IALA Conference 2018

**EMBRACING NEW TECHNOLOGY IN AID TO NAVIGATION PROVISION**

**The balance of embracing new technology against the continued requirements for traditional Aids to Navigation**

The huge advancement of tools available to promote and assist the safe navigation of the vessel both on and off the vessel cannot be underestimated.

My paper will discuss the pro’s and con’s of many developments exploring real time experiences to demonstrate the many positive elements whilst recognising the areas where caution must be exercised when making decisions on future requirements.

GIS overlays together with abstracts from the IALA Risk assessment tool box, including IWRAP, will be used to underpin particular examples.

The changing Maritime landscape, including the restriction of available sea-room due to renewable energy developments, has increased the requirements to explore all areas of risk mitigation. We must ensure that whilst not discouraging these developments the safe passage of the Mariner remains a priority and use of technological advances can certainly provide for additional risk mitigation measures.

The provision of visual aids to navigation has not stood still with, for example, the use of synchronised lights improving visual conspicuity hugely in some approach channels, but there will always be room for new innovative ideas and these will be explored in my paper.

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