



IALA RECOMMENDATION

R0132

QUALITY MANAGEMENT FOR MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES

Edition 3.0

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International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation



DOCUMENT REVISION

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

Date	Details	Approval
December 2005	1 st issue	
October 2006	Edition 2 Entire Document Updated to reflect implementation of the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme.	
December 2013	Edition 2.1. Entire Document Minor edits and removal of references to withdrawn IALA Guideline 1034 on Product Certification.	
September 2020	Edition 2.2 Editorial corrections.	
December 2024	Edition 3.0 Entire Document Updated to reflect developments of QMS practices, including the adoption of IALA Guideline XXXX Quality Management Practices for Vessel Traffic Service Providers.	Transition Council 3

THE COUNCIL

RECALLING that:

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 that:

1. IALA fosters the safe, economic and efficient movement of vessels through improvement and harmonization of marine aids to navigation, including vessel traffic services (VTS), world-wide.
2. Quality Management Systems are recognized internationally through various mechanisms that ensure consistency, effectiveness, and adherence to standards on a continuous basis across different industries and countries.

NOTING that:

1. Quality Management Systems provide a structured framework of policies, processes, procedures, and resources that an organization establishes to ensure its services consistently meet stakeholder requirements and regulatory standards.
2. The IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) assists members improve their abilities and overall performance by assessing how effectively they administer and implement mandatory IMO instruments using a quality management system that meets a globally recognized standard.
3. 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.”

4. IALA Recommendation *R0132 Quality Management in Marine Aids to Navigation* provides the framework to assist authorities implement Quality Management.
5. IALA guidelines related to Quality Management include, but are not necessarily restricted to:
 - G1052 Use of Quality Management Systems for Aids to Navigation Service Delivery*
 - GXXXX** *Quality Management Practices for VTS Providers*
 - G1101 Auditing and Assessing a VTS*
 - G1115 Preparing for an IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) on VTS*
 - G1054 on Preparing for an IMO Audit on Aids to Navigation Service Delivery*
 - G1168 on Quality Control of Third-Party AtoN Service Providers*

ADOPTS Recommendation *R0132 Quality Management in Marine Aids to Navigation*.

RECOMMENDS Authorities responsible for Marine aids to Navigation contribute to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of their operation on a continuous basis by implementing a quality management system.

INVITES Members to implement the provisions of the Recommendation and its associated guidelines on Quality Management.

REQUESTS the IALA Committees or such other committee as the Council may direct to keep this Recommendation under review and to propose amendments as necessary.