 Input paper: VTS40-10.1.4

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

**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP x Input

**□** ENAV **x** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[1]](#footnote-1) n.n

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 TD3

Author(s) / Submitter(s) LtCDR Barbara MAGRO, Lt Michele LANDI IT Coast Guard

VTS Manager Training

# Summary

The importance of training of personnel working in maritime sector is a key element, internationally recognized, in increasing the safety of navigation.

IMO Res. A 857 (20) underlines that is essential that VTS personnel be adequately qualified and trained to carry out their functions, and the standards for this qualification and training should be agreed upon internationally to a large extent. A major factor in the efficient operation of a VTS centre is the standard of competence of its whole personnel.

IALA V 103 Recommendation points out different professional positions operating in VTS Centres with different competences, knowledge and responsibilities: VTS Operator, VTS Supervisor and VTS Manager.

For each professional position the IALA recommendation V 103 draft a job description and the possible career progression.

Model Courses IALA V103/1 and V 103/2 also define the training programme for VTS Operator and Supervisor, but there is a lack of Model Courses – or equivalent - for VTS Manager’s training.

Considering the need of standardisation in the training process, an internationally agreed training programme for VTS Manager, should be desirable .

## Purpose of the document

The Committee is requested to consider the need for the provision of a specific model course or additional guidance on training to ensure efficiency of VTS Manager activities.

## Related documents

IALA Recommendation V 103 on the Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel, at section 3.2 describes VTS Manager professional position and career progression; Appendix 5 defines VTS Manager job description.

# Background

In order to carry out the duties required by a VTS Authority, VTS personnel should be appropriately trained and qualified to IALA V-103 standards. This means that VTS training is performed according to the Model Courses developed by IALA.

VTS Authorities should ensure that Managers of VTS Centres receive adequate training in all aspects of VTS appropriate to their responsibilities and introduce arrangements which ensure that the necessary level of competence in VTS is maintained.

# Discussion

Considering the importance of training and the higher specialisation of personnel linked, on one hand, to theory of work organisation and, on the other hand, to new technologies, there’s a need for highly qualified personnel who will be able to manage all the activities in a VTS Centre.

As per IALA V 103, the VTS Manager is responsible for managing and coordinating the activities of the VTS centre on behalf of the VTS Authority.

## Training/ educational need

Bearing in mind the tasks, competences and responsibilities of a VTS Manager and the related educational needs, the following scheme shows the subjects suggested in an hypothetical standard training programme to be performed. This subjects may be considered as prerequisites requested for performing VTS manager tasks or as modules of a specific training course. A VTS Operator and Supervisor knowledge, competence and qualification should be requested:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Tasks/competences (according to IALA V 103) and related**  **training needs** | **Prerequisites or Subjects** | **Purpose aim of training/education** |
| * Ensuring that the aims and objectives of the VTS are met at all times; * Ensuring that the standards set by the Competent/VTS Authority for operator qualifications and training are met; * Ensuring that the training and certification of VTS personnel are appropriate to the service types being provided; * Ensuring VTS quality standards are maintained; * Maintaining awareness of continuing development for the VTS centre(s); | Quality Management System | **Purpose:** having the necessary knowledge on QMS in order to apply this methodology to VTS Centre. |
| * Ensuring that the aims and objectives of the VTS are met at all times; * Ensuring that all VTS operations follow current rules, regulations and legislation; * Planning and developing of emergency procedures as appropriate to the VTS area of responsibility; * Ensuring that all adopted standard operating procedures are reviewed and amended as required; * Managing and co-ordinating financial, technical and human resources; | VTS Management  Including  Crew/Board Resource Management applied to VTS | **Purpose**:   * Provide the necessary training for planning VTS Regulation, the VTS manual and managing all other information of interest to the VTS Centre, according to the standards provided by the management systems and taking account of the various port and areas to be audited / monitoring. * Provide the necessary training/knowledge for an efficient management of a VTS Centre, optimizing the resources available, making operations safer and more efficient, reduce stress levels and increase the efficiency of teamwork at the VTS Centres. |
| * Developing and maintaining a good public information and relations program; * Ensuring compliance with evidentiary provisions in the event of an incident or accident occurring in the VTS area. * ensuring that all such events are properly recorded and readily available for examination by the Competent/VTS Authority. | Emergency Communication | **Purpose**: Manage strategies to develop proper communication in crisis situation that has in the media and in public opinion the main targets of comparison |

# References

1. IMO A.857(20)
2. IALA V 103 Recommendation: Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel;

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to consider the need for the provision of a new Model Course, or additional guidance on training to assist maritime training organisations and their teaching staff in ensuring efficiency of VTS Manager activities.

1. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-1)