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

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Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) 10

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 3.3.1

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Australian Maritime Safety Authority

Comments on Outcomes from IALA Training Workshop

# Purpose of the document

This document provides a summary of the outcomes from a workshop in Australia to review the outcomes from the recent IALA workshop entitled *“VTS Training and Qualifications, 2020 and beyond*” (Refer *VTS49-10.3.4 VTS Training and Qualifications Workshop Report*).

# discussion

The Australian VTS Advisory Group hosted a workshop session on 29 July to review the outcomes from the recent IALA workshop entitled “*VTS Training and Qualifications, 2020 and beyond*”.

Noting the IALA workshop did not consider Module 4 - Nautical Knowledge and Module 8 - Emergency Situations, these were not considered by the Advisory Group.

The Australian workshop focussed on identifying the core requirements of VTS authorities for trainees to be formally assessed as qualified and competent to undertake day-to-day duties associated with VTS operations.

In summary, the workshop identified contents and elements of the existing Model course that:

* Need to be reviewed / updated.
* Are not included in the existing curriculum
* May be better included with On-the-Job training.
* May be better considered as a pre-requisite for undertaking V-103/1.
* May be better included in new/revised informative guidance documentation.

As with the IALA workshop, the Modules and associated elements were ranked 1-5.

The key outcomes from the workshop are at Annex 1.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to forward this document and Annex 1 to Working Group 3 for consideration in progressing the preparation of new Guideline on Recruitment, Training and Assessment of VTS Personnel (Task 3.3.1).

# Annex 1 - key outcomes from the workshop

| **Module** | **Element** | **Key outcomes / conclusions** | **Rating** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1 - Language** |  | Suggest the elements of Module 1 should focus on VTS Communications as opposed to Language. The elements of the module should be updated to reflect the IALA documentation relating to message markers, voice communications and phraseology.  It is proposed that the module should be renamed to “**Communication and Interaction**” to reflect this.  Where candidates may not have achieved the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) level 5, or its equivalent, it should be a prerequisite that a recognised bridging course is undertaken.  This revised module should also include an element on **Communication Techniques,** including sub-elements such as:   * Interaction * Conflict resolution/negotiation * Effectiveness in conveying messages   Communication and phraseology should be prominent in simulation exercises. | 1 |
| **2 – Traffic Management** |  | The current module should be split into two modules:   * **Regulatory and legal Framework** * **Traffic Management Measures** (including a component on compliance and enforcement)   While parts of the existing elements may be carried forward to the proposed new modules, a major update is required to include the new elements described below. |  |
|  | **Regulatory requirements** | The contents of this element requires extensive review / updating and should be included in the new proposed **Regulatory and legal Framework** module. It is suggested that the following elements are included:   * UNCLOS * SOLAS * IMO Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services * COLREGs * IALA Standards * National Law * Local provisions | 1 |
| **Roles and responsibilities** | Roles and responsibilities should be included at a high-level in the proposed **Regulatory and legal Framework** module – with a focus being more on the whole team / bridge team.  Further, it is recommended that the VTS authority should cover this in more depth in OJT based on the local VTS area. | 2 |
|  | **VTS Environment** | Current contents should be reviewed/updated and included under the proposed **Traffic Management Measures** module. | 1 |
|  | **Principles of waterway and traffic management** | Current contents should be reviewed/updated and included under the proposed **Traffic Management Measures** module.  Further, the suggestions from the IALA Workshop  (eg slot management, anchorage areas) could be considered as other examples. | 1 |
|  | **Traffic monitoring and organisation** | This module should be revised/updated to align with the new IMO resolution. It is suggested that 4 new elements be created under the proposed **Traffic Management Measures** module , that is:   * **Situation Awareness**   + Current traffic   + Predicted traffic   + Allied services   + Participating and non-participating ships * **Provision of timely and relevant information**   + Traffic information   + Navigation information   + Regular / routine / deemed necessary   + Meteorological information   + ENAV (e.g. route exchange) * **Monitoring and management of vessel traffic**   + Monitoring - Traffic image (Radar, AIS, CCTV, Inmarsat C, RDF)   + Early detection and intervention - Interaction before anything goes wrong   + Use of Decision Support Tools (alarms, etc)   + Decision making   + Under Keel Clearance   + Air Draft clearance   + Vessel type and characteristics * **Responding to unsafe situations**   + a ship unsure of its route or position   + a ship that has defects or deficiencies, such as navigation or manoeuvring equipment failure   + a ship at risk of grounding, collision or sinking | 1 |
| **3 - Equipment** | **Telecommunications** | Not required.  These sub-elements should be a prerequisite and included in the OJT provided by the VTS authority (based on their equipment/technologies). | 4 |
|  | **Radar, audio, video and other sensors** | These element topics should be restructured to focus on the basic theory of equipment, its limitations, and what is currently available in the market place for the following equipment:.   * Radar (ARPA) * AIS * VHF * CCTV * Met/Hydro sensors * Fusing of Targets   The recording and replay of equipment should be covered in OJT as oppose to V103 course as this will vary depending on the VTS’s equipment.  Similarly, it is difficult to teach generically about decision support tools and this should be covered as OJT using the equipment available at the VTS. | 1 |
|  | **VHF Direction finding (VHF/DF)** | 3 |
|  | **Tracking systems** | 3 |
|  | **Information management** | 4 |
|  | **Equipment performance monitoring** | 3 |
|  | **Evolving technologies** | Not required. | 4 |
| **4 – Nautical Knowledge** |  | Not considered by the IALA Workshop |  |
| **5 – Communication Coordination** | **General communication skills** | This module is not required.  Where English is not the first language consideration should be given to including elements / sub-elements of the existing Module 5 into Module 1.  Future informative guidelines could be developed on these areas to assist. | 4 |
|  | **Cultural aspects and common understanding of messages communicated** | 2 |
|  | **Communications** | 2 |
|  | **Log and record keeping** | Not required – this should be included in OJT provided by the VTS authority (based on their corporate requirements). | 4 |
|  | **Statement and report writing** | 4 |
| **6 – VHF Radio** | **Radio operator practices and procedures** | Not required – this should be a pre-requisite to undertaking a V-103/1 course. | 4 |
|  | **VHF radio systems and their use in VTS** | These elements should be restructured to focus on the basic theory of equipment, its limitations and what equipment is currently available.  As oppose to retaining a separate module, it is proposed that relevant elements from the existing Module 6 are included in the module on Equipment. | 2 |
|  | **Operation of radio equipment** | 1 |
|  | **Communication procedures, including SAR** | Communication procedures are relevant (eg message markers, etiquette) and should be incorporated under the module on Communications and Phraseology. | 1 |
| **7 – Personal Attributes** | **Interaction with others and human relation skills** | Not required - contents of this Module would be better covered in OJT delivered by the VTS Authority as corporate policies are difficult to teach generically. For example:   * Human Resource / Recruitment policies * Corporate/Government/VTS Authority polices   Further, if VTS Authorities undertake aptitude testing to help select candidates then individuals should already have good communication and team skillsets.  Suggest that a new module be introduced on “**Administrative Aspects”** which covers the principles of effective handovers, reporting and log keeping procedures. These activities should be tested in simulation sessions. | 4 |
|  | **Responsibility and reliability** | 4 |
| **8 – Emergency Situations** |  | Not considered by the IALA Workshop |  |

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