

15 February 2002

Immediate Use

## NAVIGATION CONFERENCE DRAWS WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE

Maritime industry delegates and presenters from 38 countries will discuss the latest in navigation technology and management in Sydney next month at the XVth Conference of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA).

Held for the first time outside the northern hemisphere, the conference and workshop will cover significant advances in aids to navigation including vessel traffic services (VTS), management, engineering, technology, and guidelines in the key areas of Differential GPS, automatic ship identification systems (AIS), radar transponders and risk management.

Hosted by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the conference and trade equipment exhibition is being held at the Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour from 10-15 March followed by a major workshop on navigation systems in environmentally sensitive areas in Cairns on 18-19 March.

Keynote speakers include the Secretary-General, International Maritime Organization, William O'Neil and the Secretary-General of IALA, Torsten Kruuse.

Over 50 international aids to navigation manufacturing companies will be displaying equipment at the conference trade exhibition.

IALA is a non-government international association of organisations concerned with the provision and maintenance of marine aids to navigation systems at sea and on inland waterways.

The organisation fosters safe and economic movement of vessels and protection of the marine environment through improvement and harmonisation of navigation aids and marine traffic practices.

Conference and registration information is available on the internet at [www.tourhosts.com.au/iala](http://www.tourhosts.com.au/iala).

Further information:

David Gray

02 6279 5888

