



**IALA RECOMMENDATION**

**(INFORMATIVE)**

RXXXX

Digitalization of Marine AtoN to Enable Digital Navigation to include MASS

[MASS AND MARINE AtoN]

**Edition 1.0**

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**DOCUMENT HISTORY**

Revisions to this document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

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| **Date** | **Details** | **Approval** |
| XXXX | 1st issue | Council XX |
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**THE COUNCIL**

# RECALLING

1. The function of IALA with respect to Safety of Navigation, the efficiency of maritime transport and the protection of the environment.
2. Article 8 of the IALA Constitution regarding the authority, duties and functions of the Council.

# RECOGNIZING

1. Recommendation *RXXXX MASS and Marine AtoN* identifies additional desirable practices to consider with the advent of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships insofar as they are not adequately or fully addressed in other IALA recommendations and guidelines.
2. IALA *Guideline* *GXXXX Developments and Implications of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships for coastal authorities* is associated with this Recommendation.

**NOTING**

1. The evolving technological developments associated with MASS, including the expected adoption of:

* The non-mandatory Code for MASS in 2026; and
* The mandatory Code for MASS in 2032.

1. IALA document *The Future of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) - Future Scenarios Regarding the Development and Evolution of MASS, IALA, 2024*.
2. SOLAS regulations V/12 and V/13 recognize the establishment of vessel traffic services (VTS) and aids to navigation (AtoN), respectively. In particular:

**Vessel Traffic Services** - Regulation V/12 provides for VTS and states, inter-alia, that:

*Contracting Governments undertake to arrange for the establishment of VTS where, in their opinion, the volume of traffic or the degree of risk justifies such services; and*

*Contracting Governments planning and implementing VTS shall, wherever possible, follow the guidelines developed by the Organization* (IMO Resolution A.1158(32) on Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services).

IMO Resolution *A.1158(32) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services* states, inter-alia, that:

* *Contracting Governments are encouraged to take into account IALA standards and associated recommendations, guidelines and model courses.*
* *The competent authority for VTS should establish a regulatory framework for establishing and operating VTS in accordance with relevant international conventions and IMO instruments, IALA standards and national law.*

**Aids to Navigation** - Regulation V/13 provides for AtoN and states, inter alia, that:

*Each Contracting Government undertakes to provide, as it deems practical and necessary either individually or in co-operation with other Contracting Governments, such aids to navigation as the volume of traffic justifies and the degree of risk requires.*

*In order to obtain the greatest possible uniformity in aids to navigation, Contracting Governments undertake to take into account the international recommendations and guidelines when establishing such aids.*

*Possible PNT sentence?*

1 Refer IALA Reference List

**ADOPTS** Recommendation *RXXXX on MASS and Marine AtoN.*

**RECOMMENDS** that member States, competent authorities for VTS, AtoN authorities and VTS providers:

* Proactively review the requirements of digitalization as it relates to digital navigation (e.g. S-100) including MASS operations.
* Review their AtoN and VTS service provisions to ensure that identified existing and future digital services can operate safely and efficiently, as the volume and nature of traffic justifies and the degree of risk requires.
* Actively collaborate with neighboring authorities and IALA to ensure regional and worldwide consistency of services for the benefit of digital navigation systems including MASS, with little or no impact to existing users.

PNT piece (JvG), Omar

**REQUESTS** the IALA Committees keep this Recommendation under review and to propose amendments, as necessary.