Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS46-8.1.1

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) (from agenda) 8.1

Workplan Task Number2 …………………………………

Working Group

Author(s) / Submitter(s) IALA Secretariat

Develop a Model Course on planning, implementing, operating and managing a VTS

# Summary

At VTS45, the IALA World-Wide Academy was requested to prepare a scope for task 1.1.3 on the development of a Model Course on planning, implementing, operating and managing a VTS. This paper presents a draft framework for such a Model Course.

# PRELIMINARY SCOPE

The VTS Committee has been tasked with preparing a Model Course on planning, implementing, operating and managing a VTS. Originally, this task included reference to ‘developing countries’ but this term was proposed for removal at VTS45 as it was considered that this Model Course may be of wider applicability. VTS45 proposed that the Academy prepare a scope for this Model Course and present it to a future VTS Committee meeting for review and subsequent approval.

This document proposes a preliminary framework for a model course that:

* Would be suitable for either distance learning or direct delivery either in whole or on a modular basis,
* Presents various elements of VTS planning and implementation in a logical sequence,
* Draws extensively on IMO and IALA standards to promote their international implementation,
* Assessment methods may be based around the use of practical exercises and case studies either based on a real or fictitious area,

**Module 1 – Understanding the VTS International Regulatory Framework**

Reference instruments: SOLAS Ch V Reg 12, A.857(20), V-102

* Explain the responsibilities under SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 12
  + Aim/definition of VTS,
  + Volume of traffic and degree of risk,
  + Compliance with IMO Guidelines,
  + Mandatory use of VTS,
  + Securing participation and compliance with VTS,
  + IMSAS obligations.

**Module 2 – Determining the need for a VTS**

Reference instruments: SOLAS Ch V Reg 12, A.857(20), V-119, V-120, R1018

* Explain how to assess the volume of traffic and degree of risk,
* Describe the benefits of effectively implementing underpinning instruments and methodology to determine the need for a VTS including:
  + A.857(20),
  + Recommendation V-119,
  + IALA Risk Management Toolbox (introduce all tools but focus on SIRA as an exercise?).
* Identify and explain how of other means of traffic management or aids to navigation strategies may reduce the need or avoid the need for VTS implementation,
* Describe a possible national regulatory framework for the implementation of a VTS:
  + National legal structure,
  + Appointment, roles and responsibilities of a Competent Authority and VTS Authority,
  + Funding and budgetary issues for VTS implementation.

**Module 3 – Defining and implementing VTS area**

Reference instruments: A.857(20), V-119, V-120, V-127, R1018

* Explain how to determine proportionate boundaries to satisfy the volume of traffic and degree of risk,
* Describe the considerations relevant when determining the configuration of a VTS area (sectors/reporting requirements),
* Identify and describe the legal and regulatory framework required to implement a VTS Authority.

**Module 4 – Developing operational objectives and procedures**

Reference instruments: V-127, R1012

* Explain the benefits of preparing operational objectives for a VTS,
* Describe the scope and type of operational procedures,
* Explain how quality management systems may be implemented in the VTS context.

**Module 5 – Managing VTS personnel, training and certification**

Reference instruments: R0103

* Explain the principles for the determination of manning levels and organisational structure,
* Describe the recruitment and selection options for VTS personnel,
* Identify and describe the training and certification standards relevant to VTS operations:
  + External training (V-103/1, 2, 4 & 5),
  + Internal training (V-103/3 & 5).

**Module 6 – Developing operational requirements for VTS equipment and systems**

Reference instruments: V-128, R1014

* Describe the processes for selecting the location and requirements for a VTS Centre,
* Describe the various components and technologies that may be considered when determining potential types of VTS system and equipment,
* Explain how to prepare effective operational requirement for VTS systems and equipment,
* Describe how to work effectively with suppliers and contractors.

**Module 7 – Liaison with stakeholders and allied services**

Reference instruments: V-119, V-127

* Identify key allied services and stakeholders,
* Describe how to develop effective working arrangements and protocols with stakeholders and allied services.

**Module 8 – The role of VTS in emergency and contingency management in VTS**

Reference instruments: V-127

* Describe the role of a VTS in emergency management,
* Explain the benefits of business continuity planning in VTS,
* Identify and describe the role of VTS in security management.

**Module 9 – Continual improvement and development in VTS**

Reference instruments: R1013

* Explain how to assess the operational performance of a VTS (operations, personnel, technology),
* Explain the benefits of implementing incident and near-miss reporting in VTS,
* Describe the benefits and process of VTS audit.

# development of a course or guideline

It is foreseen that this framework may be considered as a document identifying training needs for individuals who may be involved in the planning, implementation, operation and management of a VTS. Whilst the content could be prepared as a Model Course, an alternative option may be to develop a new Guideline covering ‘training needs for those involved in the planning and implementation of a VTS’.

This would result in the content being flexible and capable of easy usage through the provision of options, suggestions and best practices related to the identification and management of training needs for those involved in the planning and implementation of a VTS.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Consider the scope of the Model Course or Guideline.
2. Consider whether the task should be the production of a Model Course or Guideline to ensure that the appropriate type of document is produced to ensure effective implementation.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Input papers should be assigned to a work task as listed in the Committee work plan which is available in input papers. Leave open if uncertain but consider how the paper is to be processed if not relevant to a work task [↑](#footnote-ref-2)