



## LOSS PREVENTION UPDATE

### ReCAAP ISC ANNUAL REPORT 2024 SUMMARY

The ReCAAP ISC [Annual Report 2024](#) recorded a 6% increase in piracy and armed robbery incidents in Asia compared to 2023, with a total of 107 cases reported (96 actual incidents and 11 attempts). This update highlights the evolving security challenges in the region.

Despite the increase, [improvements were noted in specific areas](#), such as the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), where proactive measures led to a decline in reported cases. The South China Sea, on the other hand, remains a hotspot for incidents, particularly targeting [anchored or slow-moving vessels](#). No abductions for ransom were reported in the Sulu-Celebes Seas, but the area remains under scrutiny due to lingering risks. These developments highlight the need for [sustained vigilance, enhanced measures and international collaboration](#) to ensure the safety of maritime operations.

#### KEY TRENDS AND THREAT AREAS

##### GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATIONS

**SOMS:** A notable decline in incidents was observed due to increased patrols and surveillance. However, it remains a vulnerable region due to its high traffic and strategic importance.

**SOUTH CHINA SEA:** Incidents in this area often involve armed perpetrators boarding anchored vessels. The nature of attacks has ranged from theft to intimidation.

**SULU-CELEBES SEAS:** While no abductions occurred in 2024, the area continues to pose risks, particularly for slow-moving vessels.

##### TYPES OF VESSELS TARGETED

Bulk carriers, tankers and tugboats were the most frequently targeted vessel types, especially during anchorage or transit. These incidents often involved armed individuals or small groups attempting to board ships undetected.

##### INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Most incidents were opportunistic, with perpetrators seeking cash, valuables or ship equipment. Armed attacks, while less frequent, presented higher risks to crew safety and operational delays.



## PROMOTING INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To reduce incidents in the SS (Singapore Strait), ReCAAP ISC urges littoral states to enhance surveillance, enforcement, and respond quickly to incident reports. Cooperation between States for patrols, information sharing, and prosecution of criminals is also encouraged.

For ship masters and crew transiting the SS or similar areas of concern, the following measures are recommended:

- Stay updated on the latest incidents using the ReCAAP ISC Interactive Dashboard and incident reports
- Follow advisories and navigational broadcasts from authorities
- Increase vigilance, particularly for small boats and during high-risk times
- Ensure CCTV and communication devices are operational to alert crew and record incidents
- Conduct rounds and secure access points, ensuring all relevant areas are locked before entering high-risk areas
- Maintain communication with the shipping company and establish daily checks
- Sound alarms if suspicious boats or individuals are observed
- Report incidents, suspicious activities, and boats to the nearest Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) and flag state, using updated contact details for law enforcement.

The information provided is for guidance only, **in particular noting** that security situations can change at short notice. Therefore, it is important that shipowners continue to monitor the current situation closely and always contact their local agent/representative for the latest update prior to arriving in the area. Obtaining advice from the flag state is also recommended.

Furthermore, we would also like to draw attention to the Club's [Onboard Security](#) section of its BSafe campaign, which provides general information for our Members operating in areas with an increased security threat.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please do not hesitate to email [lossprevention@tindallriley.com](mailto:lossprevention@tindallriley.com).

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