# Law of Shipbuilding Contracts Update 2025

By William Cecil, Fiona Cain, Jack Spence | December 10, 2025

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The fifth edition of The Law of Shipbuilding Contracts was published in 2020.

Since then, we have continued to monitor the cases that directly relate to the law of shipbuilding contracts and those in the context of general commercial law, which impact on shipbuilding and related contracts.

In this latest edition of the Haynes Boone Law of Shipbuilding Contracts Update, we discuss some of the cases and developments in the past three years in the following areas:

- Contract Formation, including the formation of the shipbuilding contract, “subject to contract”, letters of intent and agreements to agree
- Allocation of the Design Risk
- Financing the Newbuilding, including the UK Shipbuilding Credit Guarantee Scheme and General Export Facility
- Force Majeure
- Notice Provisions
- Termination
- Payment of the Deposit: Conditions Precedent and the Prevention Principle
- Limitations of Liability
- The Nature of a Guarantee

See the 2025 Update here.

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