquired and constructed terminals, including Kao Ming Container Terminal in Kaohsiung, Djibouti in east Africa and various locations under Terminal Link.

Full Report Available On Request

INDONESIA | 30 AUGUST | JAKARTA POST

Govt urged to reduce number of open ports

Representatives of the shipping industry have urged the government to review the number of ports in Indonesia that will be opened up in the upcoming ASEAN single market in order to protect local shippers. Indonesian National Shipowners Association (INSA) chairwoman Carmelita Hartoto said that the government should only open two or three ports instead of 14 because most ASEAN members will only open one or two ports.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 30 AUGUST | THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE

China COSCO's Chairman confident of returning to profit in 2013

China's largest bulk shipper, China COSCO Holdings Co Ltd, is confident of turning a profit for the full year of 2013 after reporting a narrower first-half net loss as the global dry bulk market improves in the second half. "In the second half, the performance of the dry bulk shipping industry will be better than the first half due to a narrowing gap between supply and demand," COSCO's chairman, Ma Zehua, said during a media teleconference on Friday, a day after it reported a first-half net loss of 990 million yuan (\$162 million).

[Full report](#)