

7 – NATIONAL MATTERS

7.4 Finland

National Matters Update by Finland

Sector light with oscillating sector boundaries deployed in the port of Inkoo

During winter season 2023, a new floating LNG terminal was established in the southern Finland, Port of Inkoo. The location was chosen because from there, it was possible to connect the terminal to the existing gas pipeline network. The terminal ensures the steady gas supply for the industry, energy production, and households, enhancing Finland's security of supply.

The terminal is frequently visited by large LNG supply vessels. Size of these vessels (length up to 300m, breadth up to 50 m) exceed the dimensions of the design ship for this fairway. The approach channel to the port is thus very narrow for the vessels in use, and there is extremely little room to deviate from the centre line of the fairway. To improve identification of the vessels lateral position, it was decided to use sector light with an oscillating sector boundaries (Figure 1).

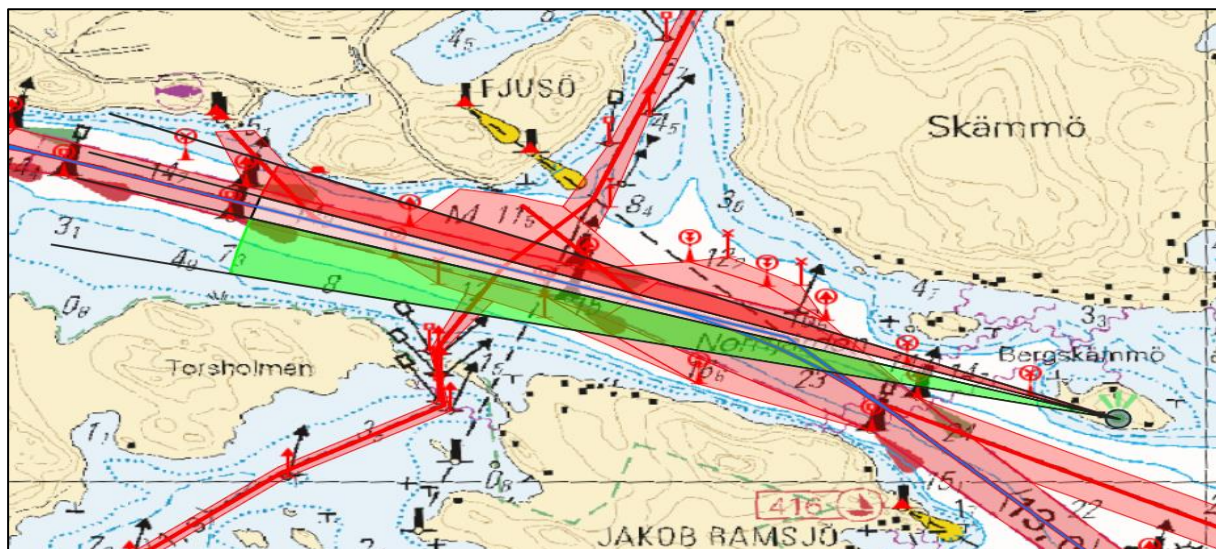


Figure 1. Sector light with oscillating sector boundaries deployed in approach channel to Port of Inkoo.

There was no previous experience on the use of oscillating sector lanterns in Finland. During the project, it was noted that IALA has very limited guidance on the use of this type of sector lights. They are mentioned in the *R1001 The IALA MBS* and in *G1041 Sector Lights*, but both provide currently very little actual design assistance. It might be beneficial to share experiences among IALA members on the use of sector lights with oscillating sectors and to provide more detailed guidance on the harmonized way to use these AtoNs.