



# MSCIO ATALANTA

## WEEKLY REPORT

---

02nd Jan – 08th Jan

---

✉ [postmaster@mscio.eu](mailto:postmaster@mscio.eu)

📞 0033 (0) 298 220 220

🌐 <https://mscio.eu/>

📞 0033 (0) 298 220 170

# OVERVIEW OF INCIDENTS IN THE VOLUNTARY REPORTING AREA (VRA)



CATEGORY	No.	Page Ref.
📍 Armed Robbery	1	<a href="#">Page 2</a>
📍 Attack	Nil	NSTR
📍 Attempted Boarding	Nil	NSTR
📍 Boarding	Nil	NSTR
📍 Hijack	1	<a href="#">Page 3</a>
📍 Kidnap	Nil	NSTR
📍 Piracy	Nil	NSTR
📍 Suspicious Activity	Nil	NSTR
📍 Other Maritime Crimes	Nil	NSTR
<b>Total Incidents</b>	2	



MSCIO

WEEKLY REPORT

RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

1 | Page

# ARMED ROBBERY

**1.1. TYPE OF INCIDENT:** Armed robbery.

**1.2. PERIOD:** 31 DEC 2350 UTC.

**1.3. LOCATION:** 5NM off the coast of Kulule (Somalia) - 09°09'N 050°43'E.

## 2. VESSELS DETAILS.

**2.1. ATTACKED VESSEL:** Chinese fishing vessel LIAO DONG YU 578.

**2.2. ATTACKING VESSEL:** 2-3 skiffs.

## 3. RELEVANT INFORMATION RELATED TO THE EVENT.

At approximately midnight on 31st Dec 25, the Chinese-flagged fishing vessel LIAO DONG YU 578 was seized by armed individuals while operating close to the coast of Kulule, in Somalia.

Preliminary investigations suggest that the seizure of the fishing vessel may be linked to local fishermen's demands to halt fishing activities inside Somali waters and to compel the remaining vessels within the fleet to leave the area.

The vessel is assessed to remain held in the depicted area.

This situation continues to be closely monitored by EUNAVFOR OP Atalanta.



**More information available in the following links:**

**MSCIO:**

[MSC IO | Alerts](#)

[IRTB Industry Releasable Threat Bulletin](#)



**MSCIO**

**WEEKLY REPORT**

**RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY**  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

**2 | Page**

# HIJACK

**NO ALERT ON THIS EVENT WAS ISSUED**  
**AS IT HAS NOT POSED A BROADER THREAT TO**  
**MERCHANT SHIPPING AT THIS TIME.**

**1.1. TYPE OF INCIDENT:** Hijack.

**1.2. PERIOD:** 02 JAN 0700 UTC.

**1.3. LOCATION:** In transit from Yemen to Somalia.

## 2. VESSELS DETAILS.

**2.1. ATTACKED VESSEL:** Cargo vessel SULTANA-2.

**2.2. ATTACKING VESSEL:** Small skiff with armed persons.

## 3. RELEVANT INFORMATION RELATED TO THE EVENT.

Cargo vessel SULTANA-2 departed from Mukalla (Yemen) bound for Bossasso (Somalia) with passengers on board.

During her transit, the dhow was reportedly intercepted by a small skiff carrying armed individuals and diverted back towards Yemen.

All passengers are reported to have been disembarked safely, and the vessel is believed to remain seized in Bir Ali (Yemen) area. Preliminary assessments suggest that the incident is likely linked to a financial dispute.

The evolution of this event is closely monitored by EUNAVFOR OP Atalanta.



**MSCIO**

**WEEKLY REPORT**

**RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY**  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

3 | Page

# MSCIO WEBSITE. USEFUL LINKS

To know more about different maritime security threats, please access to the following links:

[MSC IO | Useful Links](#)

## 1. General Maritime Security:

[MSC IO | General Maritime Security](#)

## 2. Maritime Terrorism:

[MSC IO | Maritime Terrorism](#)

## 3. Piracy Information:

[MSC IO | Piracy Information](#)

## 4. Illegal Traffic and Fishing

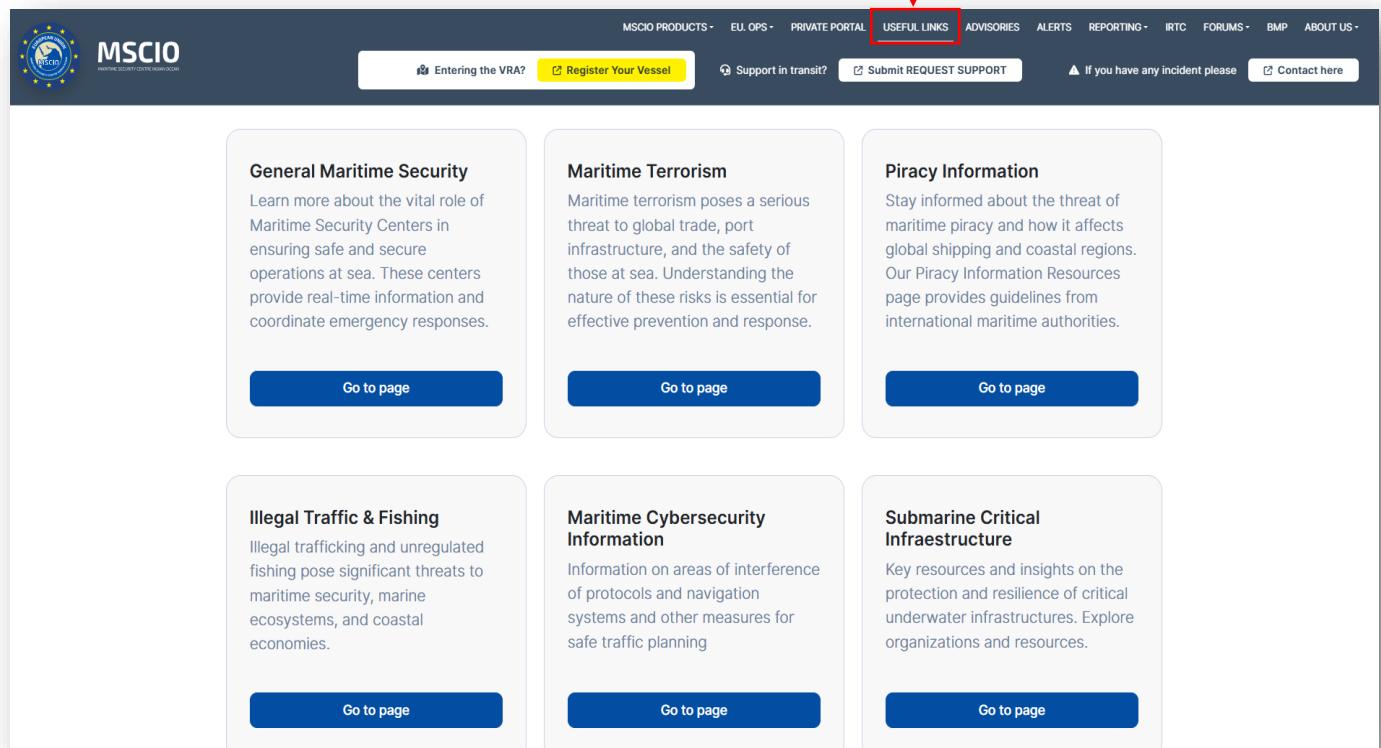
[MSC IO | Illegal Traffic & Fishing](#)

## 5. Maritime Cybersecurity Information.

[MSC IO | Maritime Cybersecurity Information](#)

## 6. Submarine Critical Infrastructure.

[MSC IO | Submarine Critical Infrastructure](#)



The screenshot shows the MSCIO website's header with a red box and arrow highlighting the 'USEFUL LINKS' menu item. The header also includes links for 'MSCIO PRODUCTS', 'EU OPS', 'PRIVATE PORTAL', 'ADVISORIES', 'ALERTS', 'REPORTING', 'IRTC', 'FORUMS', 'BMP', and 'ABOUT US'. Below the header, there are six cards with 'Go to page' buttons:

- General Maritime Security**: Learn more about the vital role of Maritime Security Centers in ensuring safe and secure operations at sea. These centers provide real-time information and coordinate emergency responses.
- Maritime Terrorism**: Maritime terrorism poses a serious threat to global trade, port infrastructure, and the safety of those at sea. Understanding the nature of these risks is essential for effective prevention and response.
- Piracy Information**: Stay informed about the threat of maritime piracy and how it affects global shipping and coastal regions. Our Piracy Information Resources page provides guidelines from international maritime authorities.
- Illegal Traffic & Fishing**: Illegal trafficking and unregulated fishing pose significant threats to maritime security, marine ecosystems, and coastal economies.
- Maritime Cybersecurity Information**: Information on areas of interference of protocols and navigation systems and other measures for safe traffic planning.
- Submarine Critical Infrastructure**: Key resources and insights on the protection and resilience of critical underwater infrastructures. Explore organizations and resources.



## MARITIME SECURITY RELATED EVENTS (STATUS AND DETAILED DESCRIPTION)

No	Date	Name	MSE Category	Last info.
53	31 DEC	FV LIAO DONG YU 578	Armed Robbery	Hijack reported off the coast of Banderbeyla (Bari Region). <b>The vessel is still anchored near Banderbeyla.</b>
54	02 JAN	FV SULTANA 2	Hijack	Received a Piracy incident report from PMPF on IORIS platform. <b>The dhow with its 14 crew is currently located off Al- Nushayah, West of Bir Ali area. All passengers have been disembarked.</b>

- Solved or closed cases
- Active cases
- Unsolved cases



MSCIO

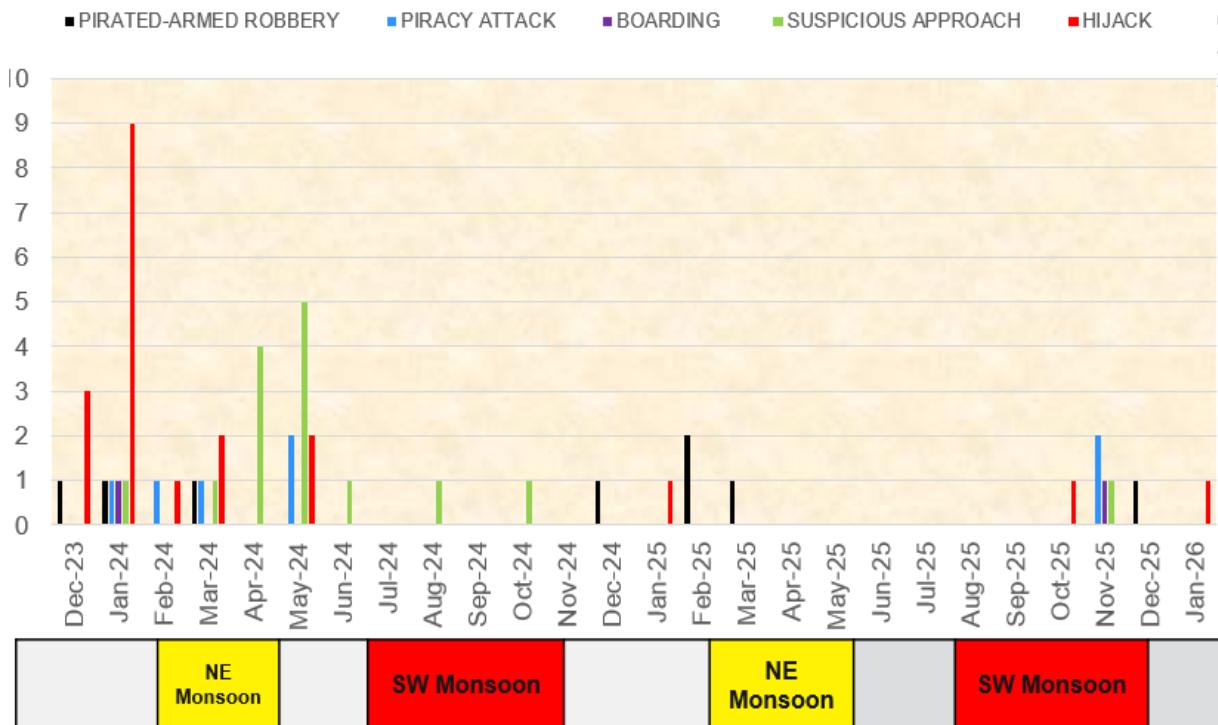
WEEKLY REPORT

RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

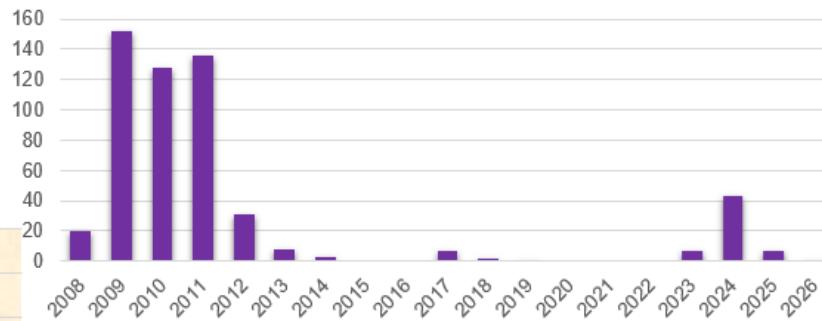
5 | Page

# PIRACY STATISTICS (NOV 2023 – JAN 2026)

## 54 Events



### MARITIME SECURITY RELATED EVENTS



#### Pirated (Outside TTW) / Armed Robbery at sea (Inside TTW)

- PAG takes control of the ship and requests a ransom

#### Piracy Attack

- PAG unsuccessful attack on ship

#### Hijack

- Attackers boarded and taken control of a ship against the crew's will

#### Boarding

- Successful attack but pirates do not take control

#### Suspicious Approach

- Suspicious maneuvering with clear intentions to attack. (weapons clearly displayed)



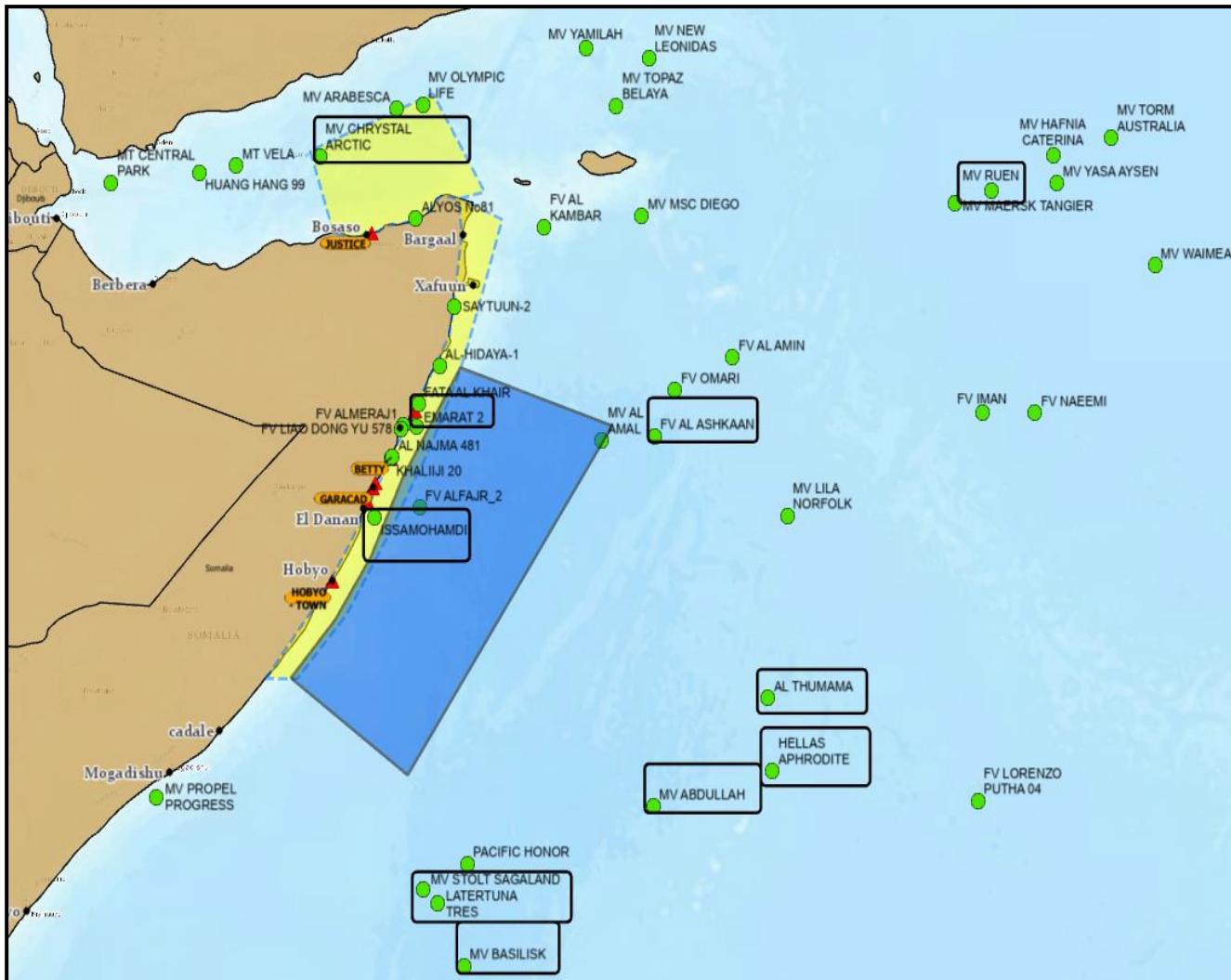
MSCIO

WEEKLY REPORT

RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

6 | Page

# PIRACY SITUATION (NOV 2023 – DEC 2025)



## PIRACY ASSESSMENT

It is **ALMOST CERTAIN** that the PAG's tactics for conducting piracy on the high seas involve hijacking a dhow and using it as a mother ship. The pirates then blend in with the usual traffic and deploy skiffs from the mother ship to attack vessels. They are able to navigate to the high seas, with evidence of events up to up to 600 nautical miles off the East Somali coast.

Nevertheless, from November 2024 it is becoming increasingly common for a group of people to organise themselves, identify a vulnerable ship close to the coast and use skiffs to carry out an attack. These attacks typically target Yemeni fishing dhows. While there is no confirmed information, it is **HIGHLY LIKELY** that ransoms would have been paid.

On the other hand, that risk could be amplified if local fishermen turn into pirates as a consequence that no effective action is being taken from the authorities to safeguard Somali TTW from IUUF.



MSCIO

WEEKLY REPORT

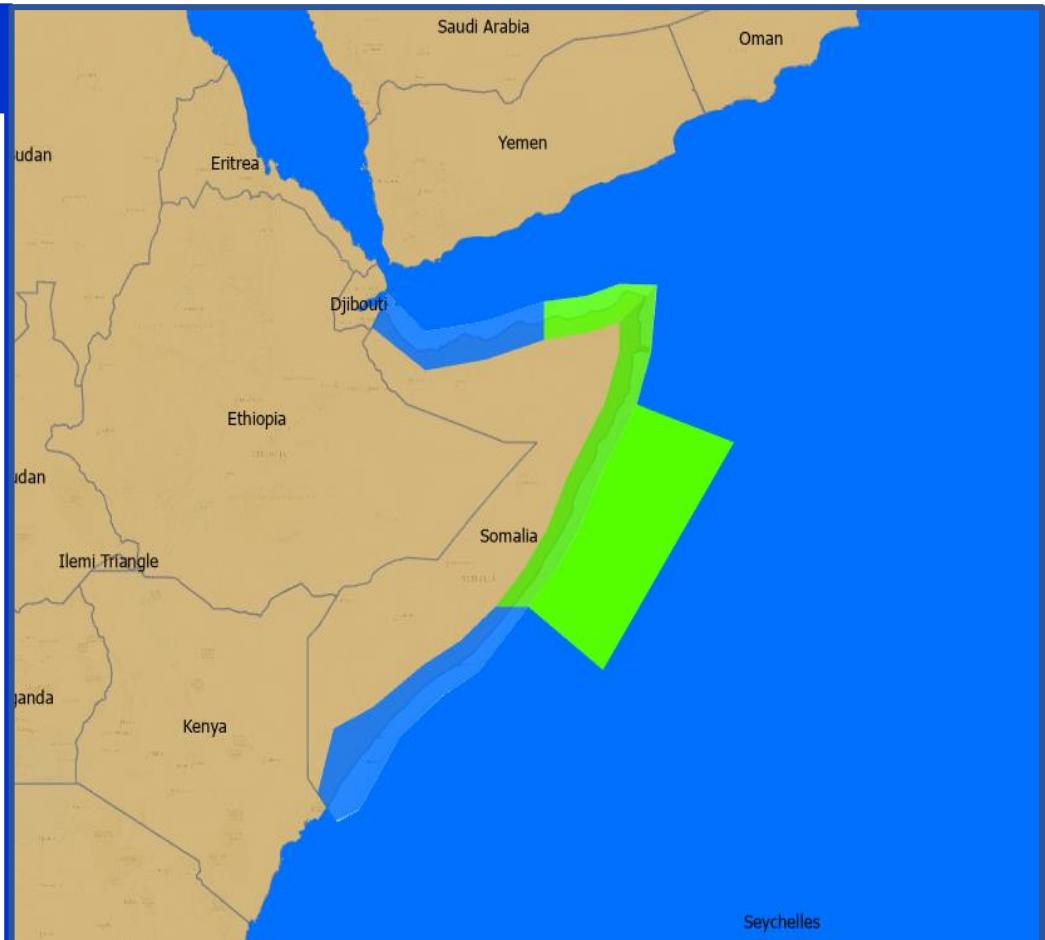
RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

# ATALANTA PIRACY THREAT UPDATE

## PIRACY ASSESSMENT

The PIRACY Threat Assessment (TA) is determined as **LOW** in the GULF OF ADEN.

Coast of Bari (NE of Somalia) and East coast from Bari to Galgadud region remain **MODERATE**.



THREAT ASSESSMENT	BENIGN	LOW	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL	SEVERE	CRITICAL
YARDSTICK	An attack is <b>HIGHLY UNLIKELY</b> (10% – 20%)	An attack is <b>UNLIKELY</b> (>25% – 35%)	An attack is a <b>REALISTIC POSSIBILITY</b> (40% – <50%)	An attack is <b>LIKELY / PROBABLE</b> (55% – <75%)	An attack is <b>HIGHLY LIKELY</b> (80% – 90%)	An attack is <b>ALMOST CERTAIN</b> (>95%)



MSCIO

WEEKLY REPORT

RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

8 | Page

## REGISTRATION AND REPORTING

### Registration and reporting.

CSO's and Masters are encouraged to register their vessels upon entering the UKMTO Voluntary Reporting Area with both:

- MSCIO (<https://mscio.eu/reporting/vessel-registration/>)
- UKMTO (<https://www.ukmto.org/reporting-formats/initial-report>)

And report all incidents to UKMTO and MSCIO.

When safe to do so, vessels should document incidents and suspicious activity through logs, photographs, video, and radar footage. CSOs should gather information on Pattern of Life and Maritime Situational Awareness for their planned routes and ports of call to support risk assessments. These procedures enable effective monitoring and resource allocation by CMF and EUNAVFOR ATALANTA.

### Contact Information (MSCIO):

**Tel: 0033 (0) 298 220 220 // 0033 (0) 298 220 170**

**Website:** [www.mscio.eu](http://www.mscio.eu)

**Email:** [postmaster@mscio.eu](mailto:postmaster@mscio.eu)



**MSCIO**

**WEEKLY REPORT**

**RELEASABLE TO SHIPPING INDUSTRY**  
FROM 02<sup>ND</sup> TO 08<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2026

**9 | Page**