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| **From:** | VTS Committee | ARM21-7.3.2  (VTS58-12.1.5) |
| **To:** | ARM Committee  DETEC Committee | 25 September 2025 |

**LIAISON NOTE**

**Digitalization of Marine AtoN and Services for Vessels of   
Varying Levels of Autonomy**

# introduction

The VTS Committee was invited by the ARM Committee (ARM20-11.2.3) to review the draft recommendation related to digitization of Marine AtoN (PAP56-6.1.1 and ARM20-7.3.4) and the draft RXXX Digitalization of Marine AtoN and Services for Vessels of Varying Levels of Autonomy. The VTS Committee would like to thank the ARM Committee for this opportunity.

# Discussion

At VTS58, the VTS Committee considered input paper ARM20-2.3.1/PAP56-6.1.1 containing the draft recommendation on Digitalization of Marine Aids to Navigation and Services for Vessels of Varying Levels of Autonomy.

The VTS Committee agreed on the following remarks:

* The draft recommendation recognizes the IALA Guideline on VTS interaction with a mix of conventional, automated and autonomous ships. The VTS Committee would like to inform the ARM Committee that this guideline was not approved by Council and that the VTS Committee has noted the agreement at PAP to pause work on MASS-related documents until an IALA recommendation on MASS is finalized and approved. Due to this the VTS Committee would invite the ARM Committee to delete the text in the draft recommendation related to the guideline on VTS interaction.
* Under the section “RECOMMENDS” there seems to be a need for an editorial amendment. This section should be amended to include “….competent authorities for VTS and AtoN, and…..”.
* Furthermore, under the section “RECOMMENDS”, the first bullet point would provide a stronger recommendation using the word “consider” rather than the word “review”.

# Action requested

1. The ARM committee is requested to note the remarks from the VTS Committee and make amendments to the draft recommendation as deemed necessary.