

LIBRARY GUIDE

Maritime & Industry Standards Study Guide

Caribbean Maritime University (CMU) Students

This guide helps students navigate key maritime regulations set by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and other industry bodies. It covers SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW, and how to access official documents.

1. Introduction to Maritime Standards

Maritime standards ensure **safety, security, and environmental protection** in global shipping. The **IMO** is the primary regulator, but other bodies (e.g., classification societies, flag states) also enforce rules.

Key Organizations

- **IMO (International Maritime Organization)** – UN agency for global shipping regulations.
 - **ILO (International Labour Organization)** – Sets seafarer employment standards.
 - **Classification Societies** (e.g., Lloyd's Register, ABS, DNV) – Certify ship safety.
 - **Flag State Authorities** – Enforce regulations for vessels under their registry.
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2. Accessing IMO Regulations

Where to Find Official IMO Documents?

- [IMO Publications Catalogue](#) – Buy hard copies or eBooks.
- [IMO Docs](#) – Free access to some circulars/submissions.
- **CMU Library Subscriptions** – Check if the university has **IMO's e-reader access**.
- **Google Scholar** – Some IMO papers appear in academic research.

Key IMO Conventions to Know

Convention	Full Name	Purpose
SOLAS	International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea	Ship construction, fire safety, life-saving appliances.
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships	Prevents oil, chemical, sewage, and air pollution.
STCW	Standards of Training, Certification & Watchkeeping	Ensures seafarers are properly trained.
COLREGs	Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea	Rules for ship navigation.

3. SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea)

Key Chapters

- **Chapter II-1** – Construction (subdivision, stability)
- **Chapter II-2** – Fire protection
- **Chapter III** – Life-saving appliances (lifeboats, rafts)
- **Chapter IV** – Radio communications (GMDSS)
- **Chapter V** – Safety of navigation (AIS, ECDIS)

How to Study SOLAS?

- ✓ **Download the SOLAS Consolidated Edition** (latest amendments) from IMO.
- ✓ Focus on **CMU's programme needs** (e.g., Marine Engineering vs. Nautical Science vs Maritime Law).
- ✓ Use **case studies** (e.g., Titanic, Costa Concordia) to understand failures.

4. MARPOL (Marine Pollution Prevention)

Key Annexes

Annex	Regulates
I	Oil pollution
II	Noxious liquid substances
III	Harmful packaged goods
IV	Sewage
V	Garbage
VI	Air pollution (SO _x , NO _x emissions)

Study Tips

- ✓ Compare **MARPOL vs. regional Caribbean laws** (e.g., CARICOM environmental policies).
 - ✓ Research **green shipping technologies** (scrubbers, LNG fuel).
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5. STCW (Seafarer Training Standards)

Key Sections

- **Table A-II/1** – Deck officers (navigation, cargo ops)
- **Table A-III/1** – Engineering officers
- **Section A-VI/1-4** – Basic safety training (firefighting, survival)

How to Use STCW for Exams?

- ✓ **Match CMU's syllabus** with STCW competencies.
 - ✓ Practice **oral exam questions** (a requirement for you maritime certification).
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6. Additional Resources

Free Databases & Tools

- [IMDG Code \(Dangerous Goods\)](#)
- [IALA \(Aids to Navigation\)](#)
- [ICS \(International Chamber of Shipping\) Guidelines](#)

CMU Library Tips

- Ask librarians about **IMO digital access**.
 - Check for **maritime law journals** (e.g., *Journal of Maritime Law & Commerce*).
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7. Self-Assessment Quiz

1. What is the latest SOLAS amendment on fire safety?
 2. Which MARPOL Annex regulates sulfur emissions?
 3. What STCW training is mandatory for cadets?
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Final Tips for CMU Students


- **Bookmark IMO's website** for updates.
 - **Join maritime forums** (e.g., LinkedIn groups, gCaptain).
 - **Attend IMO webinars** (often free for students).
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Additional Support



For assistance with research or accessing resources such as past papers, visit the CMU Library or contact:

 **Email:** library@cmu.edu.jm

 **Phone:** (876) 809-3103

 **WhatsApp:** (876) 564-4274

 **Library Website:** www.cmu.edu.jm/library

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