



JAPAN P&I NEWS

To the Members

BIMCO USTR Clause for Time Charter Parties 2025

We are pleased to inform you that the recently published BIMCO USTR Clause for Time Charter Parties 2025 along with its accompanying Guidance notes.

The BIMCO clause allocates risks and costs relating to fees imposed under Annexes I and II of the United States Trade Representative's (USTR) Notice on Chinese-built or Chinese-owned vessels, calling at US ports. Developed by a BIMCO subcommittee of legal and shipping experts, the clause aims to provide clarity and minimise disputes relating to these new fees. It provides that the above fees are generally the responsibility of Charterers except in certain limited situations which are clearly set out in the clause.

It may be used in both new and existing charterparties.

The clause and accompanying guidance are available for your reference on the BIMCO website at the link below.

<https://www.bimco.org/contractual-affairs/bimco-clauses/current-clauses/ustr-clause/>

Yours faithfully,

The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity Association