



10 – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

10.6 – VTS

10.6.1 – VTS 58 summary report

Note by the Secretariat

1. INTRODUCTION

The 58th session of the IALA Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) Committee was held from 19 September to 2 October 2025, with Monica Sundklev as Chair and Trond Ski as acting Vice-Chair. Thomas Southall served as Secretary for the session.

The physical meeting week took place from 22 to 26 September at IALA Headquarters in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, followed by an approval period and a virtual closing plenary on 2 October 2025. A total of 136 participants from 34 countries, including three Sister Organisations and seven observers, attended VTS58. Seventeen participants joined for the first time.

The Committee considered 66 input papers and produced 23 output papers, including working papers, across three Working Groups.

2. SUMMARY OF THE WORK ITEMS

The Committee reviewed and updated its work programme for 2025–2027, making significant progress across the three Working Groups:

Working Group 1 – Operations

- Continued work on guidance for delineating VTS areas and on assisting competent authorities to establish appropriate VTS policy and regulatory frameworks under IMO Resolution A.1158(32).
- Advanced the draft guideline on VTS digital communications, including detailed operational use cases and updates to Recommendation R1012 on VTS Communications.
- Developed feedback to ARM on G1185 Enhancing Safety Around Offshore Renewable Energy Installations (OREI).
- Progressed the digital global VTS questionnaire, establishing the structure and coordination mechanism for national data input.

Working Group 2 – Technology

- Finalized Service Specification and Service Design for Route Exchange (Edition 1.1) under the S-100 framework.
- Advanced work on Technical Service Specifications for VTS Information and Under Keel Clearance Services.

- Progressed Product Specification S-212 and contributed to S-210 registry updates in collaboration with IHO.
- Reviewed Recommendation R0145 on the Inter-VTS Exchange Format (IVEF).

Working Group 3 – VTS Training

- Advanced the draft guideline on dealing with stress and trauma in VTS operations.
- Progressed work on guidance for aptitudes required by VTS Operators and guidance on remote training in VTS.
- Completed the revision of Model Course C0103-5 (V-103/5) on revalidation training.
- Finalized Revised Guideline G1156 on Recruitment, Training, and Certification of VTS Personnel.
- Developed a new Guideline on VTS English Communication Competency Testing, closely linked to the update of Recommendation R1012.

3. OUTCOMES OF THE COMMITTEE

The following draft documents have been prepared for Council approval:

- C03-10.6.2 (VTS58-12.1.2) Revised Recommendation R1012 on VTS Communications.
- C03-10.6.3 (VTS58-12.3.3) Revised Guideline G1156 on Recruitment, Training and Certification of VTS Personnel.
- C03-10.6.4 (VTS58-12.3.4) New Guideline on VTS English Communication Competency Testing.
- C03-10.6.5 (VTS58-12.3.2) Revised Model Course C0103-5 – VTS Revalidation Training.

4. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

NOTE the information provided in this document.