**Report of intersessional meeting of the AIS + COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP of the IALA eNAV Committée**,  
Intersessional meeting held 26-30 August 2013, in Brest, France.

1. **Introduction**

The AIS+ COMMUNICATION Working Group (WG 3+ 4) of the IALA e-NAV Committee held an intersessional meeting in Brest, France, 26 to 30 August 2013, hosted by ANFR. The venue was Hotel Oceania, Brest

The meeting was chaired by Rolf Zetterberg, Chair WG3+4.

The main objective of the meeting was to develop a draft input to the November meeting of ITU WP5B, proposing a preliminary draft technical standard for VDES and give supporting information.

1. **Progress made**

### **2.1 General Discussions** 2.1.1 “The VDES day”

### The second day of the meeting was dedicated to an overview of the proposed VDES and a separate invitation to maritime and satellite industry had been issued for that day, with the aim to facilitate a quick update and allow inputs from parties that normally do not participate in the work of the WG. Additionally, it gave the WG a chance to consider and discuss the VDES concept, some of its details, and possible consequences. The sessions were moderated by Stefan Bober, Federal Waterways and Shipping Adm, Germany.

### 2.1.2 Use of VHF channels

### An alternative utilization of the VHF channels that have been made available by ITU for the different VDES components, were presented and discussed. Several questions (technical, regulatory, practical and economical) were raised, both on the “baseline concept” and the alternative and some issues that require further study.

### Since the ITU process requires timely inputs; if the present opportunity to get all the required decisions to make a new data communication system happen, it was decided to go on with the baseline concept after some improvements had been made.

2.2 Information paper on VDES

Brest Input 12 Draft Information Paper on VDES was finalized by the WG and will be sent to eNAV14. The document is intended to inform the other IALA Committees and the IALA Council of VDES, its purpose, plans and progress in order to consider this opportunity and better utilize it for their future work. It concludes that VDES has the potential to become an important facilitator for e-Navigation and that IALA is ideally positioned to coordinate and harmonize the development and implementation of VDES.

***Action items***

*The* ***Chair of the IALA WG3/WG4 intersessional meeting*** *was asked to forward the Brest Output 02 Draft Information Paper to the IALA secretariat as an input document to eNAV14.*

2.3 Working towards a Draft technical recommendation on VDES

After earlier informal consultations with the chair of ITU WP5B it was agreed that it would be appropriate for IALA to input a Working Document Towards a Preliminary Draft Technical Recommendation for VDES to ITU WP5B. Based on Brest Input 24 such a document was progressed. Although far from complete, it is deemed as essential to send this document to ITU WP5B meeting in November, if approved.

It should be noted that further studies and tests are required to verify the validity of the proposed solutions.

Due to the IALA working schedule it is uncertain to what degree IALA can contribute to the work with the Draft Recommendation in the next 12 months. Administrations are therefore encouraged to participate in and support the work in ITU by submitting results of relevant tests and studies.  
  
***Action items***

*The* ***Chair of the IALA WG3/WG4 intersessional meeting*** *was asked to forward the Document Brest Output 03 Working Document Towards Preliminary Draft New Recommendation ITU-R M.[VDES***]** *to the secretariat as an input to eNAV14.*

## 2.4 Technical Guidelines for implementation of VDES. The Brest Input 14 Technical Guidelines for the implementation of VDES was progressed by the WG and updated according to the agreed changes of the concept. The described architecture of the shipside equipment should be seen as an example of a possible design.

*The* ***Chair of the IALA WG3/WG4 intersessional meeting*** *was asked to forward the Document Brest Output 04 Technical Guidelines for the implementation of VDES**to the secretariat as an input to eNAV14.*

## 2.5 MRCP for ITU

## Brest Input 26 IALA input to ITU MRCP WD was developed with respect to formatting, with the aim to provide the information contained in the IALA MRCP in a format suitable for the work with the ITU MRCP.

*The* ***Chair of the IALA WG3/WG4 intersessional meeting*** *was asked to forward the Document Brest Output 05 Draft IALA Input to ITU for MRCP WD to the secretariat as an input to eNAV14.*

## 2.6 User requirements

The implication on VDES of the identified user requirements and the solutions proposed by IMO eNAV CG, with regard to technical characteristics, was discussed and the need for further information was identified. In particular the communication requirements for the Solutions that have been prioritized by the IMO eNAV CG was considered.   
Based on earlier developed documents Working Document 01 was compiled and developed. The document is intended as a foundation for further work, where inputs from other WGs are also required.

The work will be progressed intersessionally by a correspondence group, moderated by Peggy Browning of exactEarth.

*The Chair of the IALA WG3/WG4 intersessional meeting was asked to keep the document Brest Working Document 01User Requirements as a Working Document within the WG and distribute it within the WG.*

## 2.7 Innovative use of AIS

The development of an information paper on “Innovative use of AIS” and the possible consequences of a future introduction of VDES for such use was started. Working Document 02 will be forwarded to the next meeting.

*The Chair of the IALA WG3/WG4 intersessional meeting was asked to keep the document Brest Working Document 02 as a Working Document Innovative use of AIS going towards VDES within the WG and distribute it within the WG*

## 2.8 Other inputs

Brest Input 07, a liaison note from ITU WP5B regarding proposed changes to ITU-R M Recommendation 1371 (Technical characteristics for AIS) was noted. No reply is required.

Brest Input 21 and 22 regarding identification of AIS repeater stations were considered. No action is required.  
  
A number of other inputs were noted and used as background material during the meeting..

## 3. Presentations

The presentations made during the “VDES–day” are reported separately. No other presentations were made.

## 4 Study visits (after working hours)

### 4.1 VIGISAT station

The group was invited by CLS to visit their earth station for VIGISAT, which is a civilian station and processing chain for the direct reception and analysis of HR radar satellite images.

This system is used for many different maritime-oriented applications, usually in combination with other data sources such as AIS.



The WG3+4 in front of the antenna

### 4.2 Ushant VTS and MRCC The group was invited by CETMEF to visit the MRCC and VTS center for the Ushant traffic separation area and surrounding waters. The work of the center was described and the technical facilities demonstrated.

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### WG 3+4 outside the center

**5. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place during eNAV14 at IALA HQ in St Germain en Laye, September 23-27, 2013.

1. **The Final Plenary**

This report was considered, amended and accepted as representing the actual progress made and the results of the meeting in Brest.

The chair thanked ANFR for hosting the meeting. The chair also thanked all participants for their attendance, hard work and contributions to the discussions and wished everybody a safe journey home.

**Rolf Zetterberg**

Chair AIS+ COMMUNICATION Working Group (WG3+ WG4) of IALA e-NAV Committee**.**

**Annex A:**

**Participants.**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Country** |
| Alagha, Nader | ESA | ESA |
| Andersen, Peter | Cobham | Denmark |
| Blackhurst, Peter | INMARSAT | UK |
| Bober, Stefan | Federal Waterways and Shipping Adm | Germany |
| Browning, Peggy | exactEarth | USA |
| Coutu, Jean Francois | Canadian Coast Guard | Canada |
| Cubillos, Juan Lizarraga | ESA | ESA |
| Fabritius, Gaetan | CLS | France |
| van Gils, Jeffrey | Rijkswaterstaat | Netherlands |
| Gourmelen, Loic | CETMEF | France |
| Guichoux,Yann | CETMEF | France |
| Haugen, Tony | Kongsberg Seatex | Norway |
| Haley, David | Institute for Telecommunications Res. | Australia |
| Hansen, Ole | Cobham | Denmark |
| Heikonen, Kaisu | Finnish Transport Agency | Finland |
| Noguchi, Hideki | JCG | Japan |
| Imart, Michel | CETMEF | France |
| Kempe, Philip | Swedish Transport Agency | Sweden |
| Kukkonen, Antti | Furuno | Finland |
| Lamb, Bruce | USCG | USA |
| Nakagawa, Hiroyasu | Furuno | Japan |
| Norsworthy, Ross | USCG | USA |
| Rissone, Christian | ANFR | ITU |
| Ruy, Ghislain | Luxspace | Luxembourg |
| Safar, Jan | GLA | UK |
| Smith, Paul | USCG (Truestone) | USA |
| Yoshikohiko, Imada | JRC | Japan |
| Valette, Jean Jacques | CLS | France |
| Zappenfeldt, Frank | ESA | ESA |
| Zetterberg, Rolf Chair WG 3 | SMA | Sweden |

**Appologies**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Country** |
| Arroyo, Jorge | USCG | USA |
| Borgehese, Francesco | Elman | Italy |
| Burrows, Steve | CIL | Ireland |
| Cabeceira, Marcos Lopez | GMV | Spain |
| Carson-Jackson, Jillian | AMSA | Australia |
| Jensen, Jens Kristian | DAMSA | Denmark |
| Jones, Stephen | AMS | Australia |
| Kautz, Bill | USCG | USA |
| Lindborg, Johan | SAAB | Sweden |
| Miyadera, Yoshio | JRC | Japan |
| Takamasa, Yauchi | OKI | Japan |
| Tremlett, Robert | Maritime Consultant | UK |
| Qing, Ho | Dalian Maritime University | China |
| Wotton, Richard | MCGA | UK |

**Annex B.**

**Input Documents**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **INPUT DOCUMENTS** | **Title** |
| 01 | Invitation |
| 02 | List of documents (this list) |
| 03 | Agenda |
| 04 | ITU WP5B Working Document towards a preliminary darft new report ITU-R M. (VDL loading**)**  **Replaced by Brest Input 15** |
| 05 | ITU WP5B Annex XX to WP5B Chairman´s Report  **Replaced by Brest Input 17** |
| 06 | ITU WP5B Liaison to IALA  **Replaced by Brest Input 19** |
| 07 | ITU WP5B Draft revision 1371-4 |
| 08 | Results of WP 5B meeting |
| 09 | TDE-010 VDE-SAT Report  **Replaced by Brest Input 16** |
| 10 | TDE 0107 MAR MSS Report |
| 11 | VHF in e-Navigation |
| 12 | Draft info paper on VDES |
| 13 | Draft agenda “VDES-day” |
| 14 | Technical Guidelines for VDES Implementation |
| 14A | Technical Guidelines for VDES Implementation comment from Takamasa |
| 15 | AIS VDL loading |
| 16 | VDE-SAT PDNR |
| 17 | Draft CPM text |
| 18 | Draft Work Plan WP5B |
| 19 | WP5B liaison to IALA |
| 20 | VHF data link protocols |
| 21 | IEC liaison to ITU and IALA on Identification of AIS repeater stations |
| 22 | Draft proposal for a possible numbering format for AIS repeater stations |
| 23 | Global VDE Noise Floor Characteristics |
| 24 | WD Toward Preliminary Draft New Rec ITU-R M.(VDES) |
| 25 | Investigation into AIS VDL loading |
| 26 | Draft MRCP input to ITU |
| 27 | Furuno comments on VDES |
| 28 | IALA VDE SAT polar use case |

**Output documents**

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| --- | --- |
| **Output Document** | **Title** |
| 01 | Report of the intersessional WG 3 + WG 4 meeting |
| 02 | Draft Information Paper on VDES |
| 03 | WD Toward Preliminary Draft New Rec ITU R M VDES |
| 04 | Technical Guidelines for VDES Implementation |
| 05 | Draft IALA Input to ITU for MRCP WD |
| 06 |  |

**Working Documents** (for next WG meeting)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Working Document** | **Title** |
| 01 | User requirements |
| 02 | Innovative use of AIS going towards VDES |
| 03 |  |