



Australian Government

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

# VTS Newsletter

July 2017

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## VTS Exchange “proof of concept” trial

A ‘proof of concept’ trial of the vessel traffic services (VTS) Exchange Project commenced in July 2017.

The aim of the trial is to disseminate information available to AMSA regarding relevant deficiencies and incidents to VTS Authorities to facilitate a greater situational awareness of individual vessels entering their area and contribute to the safety and efficiency of navigation within their port environment.

This information is provided to participants through auto-emails where information available to AMSA indicates that a vessel bound for their port, or is already within their port, has outstanding deficiencies or reported incidents associated with it during the past three months.

Participants currently include:

- Victorian Ports Corporation (Melbourne)
- Maritime Safety Queensland (Brisbane, Gladstone, Hay Point, Mackay, Abbot Point, Townsville, Cairns, Weipa)
- Pilbara Ports Authority - Dampier
- Port Authority of New South Wales (Sydney, Newcastle, Port Kembla)
- Flinders Ports

Pending the outcomes from the trial a second stage may be considered to explore the longer

term opportunities for the exchange information between Port VTS centres and AMSA.

The concept of the VTS Exchange Project originated from an e-Navigation workshop conducted by the Australian VTS Working Group to explore the application of e-Navigation concepts to VTS operations, including the sharing of information between stakeholders and more proactive management of vessel movements.

The workshop highlighted that better and more automated transfer of information between VTS centres and in ship to shore communications could provide a number of benefits.

## IALA Update

### 1. IALA Council

The 64<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IALA Council was held 13 - 16 June 2017 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

Key outcomes related to VTS include:

- **IALA Recommendation V-103 on the Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel**

Council approved the revised version of IALA Recommendation V-103 on the Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel to reflect the introduction of IALA Model Course V-103/5 on the Revalidation Process for VTS Qualification and Certification which was released in 2016.

- **IALA Guideline 1032 on Aspects of Training of VTS Personnel Relevant to AIS**

Council approved withdrawal of IALA Guideline 1032 on Aspects of Training of VTS Personnel Relevant to AIS noting that guidance on the operational use of AIS in VTS is now readily available in other IALA documents such as IALA Model Course V-103/1 and the IALA VTS Manual 2016.

## Contact details

Neil Trainor  
Principal Advisor, Vessel Traffic Services  
Ph: 07 3001 6822  
Mob: 0408 559 849  
Email: [neil.trainor@amsa.gov.au](mailto:neil.trainor@amsa.gov.au)

## For further information

[www.amsa.gov.au](http://www.amsa.gov.au)

- **Proposed submission to IMO requesting a revision of Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services**

Council approved in principle the draft document prepared by the VTS Committee at its March meeting as a basis for a submission to the IMO requesting a review of Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services.

The proposed review is to ensure that the Resolution continues to provide a clear and concise framework to implement and deliver VTS globally in a consistent and harmonised manner.

The IALA secretariat will finalise the document, taking into account comments received from the Council, and forward it to national members for their consideration with regards to sponsoring a submission to the IMO for a review to be included on its work programme.

## **2. Annual Report**

IALA have released its 2016 Annual Report. In addition to providing an overview of IALA and its activities this edition provides information on the implementation of IALA Standards, the outcomes from the IALA Committees (e.g. the VTS Committee) and the progress of IALA achieving status as an intergovernmental organisation through a new IALA convention.

A copy of the report is available at:

<http://www.iala-aism.org/about-iala/annual-report/>

## **Training seminar - IALA Risk Management Toolbox**

The IALA World-Wide Academy, in conjunction with China Maritime Safety Administration is hosting a training seminar on the IALA Risk Management Toolbox from 11 to 15 September 2017 at Jimei University, Xiamen, China.

The seminar is the latest in a series of risk management seminars set in the context of IALA Recommendation O-134 on Risk Management Tools for Ports and Restricted Waterways. It is based on IALA Model Course - L1.3 - Aids to Navigation Manager Training Level 1 - Use of the IALA Risk Management Tools. Specifically, the seminar will:

- Introduce the IALA Risk Management Toolbox

- Describe the development, principles and use of the IALA Waterway Risk Assessment Program (IWRAP Mk2), before guiding participants through increasingly complex practical applications
- Describe the development and use of the Port and Waterway Safety Assessment Tool (PAWSA) before demonstrating its use in a regional scenario
- Describe the use of simulators for ship applications and waterway design including modelling the most effective AtoN within that waterway

Further information can be obtained from:

<http://www.iala-aism.org/product/risk-seminar/>

## **VTS Working Group**

The 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the VTS Working Group was held in Adelaide 29-30 March 2017. The meeting was hosted by Flinders Ports.

Key outcomes of the meeting included:

- A successful workshop session on the new IALA Guideline 1118 on Marine Casualty / Incident Reporting and Recording, including Near-Miss Situations as it relates to VTS.
- A review of:
  - the status of the VTS Information Exchange project and the proposed "proof of concept" trial, and
  - the new maritime domain awareness (MDA) tool that will soon replace AMSA's Craft Tracking System (CTS).
- A review of the proposed 2018-22 Work programme for the IALA VTS Committee.
- A review of the outcomes from the IALA VTS Committee meeting in March 2017, including the status of guidance documents currently being developed by IALA.

The next meeting will be hosted by Victorian Ports Corporation (Melbourne) in October. Further details will be provided in the near future.