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| **From:** | **VTS Committee** | VTS51-13.2.x |
| **To:** | **IALA Secretariat** | 7 October 2021 |

**LIAISON NOTE**

**Updates to the VTS Manual (Task 1.4.1)**

# introduction

This document summarises proposed editorial amendments to the VTS Manual following VTS51 as described in the framework for synchronising the review and update of the contents of the Manual.

# background

With the release of VTS Manual 2021 (the Manual), the primary means of distribution is in a digital format.

A key reason for moving to a digital format was that the Manual could be readily updated in ‘real time’ to reflect new or revised IALA Standards and associated Recommendations, Guidelines and Model Courses relating to VTS, as they are approved by Council.

# Discussion

The Policy Advisory Panel approved the framework for synchronising the review and update of the contents of the Manual in February 2021 (*PAP41-5.11.2.1*).

Under the framework, the VTS Committee is responsible for maintaining a standing Task Item in the Committees Work Programme and associated Task Register to:

* Monitor the development/completion of new or revised documents;
* Consider new/revised contents for the Manual when new/revised documents are being prepared for forwarding to Council for approval.
* Include proposals for new/revised contents to the Manual as appropriate when forwarding new/revised documents to Council for approval.
* Assess the need for a comprehensive review of the Manual and the preparation of a new edition as an ongoing task.

The proposed editorial amendments to the Manual following VTS51 include updated text to reflect changes associated with new/revised documents completed at VTS51 and forwarded to Council for approval (Annex A). This includes:

1. The package of documents associated with the update to IALA VTS Documentation on Adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services (Task 1.1.1.2). In addition to editorial amendments to align with the new Resolution the package also proposes withdrawal of:

* *Guideline 1071 – Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond Territorial Seas*; and
* *Recommendation R0102 (V-102) – The Application of the ‘User Pays’ Principle to Vessel Traffic Services.*

**Note:** The revision of *Guideline 1089 – Provision of a VTS* to align with the new Resolution has already been approved by Council, pending adoption of the new Resolution by the IMO Assembly in December 2021. Minor edits are included to reflect the new guideline name (ie. Omission of INS, TOS and NAS).

1. New *Guideline XXXX – VTS in Inland Waters.*
2. New *Guideline XXXX – VTS Management.*
3. Revised *Guideline 1110 - Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel*.
4. Revised *Guideline 1014 - Accreditation of VTS Training Organizations and Approval to Deliver IALA VTS Model Courses.*

The opportunity for minor editorial amendments identified since the current version was released (e.g. the use of capitals) have also been included.

Recognising the pending adoption of the new Resolution, the package of 23 IALA documents associated with the update to VTS Documentation on adoption of the ‘new’ IMO Resolution and Council approval of the new/revised Guidelines above it was concluded that:

* Draft amendments to the Manual be prepared
* The draft amendments be forwarded to Secretariat for appropriate action pending the outcomes from the IMO Assembly and Council in December.

**Action requested**

That IALA Secretariat action the editorial amendments to the VTS Manual described in Annex A, as appropriate, pending the outcomes from the IMO Assembly regarding the ‘new’ VTS resolution and Council approval of the documents forwarded from VTS51.

**Annex A**

**VTS Manual**

**Updated text to reflect changes associated with new/revised documents completed at VTS51**

The following documents were completed at VTS51 and forwarded to Council for approval:

1. A package of documents associated with the update to IALA VTS Documentation on Adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services (VTS51 XXX). In addition to editorial amendments to align with the new Resolution the package also proposes withdrawal of:

* *Guideline 1071 – Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond Territorial Seas*; and
* *Recommendation R0102 (V-102) – The Application of the ‘User Pays’ Principle to Vessel Traffic Services.*

**Note:** The revision of *Guideline 1089 – Provision of a VTS* to align with the new Resolution has already been approved by Council, pending adoption of the new Resolution by the IMO Assembly in December 2021.

1. New *Guideline XXXX – VTS in Inland Waters.* This is a new Guideline and replaces existing *Recommendation 0120 Vessel Traffic Services in Inland Waters* (which will be withdrawn).
2. New *Guideline XXXX – VTS Management.* This is a new Guideline.
3. Revised *Guideline 1110 - Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel*.
4. Revised *Guideline 1014 - Accreditation of VTS Training Organizations and Approval to Deliver IALA VTS Model Courses.*

Note - Suggested amendments / new text highlighted in yellow.

For Secretariat – Would there be benefits in standardising the file names used for the links?

| **New guideline on VTS in Inland Waters** | |
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| **VTS Manual** | **Proposed amendment/s** |
| **Section 3 - VTS Implementation** | **3. VTS IMPLEMENTATION**  **3.1. Introduction**  The implementation of a VTS to improve the safety and efficiency of navigation, safety of life at sea and the protection of the marine environment for a particular waterway, and its ongoing operation, is a significant investment.  ~~IALA Standard 1040 Vessel Traffic Services references IALA Recommendations that specify the practices associated with implementing and establishing VTS. These include:~~  ~~■ Recommendation 0119 - Establishment of VTS~~  ■ ~~Recommendation 0120 - Vessel Traffic Services in Inland Waters.~~  ■ ~~Recommendation 0102 - The Application of the User Pays Principle to Vessel Traffic Services.~~  IALA Standard 1040 Vessel Traffic Services specifies the practices associated with implementing and establishing VTS in *Recommendation 0119 - Establishment of VTS*.  **3.2. Recommendation 0119 - Establishment of VTS**  Recommendation 0119 specifies the practices associated with the implementation of VTS as prescribed in SOLAS regulation V/12 (Vessel Traffic Services).  Guidelines describing how to implement the practices specified in Recommendation 0119 include:  ■ Guideline 1050 - Establishing, Planning and Implementing VTS.  ~~■ Guideline 1071 - Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond territorial seas~~.  ■ Guideline 1083 - Standard nomenclature to identify and refer to Vessel Traffic Service centres.  ■ Guideline 1142 - The provision of Local Port Services other than VTS.   |  | | --- | | **IALA Recommendation 0119**  Establishment of VTS is a normative provision of IALA Standard 1040 Vessel Traffic Services and shall be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed. To demonstrate compliance with the Recommendation the provisions of the associated Guidelines need to be implemented. |   IALA Recommendation 0119 - – Establishment of VTS can be found at <https://www.iala-aism.org/product/r0119-establishment-of-vts/>  **3.2.1. Guideline 1150 - Establishing, ~~p~~Planning and ~~i~~Implementing VTS**  ***No changes required to the body of text – only the editorial changes above in the title.***  **3.2.2. Guideline 1071 - Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service Beyond Territorial Seas**  ***Delete section 3.2.2 noting recommendation to Council for G1071 to be withdrawn.***  **3.2.2. Guideline 1071 - Guideline 1083 - Standard Nomenclature to Identify and Refer to VTS Centres**  ***No changes required.***  **3.2.2. Guideline 1071 - Guideline 1142 - The Provision of Local Services Other ~~T~~than VTS**  ***No changes required to the body of text – only the editorial change above in the title.***  **3.3. Recommendation 0120 – Vessel Traffic Services in Inland Waters**  ***Delete section 3.3 noting recommendation to Council for R0120 to be withdrawn (Refer to 3.5.2 below which reflects the new Guideline – VTS in Inland Waters).***  **3.4. Recommendation 0102 – The Application of the ‘User Pays’ Principle to Vessel Traffic Services**  ***Delete section 3.4 noting recommendation to Council for R0102 to be withdrawn.***  **3.5. Additional Guidance**  ~~To assist authorities in establishing, planning and implementing VTS effectively IALA has prepared Guideline XXXX Competencies for planning and implementing VTS. The Guideline provides a mechanism to ensure those responsible for the planning and implementation are competent in the practices described in Recommendation R0119 - Establishment of VTS and associated~~ *~~Guideline G1150 - Establishing, Planning and Implementing VTS~~*~~.~~  Additional guidance to assist authorities in establishing, planning and implementing VTS includes:   * Guideline 1160 - Competencies for Planning and Implementing VTS * Guideline XXXX – VTS in Inland Waters   **3.5.1.** **Guideline ~~XXXX~~ 1160 - Competencies for ~~p~~Planning and ~~iI~~mplementing a VTS**  Guideline ~~XXXX~~ 1160 describes the knowledge, skills, attitudes and personal attributes that would assist those responsible for the planning and implementation of VTS.   |  | | --- | | IALA Guideline ~~XXXX~~ 1160 – Competencies for Planning and Implementing VTS describes knowledge, skills, attitudes and personal attributes to assist in implementing the practices described in Recommendation R0119 - Establishment of VTS and associated Guideline G1150 - Establishing, Planning and Implementing VTS.  Guideline ~~XXXX~~ 1160 is informative in nature and is to encourage best practice. It is not necessary to conform to in order to claim compliance to Recommendation R0119. |   **3.5.2. Guideline XXXX – VTS in Inland Waters**  Guideline XXXX – VTS in Inland Waters describes desirable practices to assist authorities establishing Inland VTS to plan, implement and operate them in a harmonized manner that is aligned with IALA Standards as appropriate to minimise any confusion to masters of sea-going ships and skippers of inland waterway vessels moving from one vessel traffic service area to another.   |  | | --- | | IALA Guideline XXXX is not associated with an IALA Recommendation relating to a VTS.  This guideline is an informative document which describes desirable practices to assist authorities establishing Inland VTS to plan, implement and operate them in a harmonized manner that is aligned with IALA Standards as appropriate to minimise any confusion to masters of sea-going ships and skippers of inland waterway vessels moving from one vessel traffic service area to another. | |
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| **New Guideline on VTS Management** | |
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| **VTS Manual Section** | **Proposed amendment/s** |
| **4. VTS Operations** | **4. VTS OPERATIONS**  **4.1. Introduction**  **4.2. Recommendation 0127 – VTS Operations**  Recommendation 0127 specifies the practices associated with the delivery of VTS operations. Guidelines describing how to implement the practices specified in Recommendation 0127 include:   * Guideline 1089 - Provision of a VTS ~~(INS, TOS & NAS).~~ * Guideline 1141 - Operational Procedures for Vessel Traffic Services. * Guideline 1110 - Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel. * Guideline 1131 - Setting and Measuring VTS Objectives. * Guideline 1045 - Staffing Levels at VTS Centres. * Guideline 1118 - Marine casualty / incident reporting and recording, including near-miss situations as it relates to VTS. * Guideline 1144 - Promulgating the Requirements of a VTS to Mariners – A VTS Users Guide Template  |  | | --- | | IALA Recommendation 0127 - VTS Operations is a normative provision of IALA Standard 1040 Vessel Traffic Services and shall be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed. To demonstrate compliance with the Recommendation the provisions of the associated Guidelines need to be implemented. |   IALA Recommendation 0127 - VTS Operations can be found at https://www.iala-aism.org/product/operating-  *<The following new Section to be added to Section 4.3>*  **4.3. Additional Guidance**  **3.5.2. Guideline XXXX – VTS Management**  Good management practices are important to achieving the obligations of a VTS provider described in IMO resolution A.XXX(20) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services.  Guideline XXXX provides information to assist VTS providers implement management activities to facilitate the effective and efficient delivery of VTS and achieve its purpose and operational objectives. It describes the general principles of management processes, activities related to VTS management and presents associated competencies and training subjects.   |  | | --- | | This Guideline is not associated with an IALA Recommendation and is an informative provision of IALA Standard 1040 Vessel Traffic Services. It simply additional desirable practices but with which it is not necessary to conform in order to claim compliance to the Standard. |   *IALA Guideline XXX – VTS Management* can be found at <https://www.iala-aism.org/product/gXXXX-operational-procedures-for-vessel-traffic-services/>  *<Note – Link to be updated when G number has been assigned>* |

| **Revised Guideline 1110 - Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel (Task 1.2.2)** | |
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| **VTS Manual Section** | **Proposed amendment/s** |
| **4. VTS Operations** | 4.2.3. Guideline 1110 - Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel  ~~Decision Support Tools are computer-based tools (simulation models, and/or techniques and methods) to enhance situational awareness and assist VTS personnel interact with the traffic and respond to traffic situations developing in the VTS area.~~  Decision Support Tools (DST) are used to help enhance situational awareness and the decision-making process of VTS personnel by providing analysis and insight to developing or emergency situations, in real time, near real time and for long-term planning  ~~Guideline 1110 provides guidance on the use of decision support tools to enhance situational awareness and support VTS personnel provide timely and relevant information, monitor and manage ship traffic and respond to developing unsafe situations.~~  Guideline 1110 provides guidance to assist authorities on the use of decision support tools to manage identified risks, enhance situational awareness and support VTS personnel providing timely and relevant information, monitoring and managing ship traffic and responding to developing unsafe situations.  IALA Guideline 1110 – Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel can be found at [https://](https://www.iala-aism.org/product/use-of-decision-support-tools-for-vts-personnel-1110/) [www.iala-aism.org/product/use-of-decision-sup-port-tools-for-vts-personnel-1110/](https://www.iala-aism.org/product/use-of-decision-support-tools-for-vts-personnel-1110/). |

| **Revised - Guideline 1014 - Accreditation of VTS Training Organizations and Approval to Deliver of IALA VTS Model Courses** | | |
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| **VTS Manual Section** | | **Proposed amendment/s** |
| **11. Accreditation, Competency, Certification and Revalidation** | **11.2.1 ~~Guideline 1014 - Accreditation and Approval Process for VTS Training Courses~~ Guideline G1014** **- Accreditation of VTS Training Organizations and Approval to Deliver IALA VTS Model Courses**  ~~Guideline 1014 provides guidance for accrediting VTS training organizations and approving the model courses provided.~~  This guideline provides the framework for competent authorities to:   * Accredit organizations to provide training based on IALA model courses; and * Approve their delivery of IALA model courses, including:   + C0103-1 (V103/1) VTS Operator Training;   + C0103-2 (V103/2) VTS Supervisor Training];   + C0103-4 (V103/4) VTS On-the-Job Training Instructor; and   + C0103-5 (V103/5) Revalidation Process for VTS Qualification and Certification.   IALA Guideline G1014 ~~Accreditation and Approval Process of VTS Training~~ - Accreditation of VTS Training Organizations and Approval to Deliver IALA VTS Model Courses can be found at https://www.iala-aism.org/product/guideline-on-the-accreditation-and-approval-process-for-vts-training/ | |

### Annex 3

### **NOTE** : Table below to be updated pending agreement on text above/outcomes from IMO Assembly and IALA Council.

Table

Description automatically generated