



10 – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

10.7 – Product specifications and technical services

10.7.1 – Committee work on S-200 PS

Note by the Secretariat

1. INTRODUCTION

In the second half of the sessions, the committees made good progress on the relevant S-200 product specifications. This paper summarizes the outcomes and discussions.

2. SUMMARY OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

The table below presents a detailed summary of the active Product Specification (PS) development work by each Committee:

Domain	PS	Title	Developing Committee	Edition
AtoN	S-201	AtoN information	ARM	2.0.0
	S-125	Marine Aids to Navigation	IHO NIPWG (ARM)	1.0.0
Positioning	S-240	DGNSS almanac	ENG	1.2.0
	S-245	eLoran ASF	ENG	1.0.0
	S-246	eLoran almanac	ENG	1.0.0
	S-247	eLoran reference stations	ENG	1.0.0
	S-241(New)	PNT station almanac	ENG	Planned
	S-242(New)	PNT grid data	ENG	Planned
Comms.	S-230	Application Specific Message (ASM)	DTEC ARM	Planned
VTS	S-210	Inter VTS exchange	VTS	0.1.0
	S-211	Port Call Message	IPCDMC	1.0.0
	S-212	VTS digital information service	VTS	0.7.3

3. ARM

Since the publication of S-201 Edition 2.0.0 (AtoN Information) together with S-125 Edition 1.0.0 (Marine Aids to Navigation), which were forwarded to IHO NIPWG, the ARM Committee has received a large number of comments. Many of these comments applied to *both* PSs S-201 and S-125. During the session, all comments were reviewed and updated.

The ARM Committee was joined by the Chair and Secretariat staff of the IHO NIPWG at the meeting of ARM21, which facilitated substantive discussion between the two organisations regarding the development of S-125. Firstly, the IHO's plan for S-125 is to update it based on the comments currently

under discussion and to submit it for approval at the December NIPWG meeting; thereafter, to release Edition 1.0.0 for approval at the IHO HSSC meeting in May next year. S-125 appears most suitably included as an optional Product Specification within IHO's S-100 Implementation Phase 2.

There were no particular updates on the S-200 test and validation tool.

Although S-201 Edition 2.0.0 has been developed and approved by Council, Member States and Associate Members continue to encounter practical difficulties in producing S-201 datasets. As a way forward, increased promotion (via the IALA e-bulletin), expanded education, both in number and geography, and provision of technical support for actual data production (with the Korea MOF and KRISO pledging tangible assistance) are required.

Additionally, the ARM Committee fully revised Guideline G1087 "Procedure for the Management of the IALA Domain under the IHO GI Registry" at this session, and submitted the document for Council approval.

4. ENG

At the last ENG session, the Committee reviewed all Product Specifications relating to Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT), and concluded to consolidate them into two specifications as follows:

- S-241 (New) – A PNT Station Almanac to support precise navigation and positioning.
- S-242 (New) – A PNT Grid Data Product Specification to enhance integrity monitoring.

Further development of these two PSs was discussed at the ENG21 session, and the work will continue at the next session.

5. VTS

The VTS Committee continued development of S-212, a Product Specification addressing VTS Traffic Services under the S-100 framework. Cooperation is underway between Working Group 1 (Operations) and WG2 (Technologies). Discussions are underway concerning the scope of the S-212 service, and development is proceeding of the relevant technical services, including core services such as traffic clearance and route exchange.

Significant progress was also made on S-210. The data model has been newly updated and reorganised into track data, target data, voyage data, voyage waypoint, etc.

The VTS Committee plans to hold inter-sessional meetings in November 2025 as an online meeting and in January 2026 in Oostende, Belgium (tentative).

6. DTEC

With regard to S-230 (ASM-related Product Specification), there was a discussion between ARM and DTEC on the scope of the S-230 service. As a result of discussion within PAP, the two committees agreed to hold an inter-sessional meeting; during the present DTEC meeting, related discussions were held. The outcome was that ARM will take over the task of developing the S-230 PS from DTEC. ARM will proceed with this task as a new assignment.

7. IALA S-200 TRAINING

Currently, two S-200-related training events are planned: the first at IALA HQ on 23–27 February 2026, and the second (tentative) in the Dominican Republic on 25–29 May 2026.

Interest in S-200-related training is very high among other international organisations such as IMO and IHO, and the training will be disseminated globally for IALA member states. To date, support for IALA training has been provided by IHO, PRIMA, USCG, CCG, the Korea Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, and KRISO.

8. CONCLUSION

The four Committees have demonstrated strong, coordinated progress in developing the S-200 series. In preparation for the mandatory introduction of S-100-compliant ECDIS in 2029, various international organisations are striving to develop the required standards and product specifications. Nevertheless, training remains insufficient in scope; the number and geographic coverage of sessions should be increased.

These developments collectively advance IALA's objective of providing standardized, digital, interoperable solutions for aids to navigation, vessel traffic services and broader maritime communication services under the S-100 framework.

9. ACTION REQUESTED

The council is requested to **NOTE** the information provided in this document.