

LIAISON NOTE to RTCM

IALA Recommendation on VDE Payload Format Identifier and IALA Guideline G1117 on VDES Overview

1 INTRODUCTION

The VDE Payload Format Identifier (VPFI) has the purpose of allowing VDE applications to uniquely identify how to interpret the digital content of VDE messages.

Guideline G1117 Edition 3.0 has captured the initial VPFI concept and listed several formats. As of 2026, the IEC adopted the concept for the VPFI in its draft IEC 63514 standard on "requirements and test methods for shipborne mobile VDES station". Furthermore, RTCM adopted the concept for the VPFI in Annex C and D of its RTCM Standard 13900.0 for Maritime Messaging Service Architecture and Protocol.

Considering the widespread use of VPFI, IALA Digital Technologies Committee (DTEC), at its 6th session, decided to separate VPFI from Guideline G1117 to an independent normative Recommendation and developed the draft Recommendation. IALA Council meeting, at its 4th session, approved the draft Recommendation and published it through the IALA Homepage.

2 ACTIONS REQUESTED

RTCM is invited to note the information provided and refer to IALA Recommendation RNNNN on VDE Payload Format Identifier (VPFI) and revised Guideline G1117 Edition 4.0 on VDES Overview.