Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) ARM18-7.3.1

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

**☑** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **☑** Input

**□** ENAV**□** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) 7.3

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 Task 1.2.2

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Consideration on Guideline for Buoy Tender Activities

# Summary

Buoy tender activities are important to the management of AtoN, whose safety risk is higher than other activities. Due to the particularity, there are obvious differences between buoy tender activities and other marine vessel activities. This paper puts forward some suggestions on some factors that should be considered when drafting guideline for buoy tender activities.

## Related documents

1. ENG14-3.2.9 Pre-job training course for buoy tender crew
2. ENG15-3.1.2.3 Proposals on new guidelines on buoy tender crew operation.
3. ENG16-3.1.2.7 Draft Outline for New Guideline on Buoy Tender Crew Operation
4. ENG16- 3.2.3 Liaison note to ENG regarding Buoy Tender Crew Training (ARM15-11.2.1.2)
5. ARM17-7.3.1 Liaison note to ARM regarding Buoy Tender Crew Training (ENG16-12.2.5)

# Background

Due to the nature of work, buoy tender frequently carries out activities such as lifting and launching marine equipment and facilities at the edges of waterways, shallow points, or near reefs. These activities are difficult and have high safety risks, requiring operators to have high skills and risk prevention capabilities. How to make buoy tender activities efficient and safe has always been an important aspect of the work of the competent authorities. At present, there is a lack of guidance on buoy tender activities, and some of the existing generic operation or training guidelines cannot reflect the characteristics of buoy tender.

# Discussion

An international guideline for buoy tender operation should be of general applicability, and be completed in cooperation with representatives of various countries within IALA framework. The guideline should focus on the nature of buoy tenders and highlight safety guidance, and should not be confused with other guidelines for general seagoing vessel.

## Objective of the guideline

Provide guidance for the competent authority to efficiently and reasonably arrange tender activities, provide safe operation guidelines for tender activities and assist the personnel responsible for tender activities to identify safety risks and take measures.

## Scope of the guideline

It is applicable to buoy tender activities including the launching, retrieval, adjustment of the buoy and some other operations like loading and unloading, transportation, towing, berthing, etc.

## Essential components of the guideline

The guideline provides safety operation guidance for buoy tender, and should contain the following information: operation machines on buoy tender, job responsibility on buoy tender, buoy character, general buoy operation procedure, safety risk, emergency response. The information included in each section is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Content | description |
| 1 | Operation machines | Introductions to buoy tender machines and equipment, including operation deck, buoy pipe, buoy store cabin, crane, winch, chain guiding device, string, rope, sleeper, tie tool and so on. |
| 2 | Job responsibility | Introductions to basic job information and responsibility of bridge, deck, and engine department. |
| 3 | Buoy character | Introductions to basic buoy characteristic relating to buoy tender operation. |
| 4 | Introductions to buoy mooring system, buoy position and method of calculation. |
| 5 | General buoy operation procedure | Loading and unloading procedure. |
| 6 | Buoy launching procedure. |
| 7 | Buoy retrieve procedure, including general retrieve operation and operation of retrieving drifting buoy. |
| 8 | Position resetting procedure. |
| 9 | Inspection of mooring system. |
| 10 | Large buoy (light ship) operation. |
| 11 | Alongside operation (fix mark/off-shore structure) |
| 12 | Safety procedure | Preparation before operation. Making work plan, preparation of machinery, collection and analysis of weather/sea/traffic information, pre-departure check. |
| 13 | Personal protection. |
| 14 | Lifting buoy at sea |
| 15 | Positioning of buoy. |
| 16 | Berthing and unberthing to buoy. |
| 17 | Loading and unloading and transfer between berth. |
| 18 | Large buoy operation. |
| 19 | Searching and recovery of drifting buoy. |
| 20 | Operation when rough sea condition. |
| 21 | Risk management | Risk checklist. |
| 22 | Controlling measures. |

1. Essential component of the guideline

## Other consideration of the guideline

In recent years, with the development of technology, the number of marine economic activities has been increasing. The rise of economic activities such as offshore wind farms and aquaculture have brought new challenges to the activities of buoy tenders. In some cases, the activities are not limited to traditional buoy maintenance activities, which are also the content that the guideline needs to consider.

# References

1. R0118 (O-118) THE RECORDING OF AIDS TO NAVIGATION POSITIONS
2. G1035 AVAILABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF AIDS TO NAVIGATION ‐ THEORY AND EXAMPLES

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to take consideration of the proposals contained in this document and take appropriate action.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)