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JAPAN P&I NEWS

To the Members

Partial Amendment of the Act on Maritime Traffic Safety

Partial Amendment of the Act on Maritime Traffic Safety came into force on 1st July 2021.

The following new system for navigational safety is to be launched in Tokyo Bay, Ise Bay and Setonaikai (including Osaka Bay) by this amendment.

- A system of recommendation and order when stormy weather and extreme sea condition are expected.
- A scheme of information provision and recommendation to take danger avoidance measures by VTS Centers.

The Association had joined "The Committee to Review Prevention Measures for Accidents caused by Dragging Anchors and such in Tokyo Bay and Other Waters" chaired by the 3rd Regional Headquarters of the Japan Coast Guard and the Tokyo Wan Association for Marine Safety leading to the reform Act.

For your reference, please refer to the attached Leaflet issued by Japan Coast Guard.

Yours faithfully,

The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity Association

Attachment: Partial Amendment of the Act on Maritime Traffic Safety (Effect 1 July 2021) issued by JCG

Partial Amendment of the Act on Maritime Traffic Safety

To come into effect as from 1st July 2021

In order to take all possible measures to prevent accidents caused by dragging anchor when typhoon/stormy weather and extreme sea condition are expected, a system concerning recommendation and order for ships to evacuate bays and to restrict anchoring will be established.



Anchor Dragging Accident Prevention Information Portal

(Navigation Safety Division, Maritime Traffic Department, JCG) https://www.kaiho.mlit.go.jp/mission/kaijyoukoutsu/soubyo.html

The following information is available to help prevent accidents.

- ·Typhoon path chart, prognostic ocean wave chart
- ·Anchoring ships' info in Tokyo Bay, Ise Bay and Setonaikai (incl.Osaka Bay)
- ·Wind direction/speed, etc. observed at lighthouses
- ·Video materials of useful for seafarer's education on anchoring work, accident prevention, typhoon sheltering ships, etc.
- ·Anchor dragging accident prevention guidelines, etc.

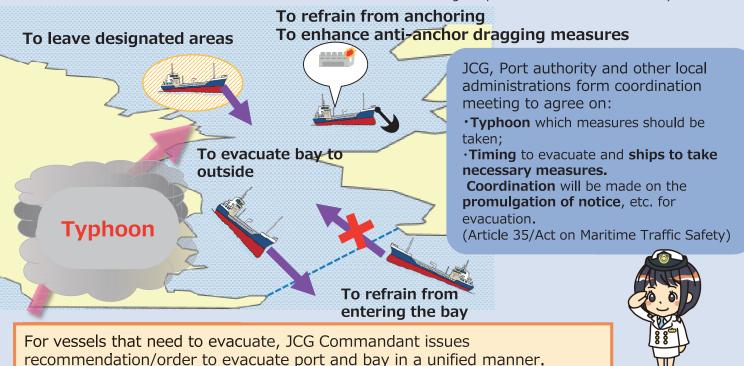


A new system for navigational safety is to be launched in Tokyo Bay, Ise Bay and Setonaikai (including Osaka Bay).

A system of recommendation and order when stormy weather and extreme sea condition are expected. (Article 32/Act on Maritime Traffic Safety)

- O Recommendation will be given to certain vessels* as large ships to evacuate to safe areas outside the bays or to refrain from entering the bays when extremely strong typhoon may hit the area.
- O Recommendation will be given to ships in bays to refrain from anchoring in designated areas and to enhance measures against anchor dragging.

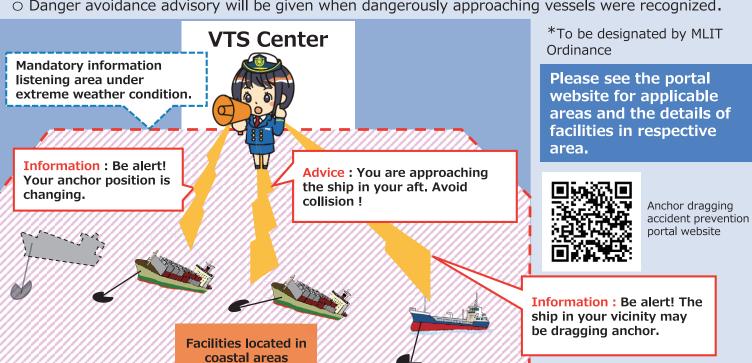
*Ships vulnerable to wind due to shape/wind cross-section. (PCC, container vessel, tanker over 160m LOA and cargo ship over 200m LOA are assumed.)

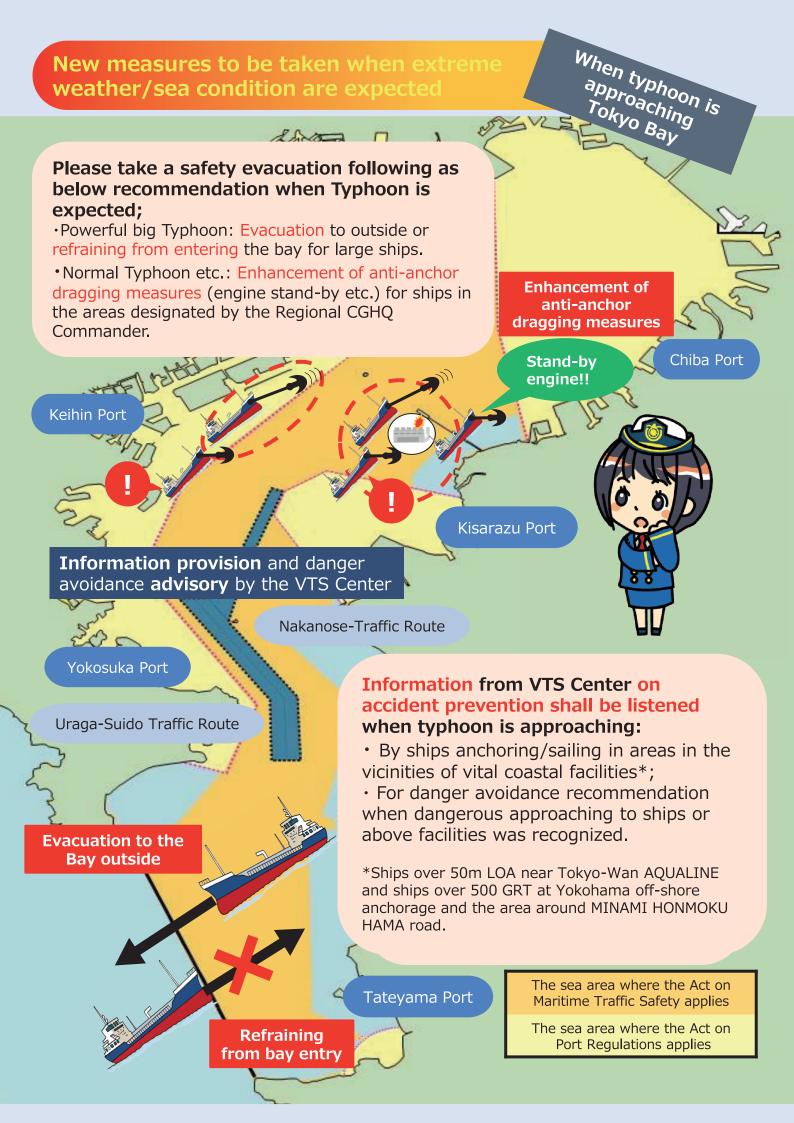


A scheme of information provision and recommendation to take danger avoidance measures by VTS Centers.

(Articles 33. 34/Act on Maritime Traffic Safety, Articles 43.44/Act on Port Regulations)

- o Information on anchor dragging risk, etc. will be provided to individual ships anchoring/sailing in areas near vital coastal facilities* and their listening watch is mandatory.
- O Danger avoidance advisory will be given when dangerously approaching vessels were recognized.





REQUEST TO CARGO FORWARDERS

When typhoon approaching is expected, cargo forwarders are requested to take **flexible measures, such as changing cargo handling plans**, so that hig endurance ocean going vessels, wind-vulnerable high freeboard vessels, etc. may be able to leave congested anchorage and escape to safety with **ample advance time**.



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Please check your local JCG from the QR links:

(JCG Web-links) https://www.kaiho.milt.go.jp/link/link.html



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Maritime emergency call number 118