



Mr Kitack Lim  
Secretary-General  
International Maritime Organisation  
4 Albert Embankment  
London, SE1 7SR  
ANGLETERRE



Our ref: WVTSG/16-091

Saint Germain en Laye, March 22, 2016

### **CLOSURE OF WORLD VTS GUIDE**

Dear Secretary-General

For more than twenty years, the World VTS Guide has provided mariners with information on Vessel Traffic Services Worldwide, first as a publication and more recently on-line. The Guide has been managed by an Advisory Board whose members have been drawn from a wide range of maritime interests. The Guide has been a trusted reference source for two decades.

At its last meeting, the Advisory Board considered advice that developments in on-line technology and in e-navigation mean that VTS information is now available to the navigator directly from the VTS services themselves or from authorised nautical or hydrographic sources. For this reason, and seeing no benefit for the mariner in the Guide duplicating this information, the Advisory Board decided that the Guide should cease operations on 1st July 2016. The website will cease provision of VTS information on this date.

The World VTS Guide is mentioned in IMO Resolution A.857(20).

It was a great pleasure to meet you again during the “e-Navigation Underway” conference in Copenhagen, and I look forward to seeing you during the VTS Symposium in Kuala Lumpur.

Yours sincerely

Francis Zachariae  
Secretary-General

10, rue des Gaudines - 78100 Saint Germain en Laye, France  
Tél. +33 (0)1 34 51 70 01 - Fax +33 (0)1 34 51 82 05 - [contact@iala-aism.org](mailto:contact@iala-aism.org)  
[www.iala-aism.org](http://www.iala-aism.org)

International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities  
Association Internationale de Signalisation Maritime