



# Why Maritime Cyber-security?

## Dr Kimberly Tam

**CyberMAR:** Cyber preparedness actions for a holistic approach and awareness raising in the MARitime logistics supply chain

28th March 2023

- The first and largest Marine Institute in UK, with over 3000 staff and students looking at the Ocean
- Three-time winner of the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education, UK Top 25 for Teaching Quality & World Top 25 for Research Citations
- 1<sup>st</sup> in the world for research towards SDG 14 (Life Below Water), Times Higher Education 2021



# Maritime, a key strength of the University

- More than 3,500 wind turbines off the Cornish coast by 2050
- Big increases in aquaculture
- Supported by a plethora of specialist support vessels
- Navigation Suite upgrade to a Nationally leading facility incorporating Class 3, full-mission DP Simulator (£600k investment)
- Growing fleet of marine autonomous assets and planned to Control Centre upgrade
- Leading on SDG 14 to ensure safe and efficient future for maritime operations
- Globally leading lab on Maritime Cyber Security (£3.2m investment in Cyber-SHIP)
- And then our lead on SDG 14, puts the University in a leading Thought Leadership position for all aspects of future Maritime operations in the Ocean Economy





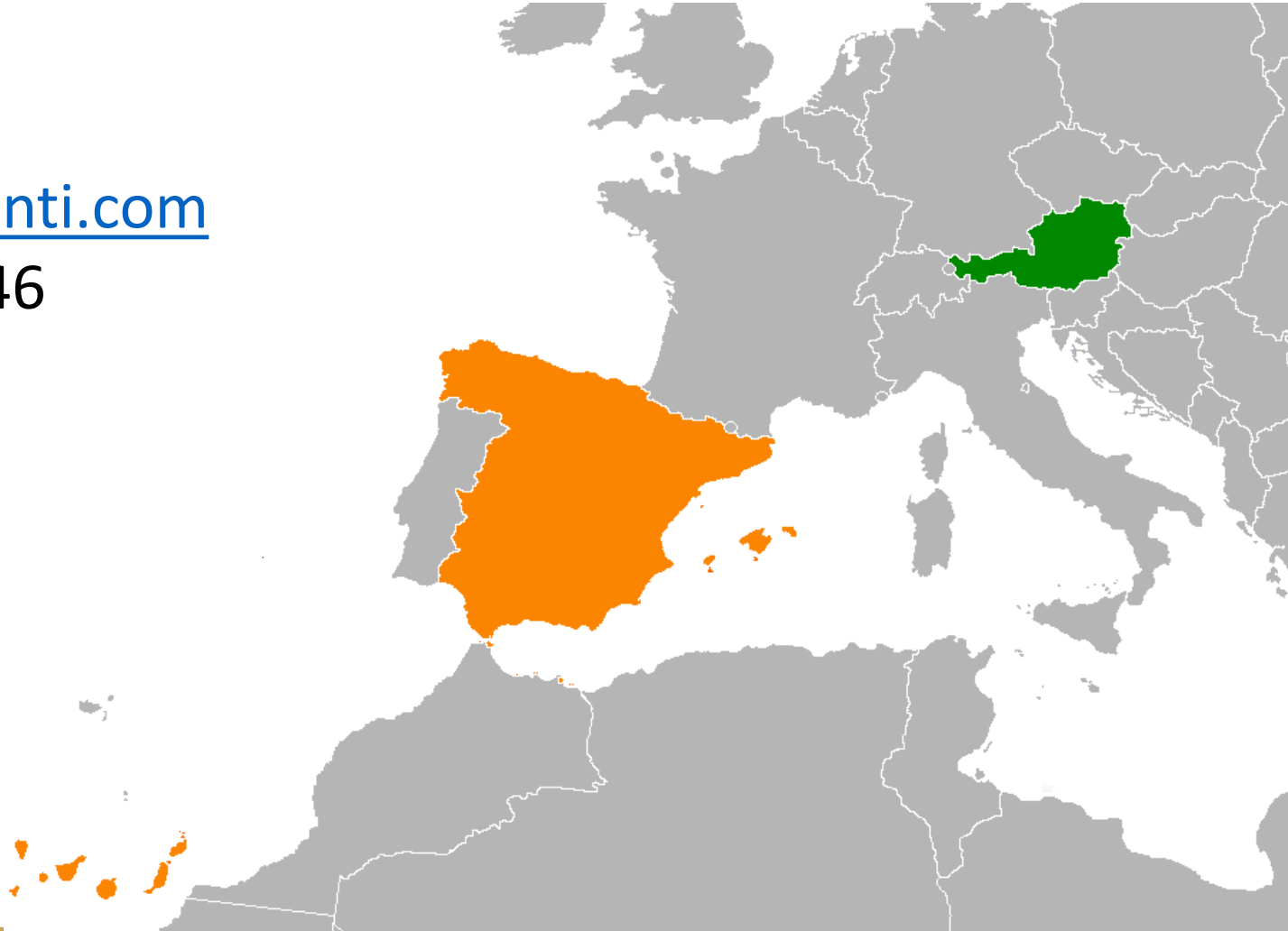
# Does this matter to Austria?



# Let's look at Port of Valencia in Spain

[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

7158 0946





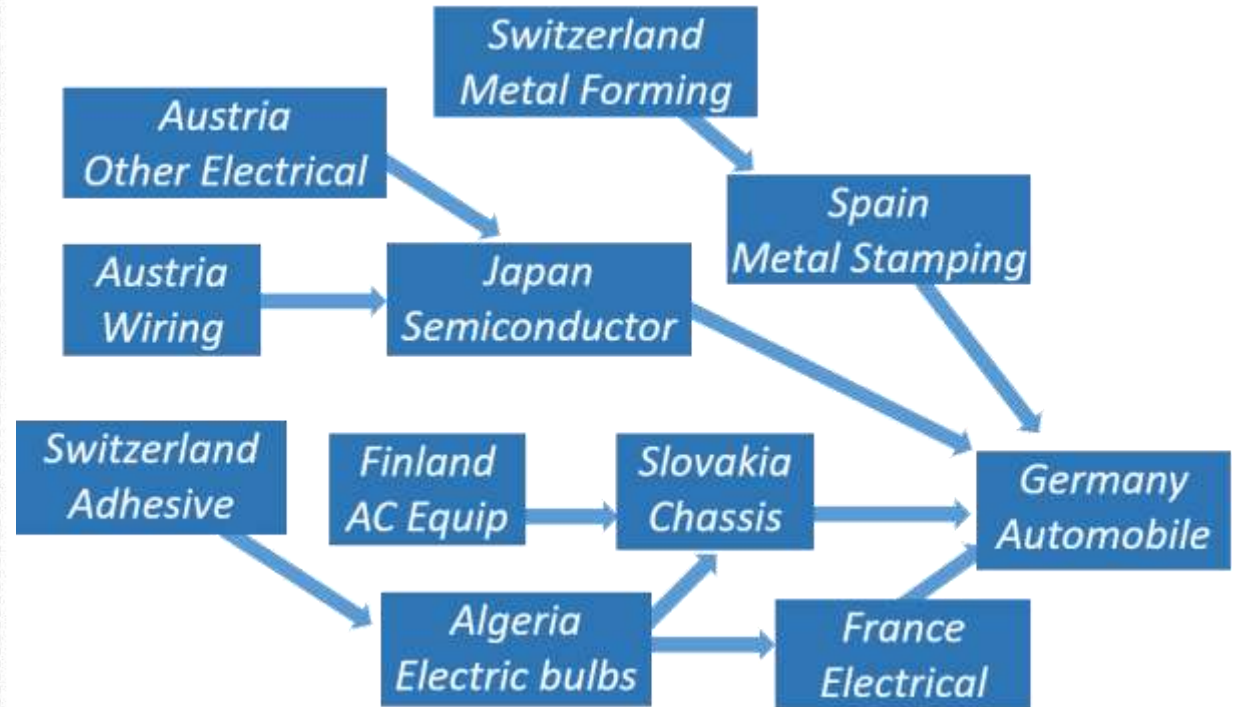
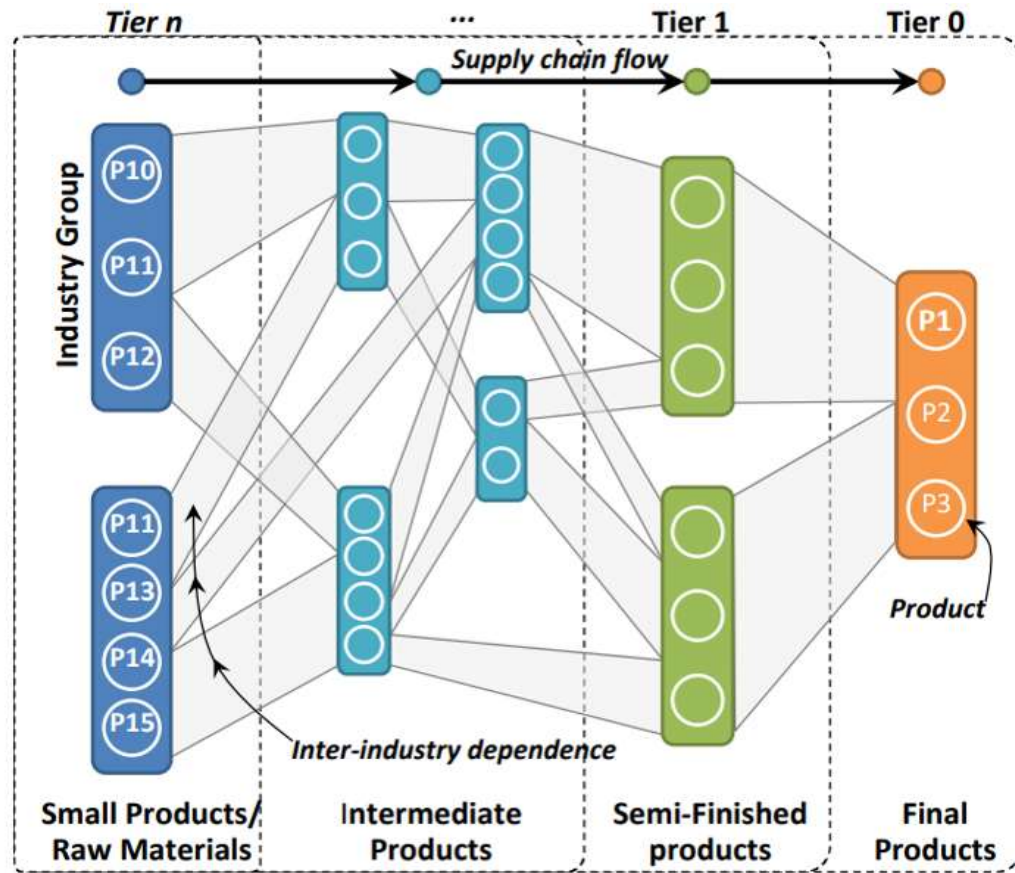
Please enter the code

# Calculating Econometric Loss

(from a seaport cyber-physical attack)

- This study considers **cyber-attacks as an external disruption** to the supply chain, with attacks executed either by a third party or potentially executed by insider threats.
- The **cyber-triggered disruptions** can interrupt the production of raw materials or intermediate products depending on how and which system is compromised.
- Understand the **disruption in the global supply network** caused by a cyber-physical event by using a maritime-based case study with real data.
- Understand people's perception of **maritime cyber threats using understanding of econometric loss**

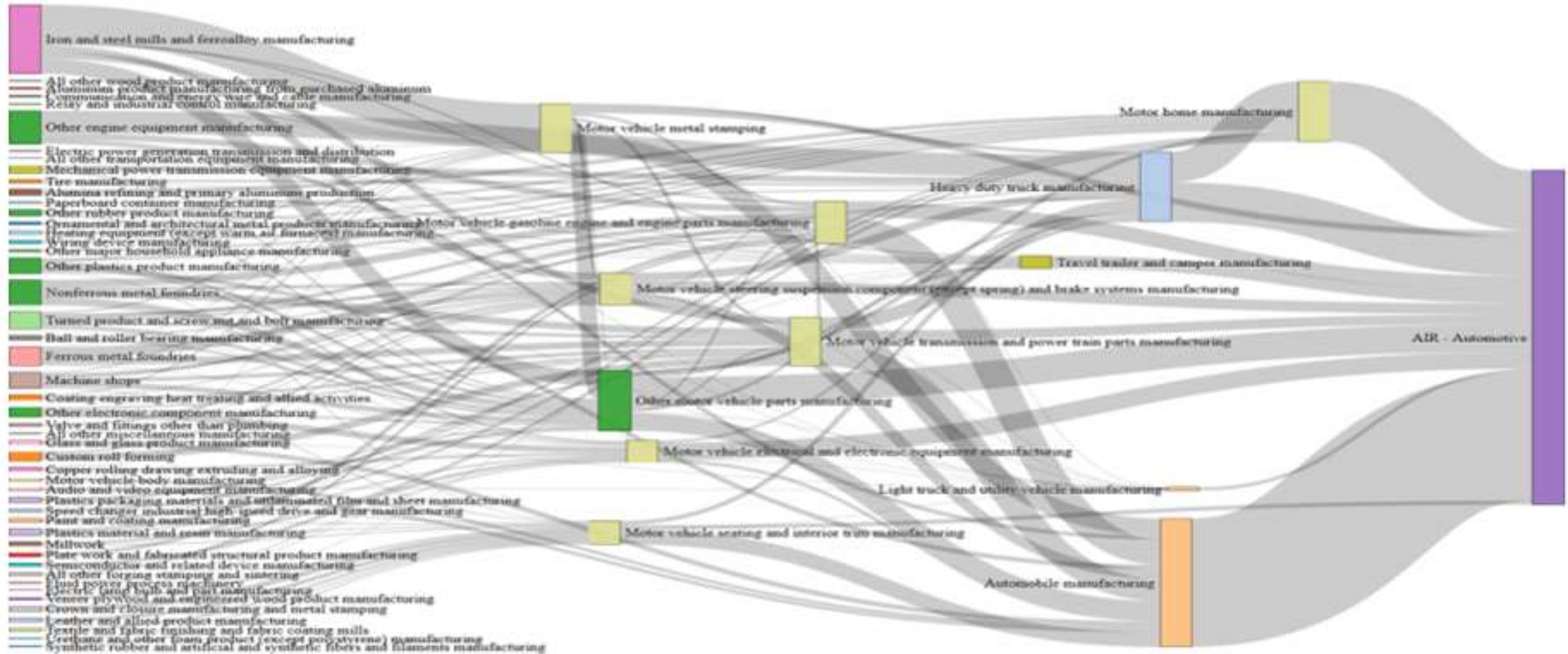
# Modelling the Supply Chain



Examples of product dependencies [(A) on left] and trade networks [(B) on the right]



# (product dependencies)



# Introduction to Port of Valencia, Spain





Testbed and cyber-rages

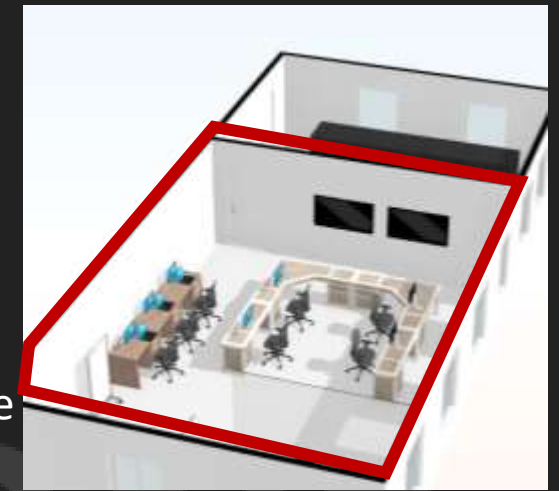
**University of Plymouth**



# The Cyber-SHIP Console Room



- Visualisation of data
- Physical hardware visualisation of attacks
- Pen-testing
- Research Project development
- Development of custom electronics and software
- Teaching/training

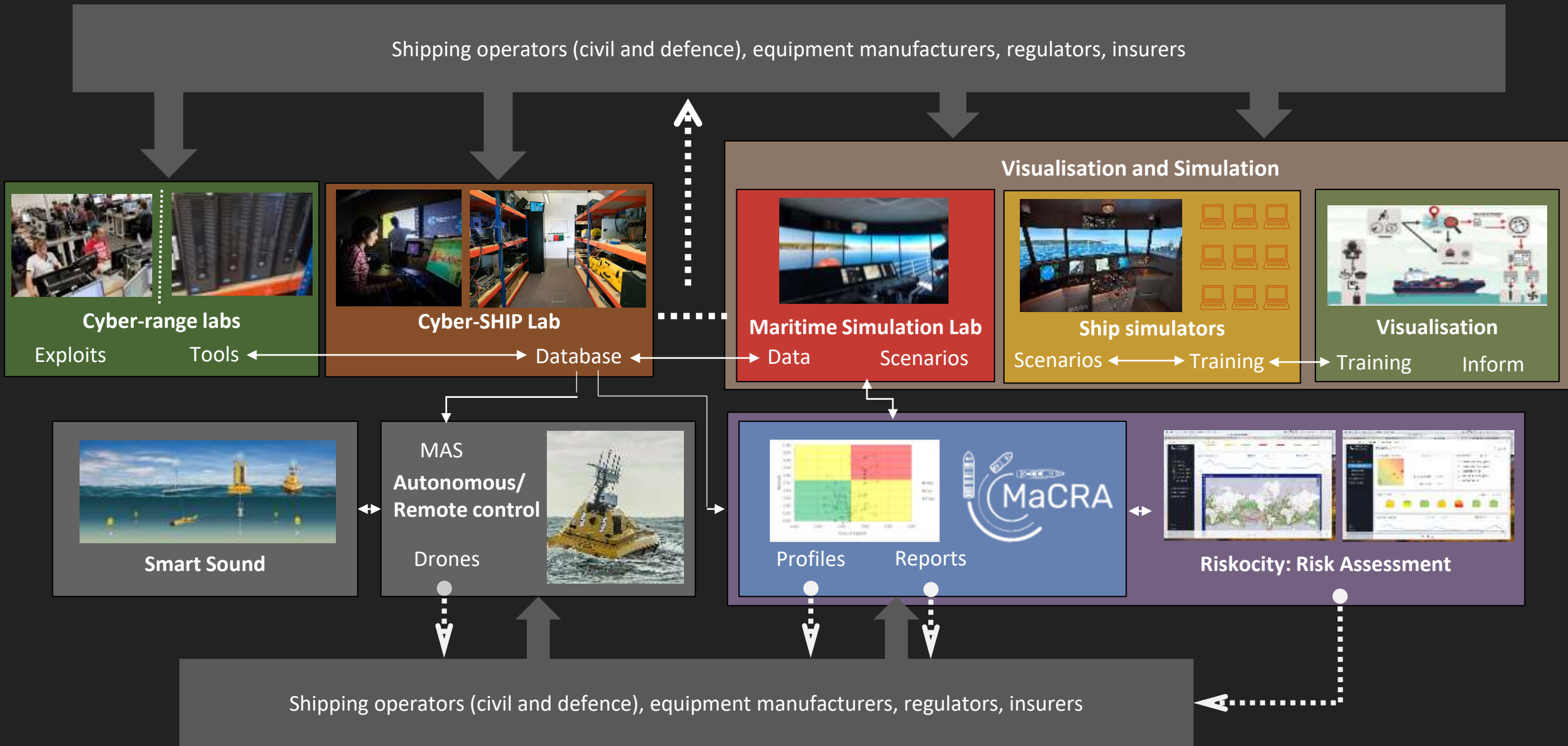








# The Plymouth “ecosystem”

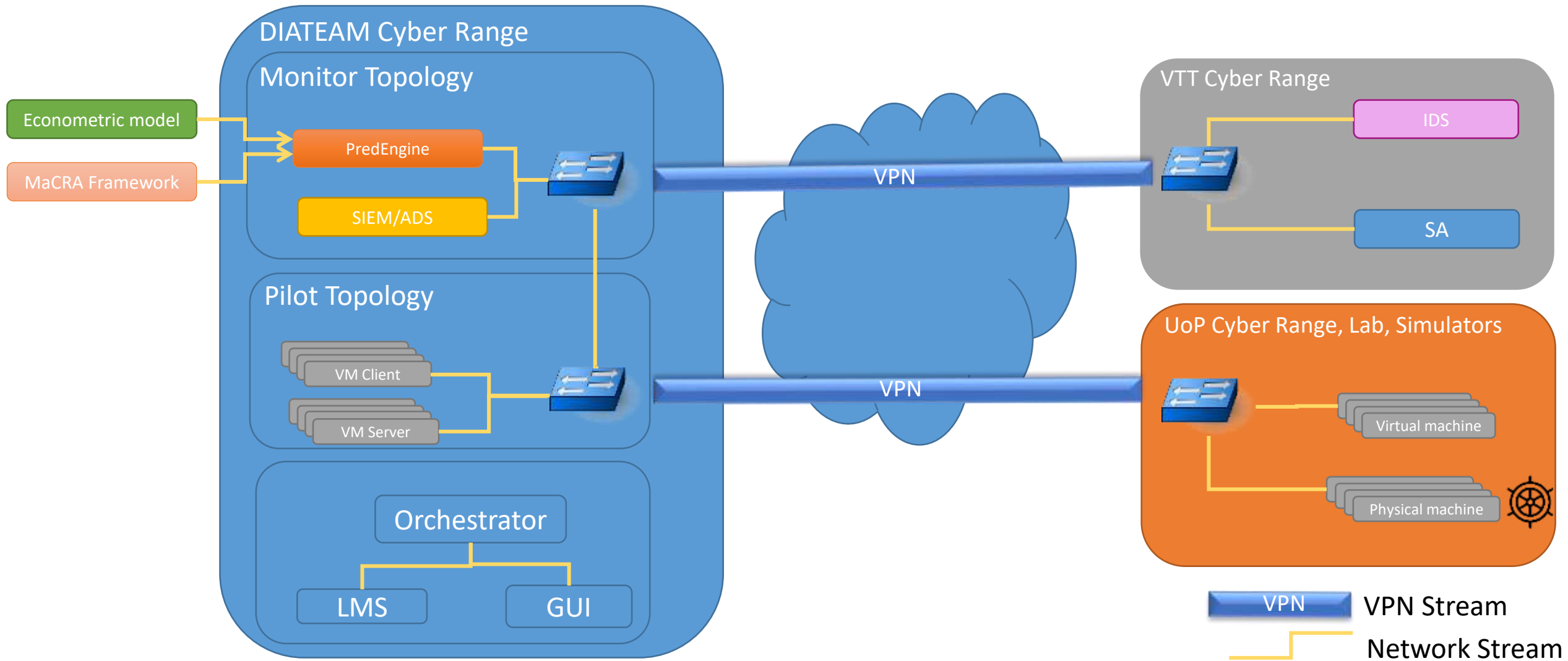




The Scenario for today's discussion

Port of Valencia

# Cyber Range Architecture – Connected Capabilities





- Handling over 6 million tonnes of cargo a year
- Important regional hub for transshipment
- Handles a wide variety of cargo:
  - liquid bulk
  - dry bulk
  - containerised cargo and
  - vehicular traffic



Port Of Valencia

The vessel scenario that is considered in today's pilot constitutes a scenario where an attacker launches an attack that allows them to temporarily alter the course of a large container vessel and in so doing cause a blockage on the approach channel.

Progression of Attack can be broken down into a number of stages:

- Downloading and Propagation of Attack (Within IT Infrastructure)
- Installing and Initiating the Attack on Vessel Control Systems
- Attack realisation and crew response

## Large Container Vessel

<b>Length</b>	397 m (1,302 ft 6 in)
<b>Beam</b>	56 m (183 ft 9 in)
<b>Draught</b>	16.02 m (52 ft 7 in)
<b>Depth</b>	30 m (98 ft 5 in) (deck edge to keel)
<b>Speed</b>	25.5 knots (47.2 km/h; 29.3 mph)
<b>Capacity</b>	•14,770+ <a href="#">TEU</a>





# VALENCIA PORT (SPAIN)

**Buoyage: IALA Region A**  
**Time: UTC +2**

**WEATHER**

- Easterly wind Force 2 (1-2 knots).
- High Tide: 20:47 LT
- Sunset 19:12 LT

**20:14 LT FWE**  
 Heading: 294°  
 LAT: 39° 26.03' N  
 LONG: 000° 19.55' W

**WPT 5**

**19:47 LT Darsena Sur**  
 Heading: 252°  
 LAT: 39° 26.17' N  
 LONG: 000° 18.99' W

**WPT 4**

**1928 LT Basin**  
 Heading: 252°  
 LAT: 39° 26.25' N  
 LONG: 000° 18.67' W

**WPT 3**

**19:20 LT B/W**  
 Heading: 319°  
 LAT: 39° 25.92' N  
 LONG: 000° 18.30' W

**WPT 2**

**19:05 LT Approach**  
 Heading: 308°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.80' W

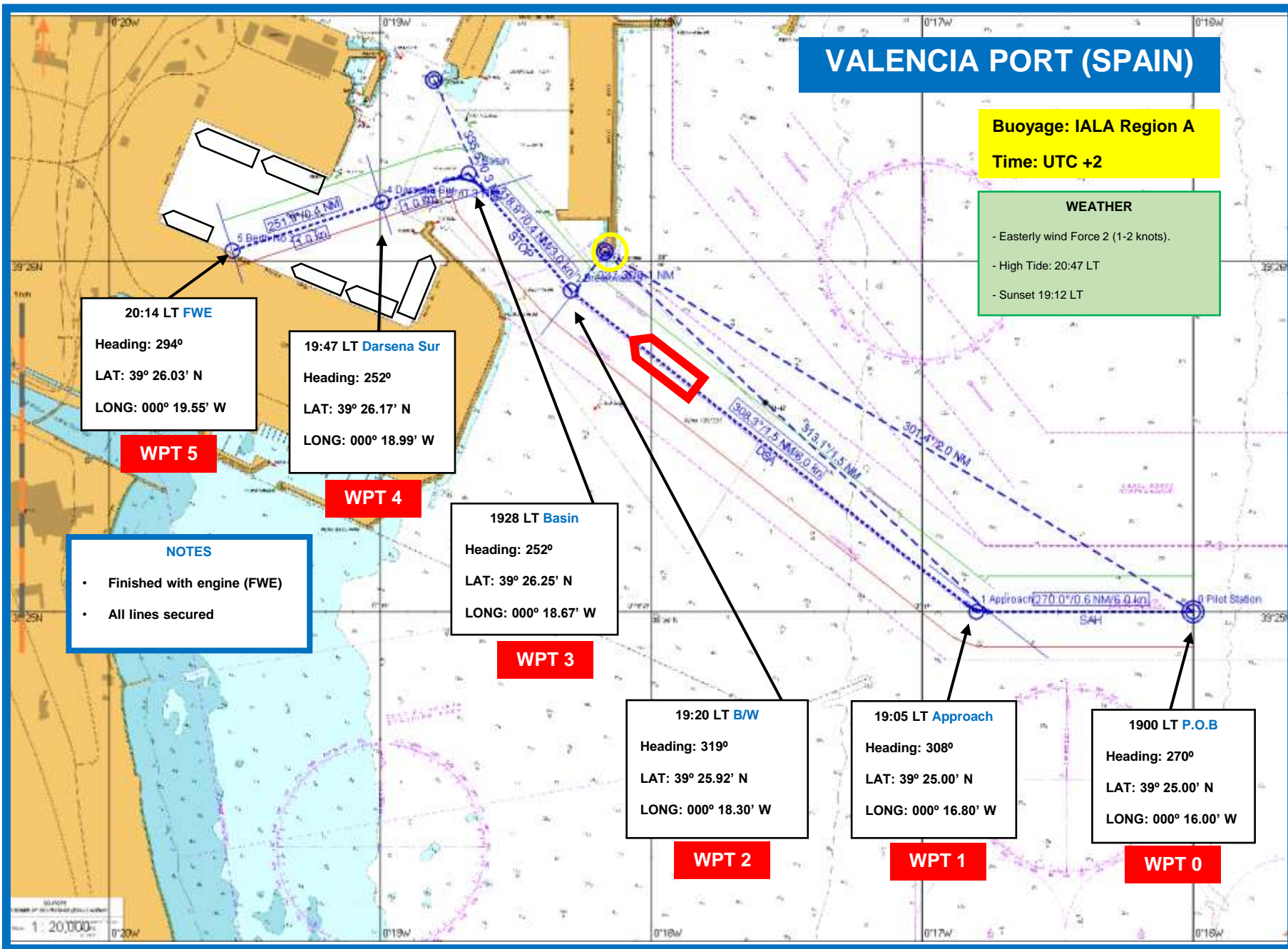
**WPT 1**

**1900 LT P.O.B**  
 Heading: 270°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.00' W

**WPT 0**

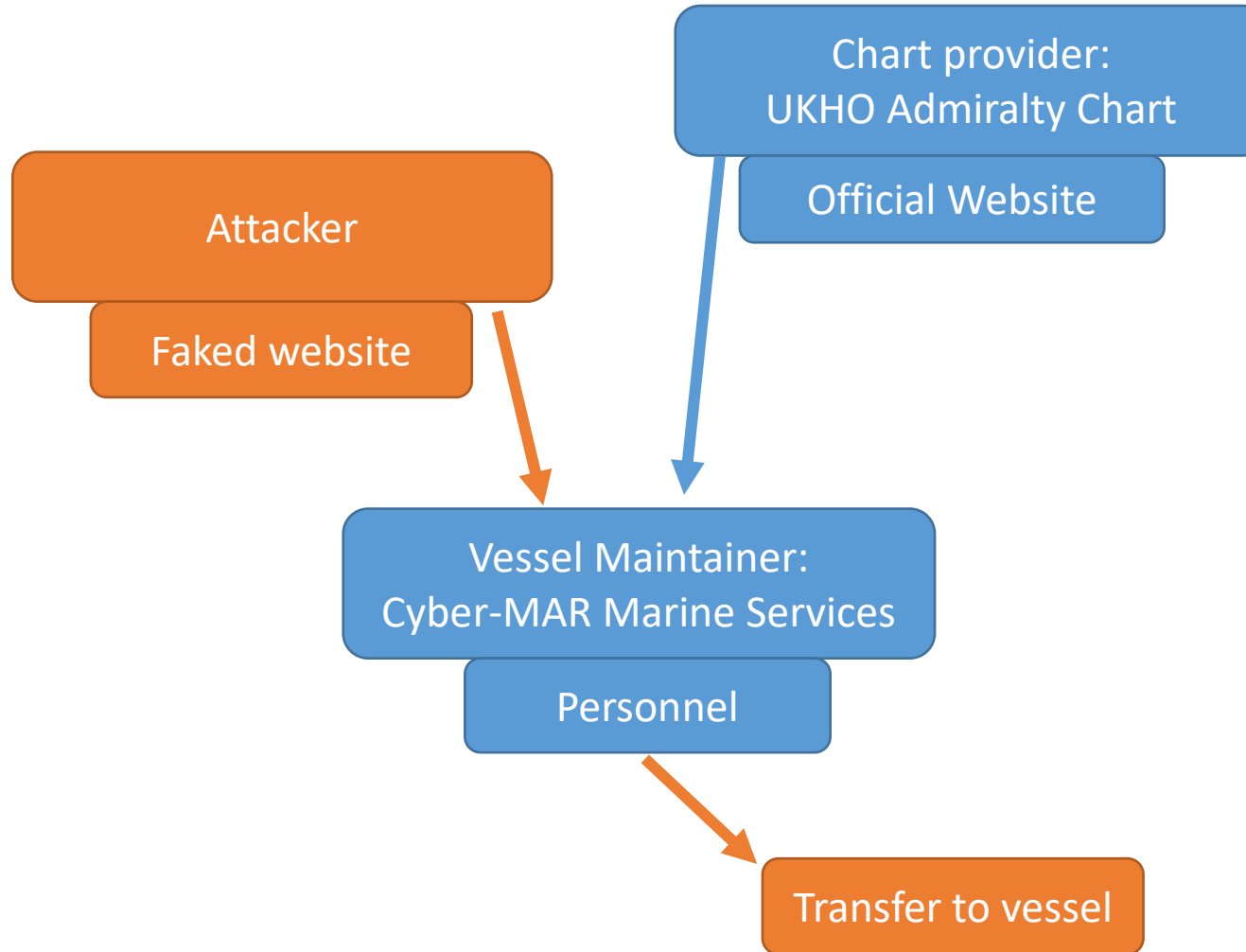
**NOTES**

- Finished with engine (FWE)
- All lines secured

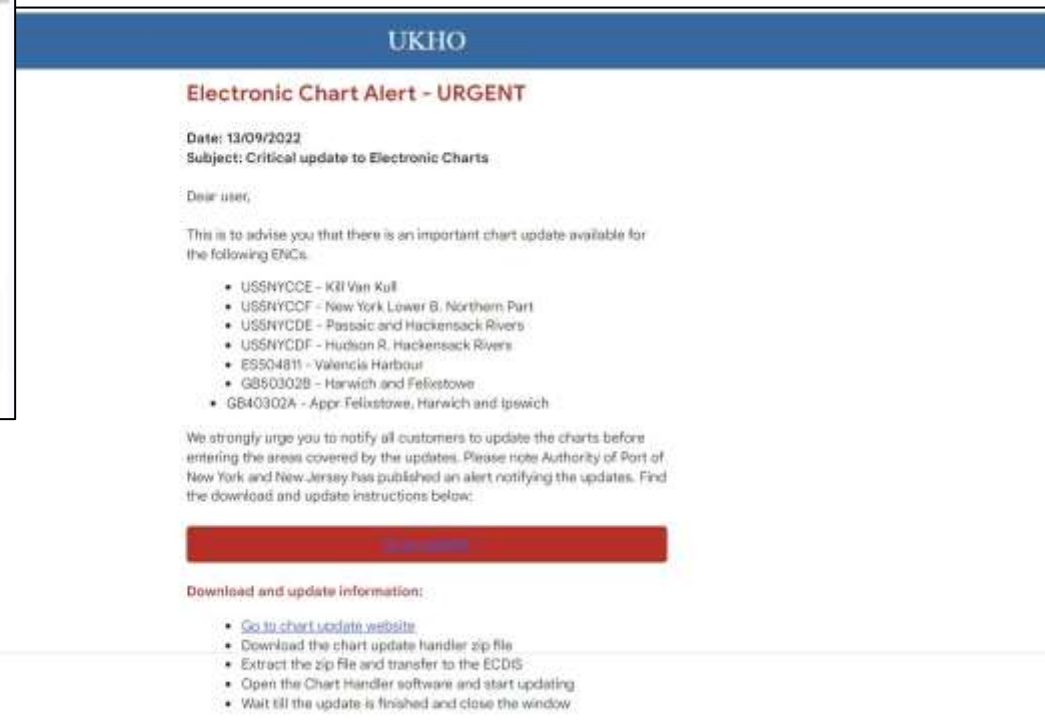
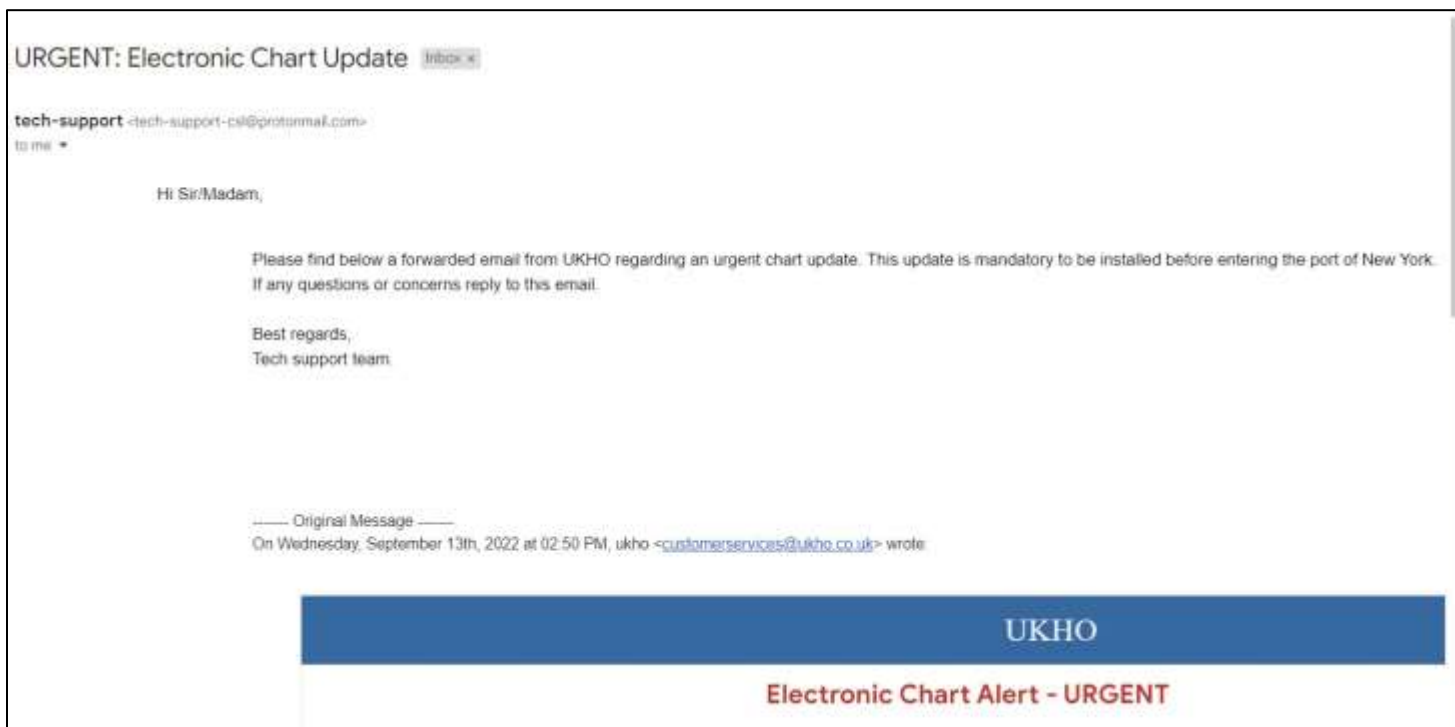




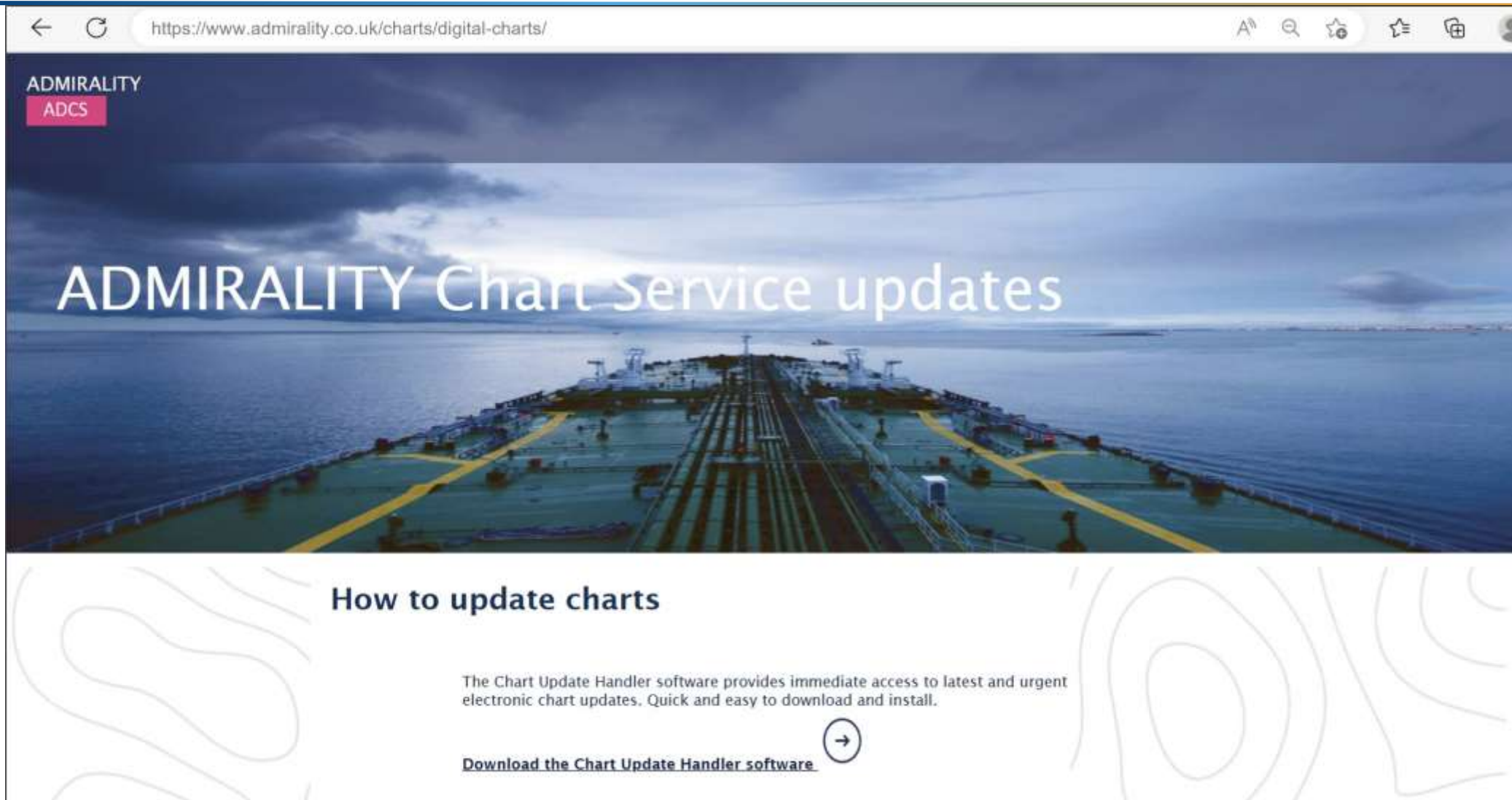
# Bridging the “Air-Gap”



# Social Engineering – The Email



# Social Engineering – The Website



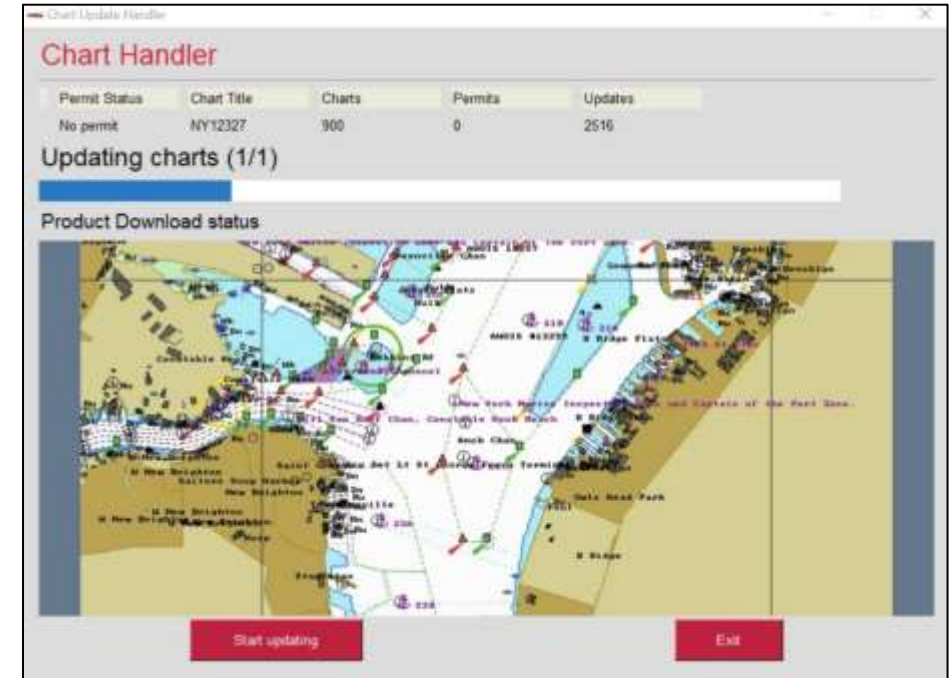
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.admiralty.co.uk/charts/digital-charts/>. The page features the Admiralty logo and 'ADCS' in a pink box. The main heading is 'ADMIRALTY Chart Service updates' over a background image of a ship's deck. Below this, the section 'How to update charts' contains the text: 'The Chart Update Handler software provides immediate access to latest and urgent electronic chart updates. Quick and easy to download and install.' A link with a right-pointing arrow icon reads 'Download the Chart Update Handler software'.





# The Attack - Overview

- On extraction, and running of software malware is installed on the device constantly looking for the geolocation trigger
- On location the malware sends a command to send the rudder to a set angle and increase speed before jamming them



# Packet Flow

---

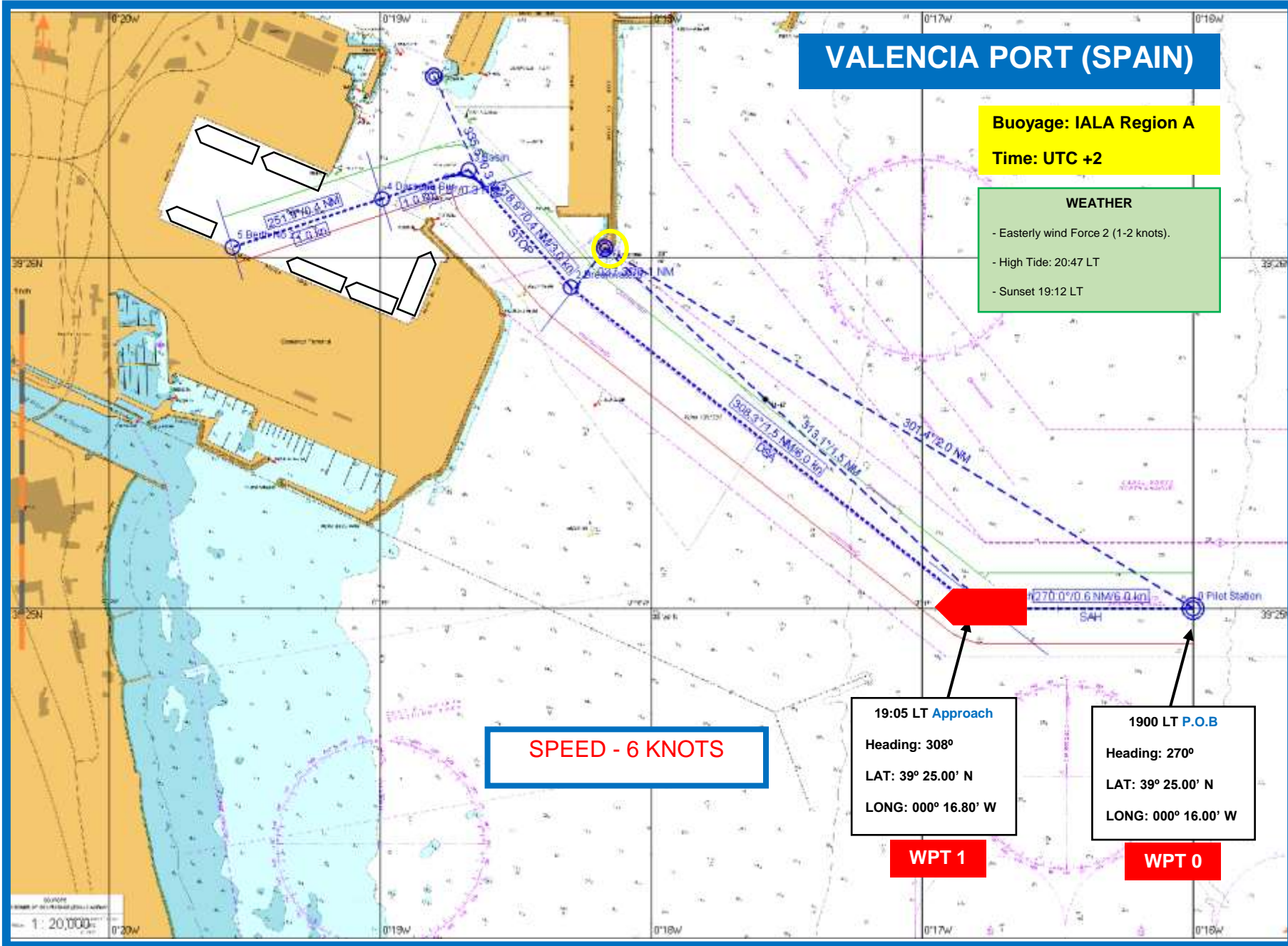


# VALENCIA PORT (SPAIN)

**Buoyage: IALA Region A**  
**Time: UTC +2**

**WEATHER**

- Easterly wind Force 2 (1-2 knots).
- High Tide: 20:47 LT
- Sunset 19:12 LT



**SPEED - 6 KNOTS**

**19:05 LT Approach**  
 Heading: 308°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.80' W

**WPT 1**

**1900 LT P.O.B**  
 Heading: 270°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.00' W

**WPT 0**



# VALENCIA PORT (SPAIN)

**Buoyage: IALA Region A**  
**Time: UTC +2**

**WEATHER**

- Easterly wind Force 2 (1-2 knots).
- High Tide: 20:47 LT
- Sunset 19:12 LT

**2 Tugs attached before brake water**

Total Bollard Pull:

- **FORWARD:** 70t bollard pull - Llevant (Voith tractor)
- **AFT:** 55t bollard pull - Furia (Voith tractor)

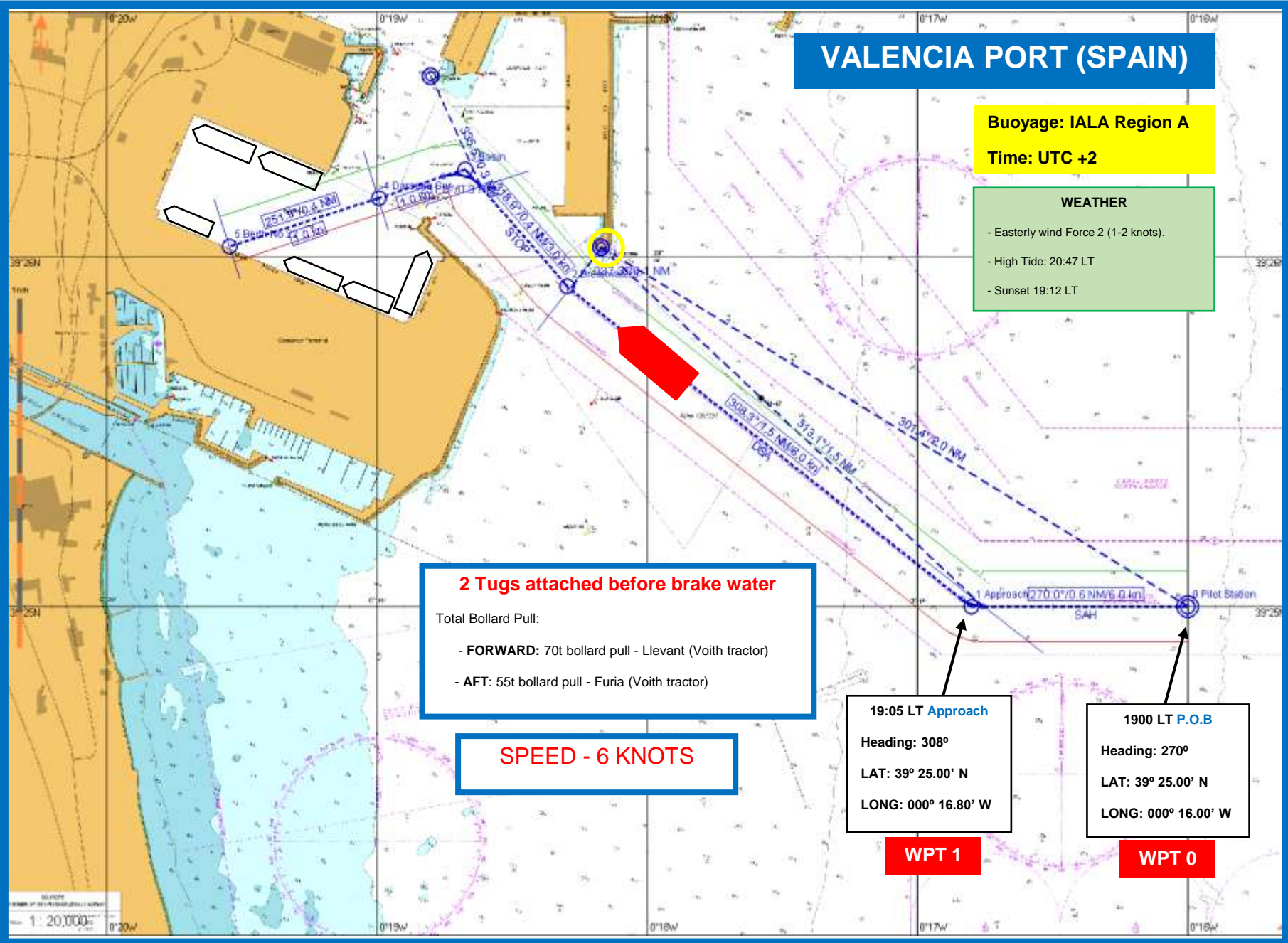
**SPEED - 6 KNOTS**

**19:05 LT Approach**  
 Heading: 308°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.80' W

**WPT 1**

**1900 LT P.O.B**  
 Heading: 270°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.00' W

**WPT 0**



# VALENCIA PORT (SPAIN)

**Buoyage: IALA Region A**  
**Time: UTC +2**

**WEATHER**

- Easterly wind Force 2 (1-2 knots).
- High Tide: 20:47 LT
- Sunset 19:12 LT

**Attack location:**  
 Rudder: Hard to port  
 Engine: Full ahead

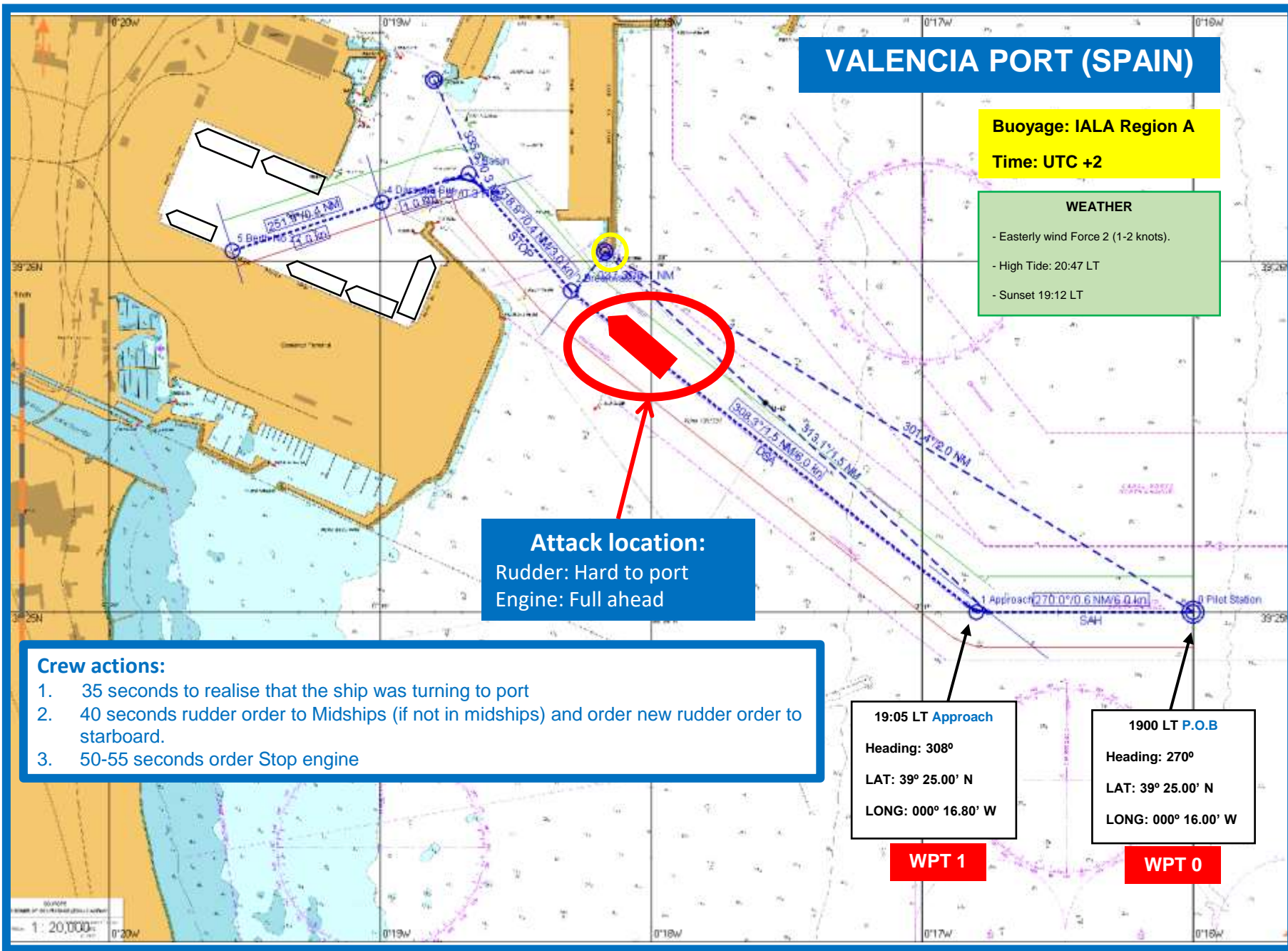
- Crew actions:**
1. 35 seconds to realise that the ship was turning to port
  2. 40 seconds rudder order to Midships (if not in midships) and order new rudder order to starboard.
  3. 50-55 seconds order Stop engine

19:05 LT Approach  
 Heading: 308°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.80' W

**WPT 1**

1900 LT P.O.B  
 Heading: 270°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.00' W

**WPT 0**



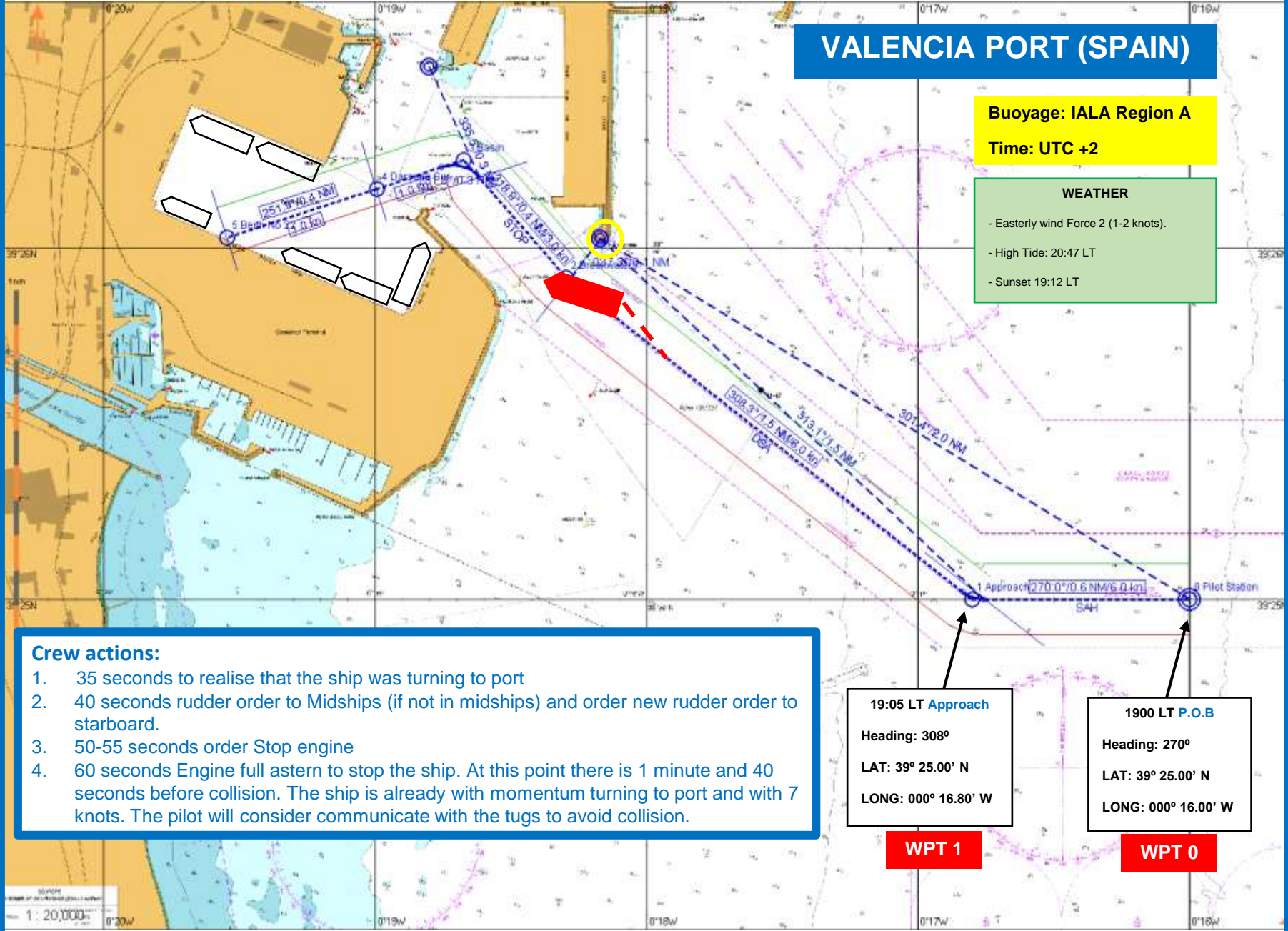


# VALENCIA PORT (SPAIN)

**Buoyage: IALA Region A**  
**Time: UTC +2**

**WEATHER**

- Easterly wind Force 2 (1-2 knots).
- High Tide: 20:47 LT
- Sunset 19:12 LT



- Crew actions:**
1. 35 seconds to realise that the ship was turning to port
  2. 40 seconds rudder order to Midships (if not in midships) and order new rudder order to starboard.
  3. 50-55 seconds order Stop engine
  4. 60 seconds Engine full astern to stop the ship. At this point there is 1 minute and 40 seconds before collision. The ship is already with momentum turning to port and with 7 knots. The pilot will consider communicate with the tugs to avoid collision.

**19:05 LT Approach**  
**Heading: 308°**  
**LAT: 39° 25.00' N**  
**LONG: 000° 16.80' W**

**WPT 1**

**1900 LT P.O.B**  
**Heading: 270°**  
**LAT: 39° 25.00' N**  
**LONG: 000° 16.00' W**

**WPT 0**

# VALENCIA PORT (SPAIN)

**Buoyage: IALA Region A**  
**Time: UTC +2**

**WEATHER**

- Easterly wind Force 2 (1-2 knots).
- High Tide: 20:47 LT
- Sunset 19:12 LT

**Total time from attack triggered to collision:**  
 2 minutes and 40 seconds

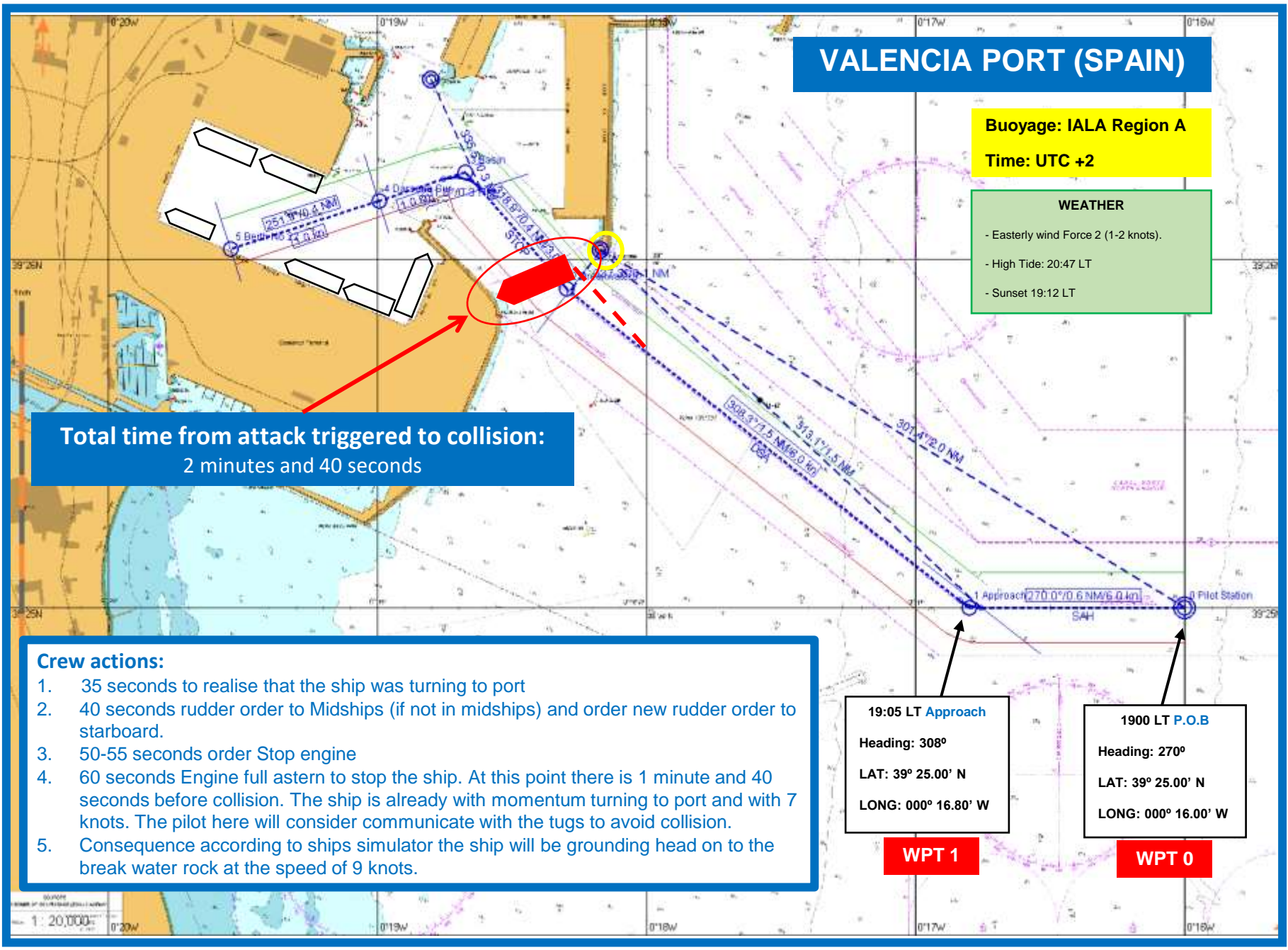
- Crew actions:**
1. 35 seconds to realise that the ship was turning to port
  2. 40 seconds rudder order to Midships (if not in midships) and order new rudder order to starboard.
  3. 50-55 seconds order Stop engine
  4. 60 seconds Engine full astern to stop the ship. At this point there is 1 minute and 40 seconds before collision. The ship is already with momentum turning to port and with 7 knots. The pilot here will consider communicate with the tugs to avoid collision.
  5. Consequence according to ships simulator the ship will be grounding head on to the break water rock at the speed of 9 knots.

**19:05 LT Approach**  
 Heading: 308°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.80' W

**WPT 1**

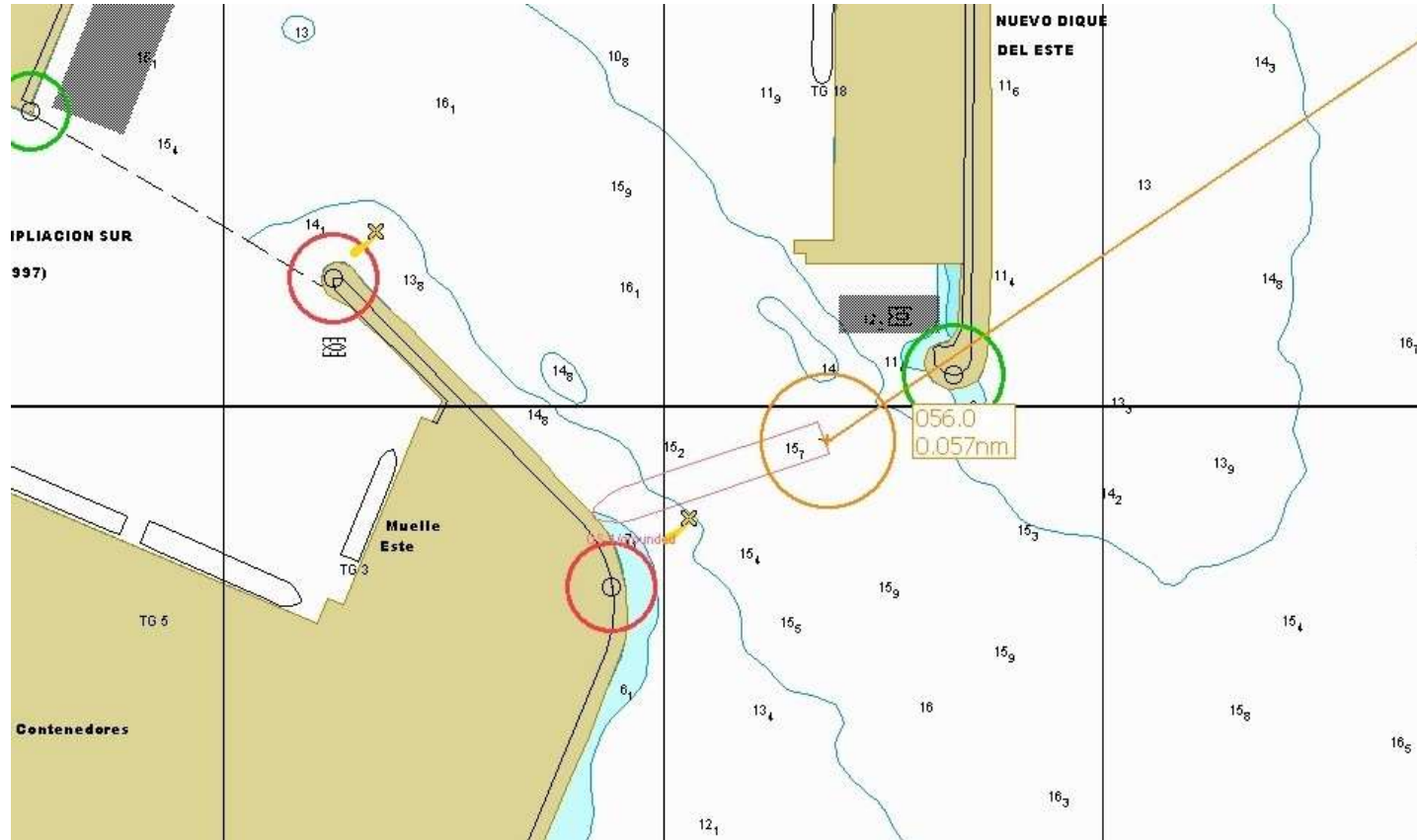
**1900 LT P.O.B**  
 Heading: 270°  
 LAT: 39° 25.00' N  
 LONG: 000° 16.00' W

**WPT 0**



# Experiencing the Attack

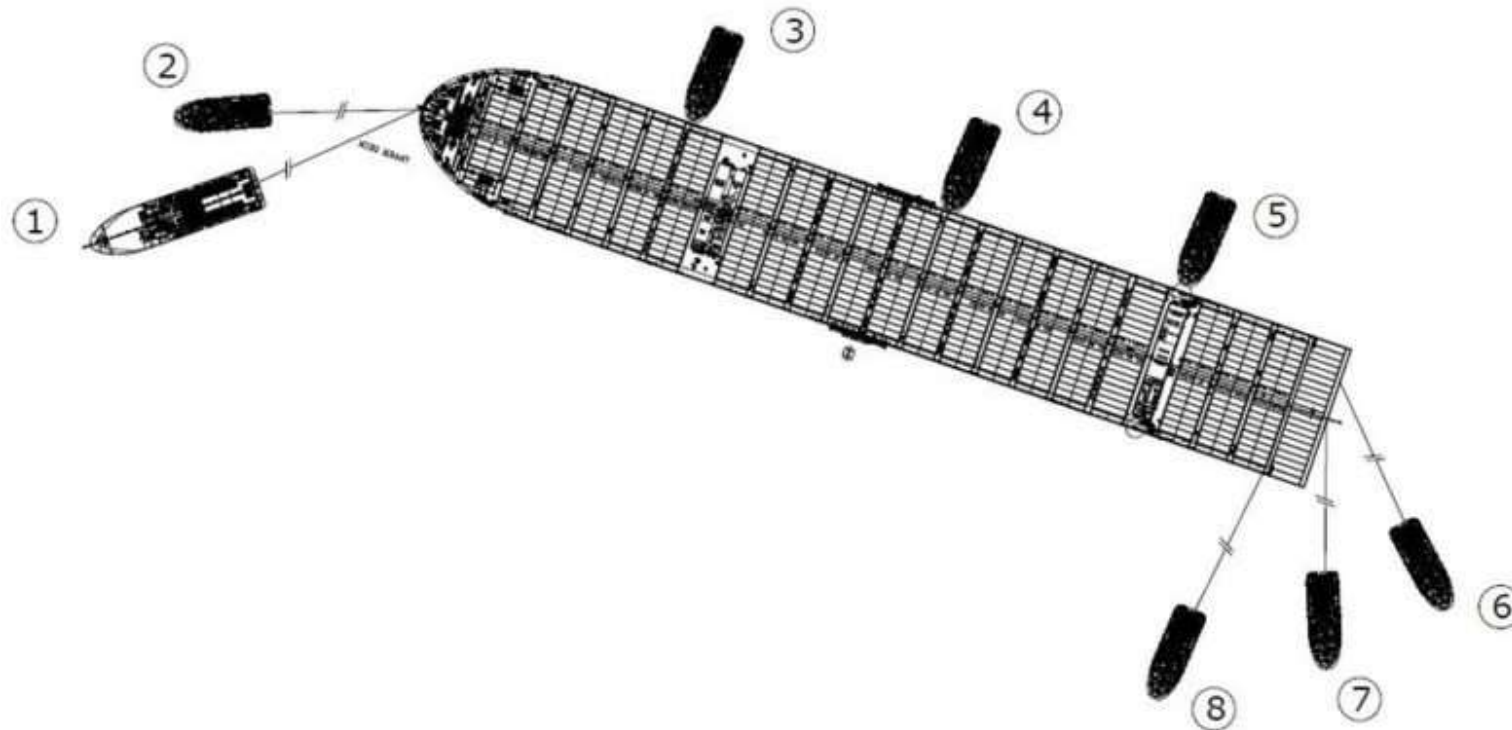




- What tugs could do to avoid collision with break water?
- Vessel blocking the Port of Valencia entrance (100 metres gap)



**Example of similar vessel with tug operations to recover a ship that run's aground "Mumbai Maersk, which ran aground outside Bremerhaven, Germany on 2 February, 2022"**

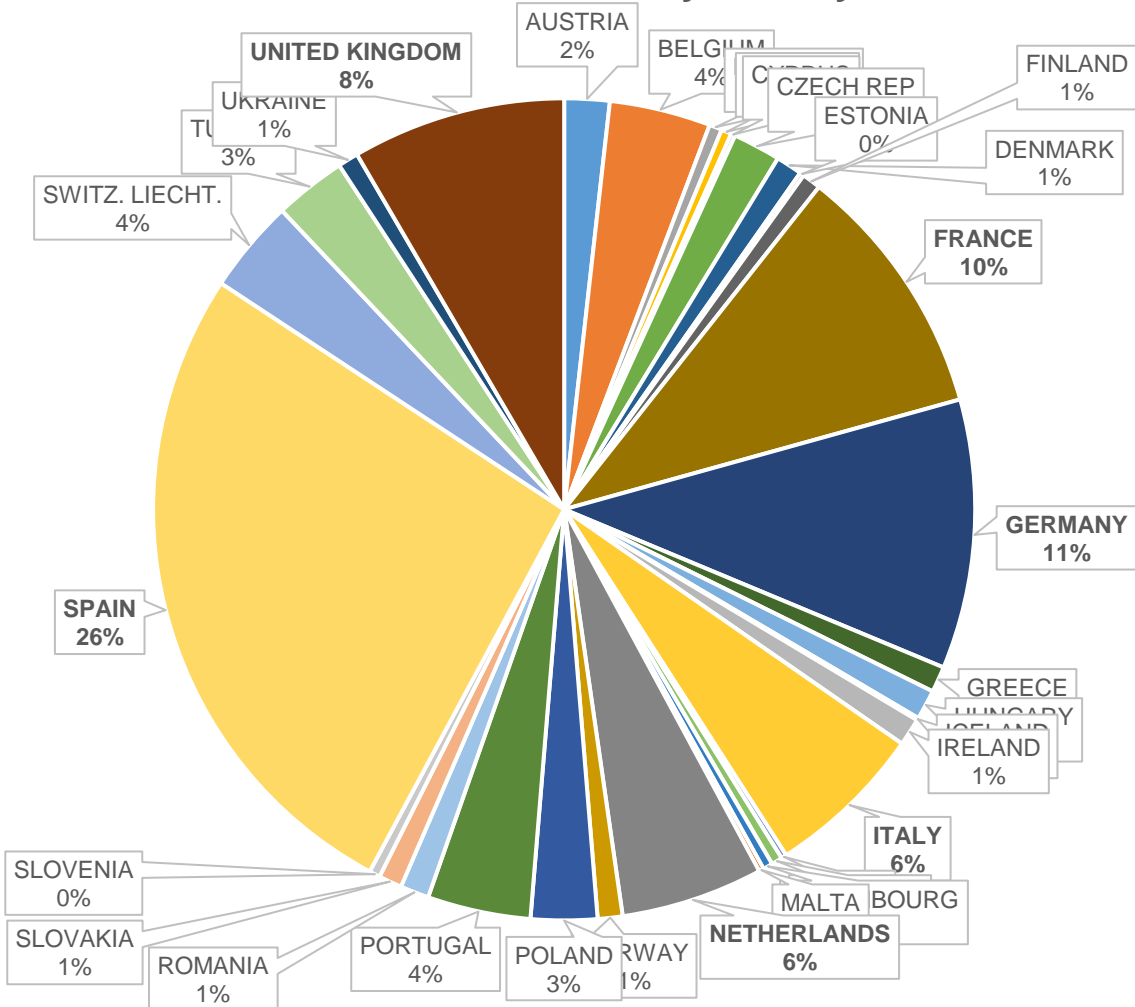


- Salvage operations estimated duration 3-7 days
- Impact on berthing and unberthing operations



# Economic Impact on EU Region

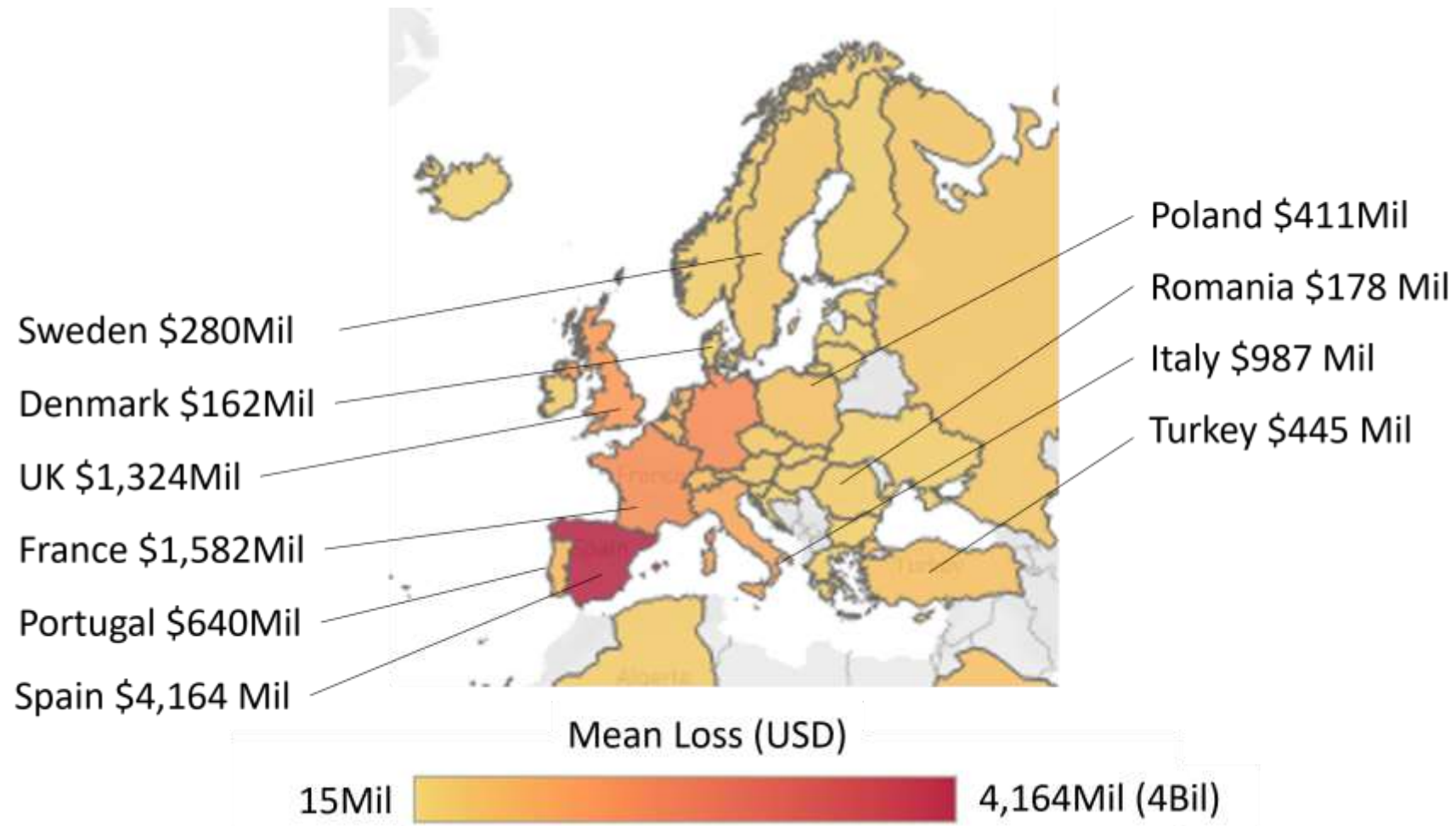
Total Economic Loss by Country



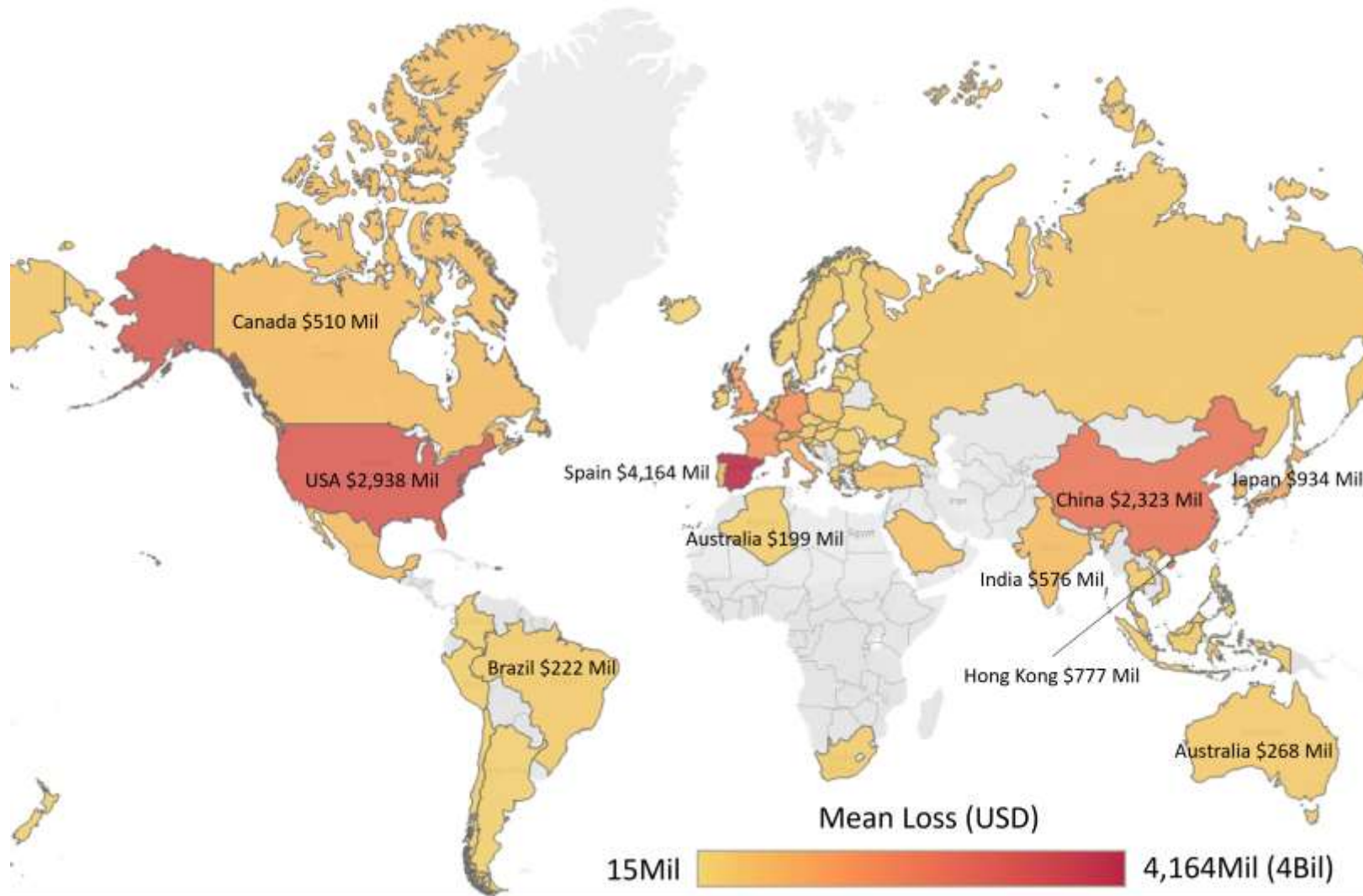
Losses (EUR M)	Initial Port Disruption		
	3 days	5 days	7 days
France	950	1,600	2,200
Germany	1,000	1,700	2,400
Italy	600	1,000	1,400
Netherlands	550	900	1,300
Spain	2,500	4,200	5,900
UK	800	1,300	1,900
...	...	...	...
<b>Austria</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>440</b>



# 5 Day Econometric Impact - EU



# 5 Day Econometric Impact – Global



# Mitigating the Risk



Email arrives

Visits fake website

Downloads to USB

Installs on ECDIS

Dormant period

Geo trigger

- Whitelisting
- Policy
- Sender verification
- Email scan

- Blacklisting
- Whitelisting
- URL verification
- Secure certificates

- Scan USB devices
- Scan the download
- Use secure/verified USBs

- Policy
- Secure ports (USB)
- Scan software
- Anti-malware
- Asset management
- Locking OS

- IDS/IDP
- AI based Firewalls
- Incident response policy
- Preparation, drills and training

Training  
Policy  
Technology



## ORIGINAL RESEARCH article

Front. Comput. Sci., 23 January 2023

Sec. Computer Security

Volume 4 - 2022 |

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fcomp.2022.1057507>

This article is part of the Research Topic

The Impacts of Cyber Threat in the Maritime  
Ecosystem[View all Articles >](#)

# Quantifying the econometric loss of a cyber-physical attack on a seaport

Kimberly Tam<sup>1\*</sup>Barbara Chang<sup>2</sup>Rory Hopcraft<sup>1</sup>

Kemedi Moara-

Nkwe<sup>3</sup> andKevin Jones<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup> Maritime Cyber Threats Research Group, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, United Kingdom<sup>2</sup> Verisk EES (AIR Worldwide), San Francisco, CA, United States<sup>3</sup> Warwash Solent University, Southampton, United Kingdom



UNIVERSITY OF  
PLYMOUTH



Cyber-SHIP Lab  
SECURING MARITIME



**Thank you**

**Kimberly Tam**

**Kimberly.tam@plymouth.ac.uk**



This presentation is partly funded by the research efforts under Cyber-MAR. Cyber-MAR project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 833389. Content reflects only the authors' view and European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

