 Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS39-9.2.3

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **X** Input

**□** ENAV **X** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) 9.2

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 TD 2 Technology

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Capt. Jacinto de Sousa / Mathieu Aillerie / SIGNALIS

Reservation on current status of IALA V128 recommendation

# Summary

SIGNALIS appreciates the important work of VTS committee WG2 on the V128 recommendation revision and recognizes the real improvement of the V128 document since Edition 3.

However, SIGNALIS requests the committee to consider further improvement of this recommendation before acceptation and publication

# Background

Considering that:

* VTS38 considers that the document has still two major concerns which are the size of the recommendation and the text of chapter 1 (Core Operational Requirements).
* The mandate of the inter-sessional meeting was limited to review the text of chapter 1 of the document.
* Objectives of the Edition 4 revisions were to make the document more user-friendly and several members of WG2, in particular, and of the VTS Committee, in general, consider that this objective has not been achieved.
* The need for improvement of the V128 document has been raised again in the last inter-sessional meeting without finding a consensus.

However, the second invitation to VTS39, April 13 to 17, 2015 at IALA Hqs” dated 18.02.2015 and the first bullet point of the Important information and special attention for VTS39 states that

*“All members are reminded to the following IALA Recommendation V-128 has been revised during an inter-sessional meeting in January. The result and the report of that meeting are available as input documents for VTS39 on the IALA web-site (VTS39-9.2.1 and VTS39-9.2.2). During VTS39 the draft revised recommendation will be put up for approval as agreed during VTS38. Be prepared that the acceptation procedure will not go through the document page-by-page.”*

# Discussion

SIGNALIS feels that this “special attention” on V128 in VTS39, and particularly the final sentence, is indeed an open invitation to push for a quick acceptation with limited discussion and that is not the proper and acceptable way to reach a consensus.

Moreover SIGNALIS considers that there is a need to continue to improve the readability of the document as already done for chapter 1. Improvement can be reached by harmonizing the structure of the technical chapter, linking the operational services, the requirements and the equipment performances, removing references to solution design and as a minor recommendation removing remaining typography errors.

IALA VTS Committee should not forget that technical documents or recommendations on equipment performance should follow on operational requirements and not the other way around. Indeed, V128 should focus primarily on VTS equipment performance and robustness following operational requirements and user needs. V128 must not dwell on fine technical details on how to reach that performance and robustness. The practical solutions to achieve the final results should be left for manufacturers and those may very well differ from one manufacturer to the next.

V128 should be left sufficiently open to accommodate new technologies and systems on offer emerging every new day. Finally, that choice must be left for national VTS authorities and/or integrating companies, again naturally following IALA’s recommendations.

Therefore, SIGNALIS is not in position to support the immediate approval of the V128 recommendation in its current status.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Consider further time for improvement of this recommendation before acceptation and publication
2. To discuss this input paper at plenary prior to the breaking-up into working groups.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)