

The Northern Sea Route

According to a report issued by the Chamber of Shipping of British Columbia, Canada, in its news round-up of 19 August a new speed record for reaching the North Pole has been set by Russia's nuclear icebreaker *50 Let Pobedy*, which made the passage from Murmansk to the North Pole in just 79 hours.

It was reported that during the transit, the vessel hosted a conference dedicated to Arctic issues with a key topic being the economic worth of developing year-round navigation on the Northern Sea Route.

In the past 40 years, 124 surface vessels have completed this passage, of which 111 were Russian.