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Technical Domain / Task Number 2 …………………………………

Author(s) / Submitter(s) The Nautical Institute

The Nautical Institute – Scheme of Audit for Accreditation (VTS Training)

# Summary

This paper is to introduce IALA members to the services provided by The Nautical Institute (NI) and, in particular, the audit for accreditation of VTS training in accordance with IALA standards and recommendations.

The NI is the international organisation for maritime professionals and has NGO status at the IMO. It is an educational charity with over 30 years of international experience of training accreditation for authorities and industry in areas such as dynamic positioning (DP), oil spill clean-up and ballast control for semi-submersible rigs.

## Purpose of the document

This paper provides information on the NI scheme of audit for accreditation of VTS Training.

## Related documents

Related documents include IALA Standards S1040 on VTS; S1050 on Training and Certification; Recommendation R0103 (formerly V-103); O-149; IALA V-103 series model courses; and IALA Guideline 1014 on Accreditation and Approval of VTS Training.

# Background

As of May 2018, the IALA General Assembly approved a suite of seven IALA Standards, including making the recommendations on training and certification of VTS and AtoN personnel, as well as the associated accreditation scheme for training organisations delivering IALA Model Courses, normative. S-1040 focuses specifically on VTS while S-1050 focuses on training and accreditation. In addition, IALA Recommendation O-149 covers accreditation of training organisations. Supporting documentation from IALA for VTS and VTS training includes Recommendation R-0103 (VTS) and the suite of supporting model courses, IALA Guideline 1014 (edition 3) on the accreditation and approval process for VTS Training, and a number of other related Guidelines.

# NI Scheme of audit for Accreditation of VTS Training

Accreditation is defined by the NI as the systematic verification, in accordance with defined standards, of the processes, procedures, methods and techniques employed to deliver a maritime training product or service. For example, with DP, the NI accredits both training institutes and training programmes against industry standards. For VTS, the NI can provide audit services, leading to accreditation, as defined by the IALA Standards, Recommendations and Guidelines.

Training providers seeking accreditation from a competent authority will be able to demonstrate that their product or service meets the standard required for accreditation through an audit by the NI. The award of accreditation by a competent authority is normally valid for a period of not more than five years. Within the IALA accreditation framework, the competent authority of a member country issues the accreditation through direct contact with IALA. The NI can provide all services leading to the accreditation by a competent authority including an audit and report, to which the competent authority can refer to when notifying IALA of accreditation of VTS training.

## The NI service for audit of VTS training

The NI is offering its services to competent authorities and training organisations in compliance with the requirements of IALA in line with S-1050 (Standard for Training and Certification), O-149 (Accreditation of training organisations), and R0103 (formerly V-103) (Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel).

The NI will carry out the audits on behalf of the competent authority and report back to them with professional recommendations.

The NI has decades of experience in audit and accreditation of training in the maritime environment. Specifically, the NI has:

* Proven international experience and a good reputation
* International harmonised standards
* The necessary technical expertise in auditing (qualified auditors)
* The necessary technical expertise in VTS operations
* Cost effective processes
* A focus on professional development.

In addition, through its membership of IALA, the NI will provide feedback on VTS to ensure that standards continually improve.

## Experience and Expertise of the NI

As a representative body, the Institute fulfils its role in many different ways. It provides the strongest possible professional focus, dedicated to improving standards of those involved in control of seagoing craft, while maintaining the NI as an international centre of nautical excellence. The NI represents the professional views of its members on the safety and efficiency of shipping operations to and within international, national and local bodies. Further, the NI cooperates with government departments and other bodies concerned with statutory and other qualifications. It also works with universities and other educational institutes and authorities to develop education and training in nautical science and practice.

The NI membership represents experience and proven qualifications, including IALA R0103 certification, and helps to influence international standards. The NI’s technical committees ensure that professional opinion and advice is fed back to the industry’s decision-making bodies. Publications written by practitioners for practitioners provide the best operational guidance available and its branches over the world encourage professional development in their local areas.

NI members include VTS experts, with recent and relevant experience in the field of both operations and training for VTS. This, coupled with its significant experience in training accreditation, means the NI has the relevant expertise and experience to deal with accreditation and certification services. These are a major component in determining and maintaining qualifications of the any workforce.

## Providing an audit service for VTS Training accreditation

The NI, based on the above-mentioned credentials, competence, experience and expertise, is ready to offer its services through a scheme of audit for accreditation of VTS training. It will be able to administer this audit for accreditation scheme successfully based on more than 30 years of experience of managing the industry’s DP scheme, which is universally accepted.

Further information can be found at:

* [www.nautinst.org](http://www.nautinst.org)
* [www.nialexisplatform.org/accreditation/](https://www.nialexisplatform.org/accreditation/)
* [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYRojkxROs8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYRojkxROs8)

# Conclusion

The NI is capable and has the capacity to assist competent authorities to meet their statutory requirements within their jurisdictions under the IALA S-1050 Standard for accreditation of VTS training.

For those competent authorities looking for specialist resources in this area, the NI offers a proven, cost effective service that will not only meet the international standard, but, as a professional body and NGO, will work to continually improve it for the benefit of all.

Please feel free to contact [accreditations@nautinst.org](mailto:accreditations@nautinst.org) for a quote or further information.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to note the Nautical Institute Scheme of Audit for VTS Training Accreditation, and contact the NI for further information.

A representative of the NI will be available during VTS47 to provide additional information as may be required.

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