**Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1)** VTS58-10.1.10

**Input paper for the following Committee(s):** **Purpose of paper:**

(Select as appropriate)

ARM  ENG  PAP  Input

ENAV VTS  Information

**Agenda item** [[2]](#footnote-2) 10.1

**Technical domain/ Task number** 2 3.8.7.c

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

Proposed Improvements to the Revision of G1156 and IALA Model Course - C0103-5

# BACKGROUND

VTS Committee has been progressing the revision of IALA Model Course C0103-5 VTS Revalidation Process for VTS Qualification and Certification (Task 3.8.7.c) as part of its 2023-2027 work programme. This task is scheduled for completion at VTS58.

At VTS57 it was agreed that the existing Model Course C0103-5 should be renamed to “Revalidation training” and that Guideline *G1156 on Recruitment, Training and Certification of VTS Personnel* would provide guidance on the process to maintain competence. Intersessional group activities continued between VTS57 and VTS58 to progress the revision of model course C0103-5 and G1156.

The intersessional group submitted the following input papers to VTS58:

* VTS58-10.1.2 Report of ITG on Task 3.8.7c
* VTS58-10.1.2.1 Revised C0103-5 for VTS58
* VTS58-10.1.2.2 Revised G1156 for VTS58

Additionally, a further two related input papers were also submitted to VTS58 for the Committees consideration:

* VTS58-10.1.3 Review of Model Course 103-5 - Revalidation training (AMSA)
* VTS58-10.1.8 Proposal on Clarification and Optimization of the Curriculum of Model Course C0103-5 (China MSA)

# Purpose of the document

Based on the related input papers submitted (VTS58-10.1.3 and VTS58-10.1.8), this document proposes suggested improvements to the latest draft revisions of C0103-5 Model Course (VTS58-10.1.2.1) and G1156 (VTS58-10.1.2.2) for the Committee’s further consideration at VTS58.

# DISCUSSION

Noting the two draft documents of IALA Model Course C0103-5 and G1156 are expected to be finalised at VTS58, some suggested improvements have been incorporated into the latest drafts to assist in the review process by addressing concerns raised in the related input papers (e.g. VTS58-10.1.3 and VTS58-10.1.8).

Key improvement areas include:

1. Training should be role based

Paper VTS58-10.1.3 identified:

* That the documents should consider *“where individuals hold additional qualifications (e.g. VTS Supervisor or OJT Instructor), revalidation may be achieved through mechanisms other than solely following the original model courses (e.g. C0103-2 for VTS Supervisor, or C0103-4 for OJT Instructor).*

*For example, acknowledging that a Competent Authority may determine how revalidation can be achieved such as through day-to-day responsibilities, participation in other professional development activities or courses, or by attending a specific revalidation course based on the relevant model course. “*

Paper VTS58-10.1.8 identified:

* *“The current C0103-5 course does not differentiate between various VTS roles, resulting in overly simplistic training content that fails to meet the practical needs of operators, supervisors, and information/system support staff. It is recommended that the course be divided into functional modules, with combinations of modules delivered according to role responsibilities.”*
* *“The course should be designed based on task analysis for different roles, with clearly defined learning objectives to reduce content redundancy and improve training quality.”*

To address these concerns, some suggested improvements have been reflected in G1156 (section 6.3 and 9.3) and C0103-5 (section 4).

1. Training should be flexible, focussed, performance-based and tailored to maintain competence

Paper VTS58-10.1.8 identified several other areas for further consideration, such as:

* “*focus on practical operational skills and dynamic competence assessments, and advocated a modular, role-oriented course design”.*
* *“a uniform and static course structure fails to meet the diverse needs of different VTS roles and lacks data-driven analysis and operational guidance in intelligent VTS scenarios.”*
* *“The course should be designed based on task analysis for different roles, with clearly defined learning objectives to reduce content redundancy and improve training quality. General topics such as regulatory updates and safety culture can be retained as shared modules. “*
* *“emerging topics such as Future VTS and digital development should be introduced to enhance the course’s forward-looking focus and adaptability.”*

To address these areas, some suggested improvements have been reflected in G1156 (sections 6.3 and 9.3) and C0103-5 (section 2, section 4 and Intro text under Part B – Course content).

1. Break-in-Service

Paper VTS58-10.1.8 identified the need for additional clarification regarding the training requirements following the return to work after a break in service. In response, examples have been included in G1156 (section 9) to provide guidance on the types of training that may be appropriate to ensure competence is maintained and that individuals are able to adapt to operational or procedural changes.

1. Course Certificates

Paper VTS58-10.1.3 suggested that the documents should reflect that:

* *“an accredited training organisation approved to provide C0103-5 may issue a course certificate.*
* *where a VTS provider is approved to deliver revalidation training for their own personnel there is no requirement to issue a course certificate as they are not an “accredited” training organisation as per G1014.”*

These suggested improvements have been reflected in G1156 (section 8.3) and C0103-5 (section 11).

1. General document review

A general review of G1156 was also undertaken to ensure alignment and consistency with the relevant IMO Resolutions and IALA Guidelines. Key areas reviewed include:

* Section 4 – VTS personnel. Common text from the IMO Resolution and the IALA Model Courses for VTS has been incorporated to ensure consistency.
* Section 8 – Training. This section has been refocused to clearly outline the practices expected of VTS providers and competent authorities, rather than just providing general information.
* Sections 7.3 and 7.4. These have been consolidated as introductory text under Section 7.
* Definitions. Revised to ensure consistency with existing IMO Resolutions, IALA Guidelines, and VTS Model Courses.

# Action requested of the Committee

In completing the revision of *Model Course C-0103-5 Vessel Traffic Service Revalidation Process (Task 3.8.7.c),* the Committee is requested to give further consideration at VTS58 to the proposed improvements on the latest draft revisions of G1156 (VTS58-10.1.2.2) and the C0103-5 Model Course (VTS58-10.1.2.1).

# attachments

* VTS58-10.1.10.1 Revised version C0103-5 based on *VTS58-10.1.2.1 Revised C0103-5 for VTS58*
* VTS58-10.1.10.2 Revised version G1156 based on *VTS58-10.1.2.2 Revised G1156 for VTS58*

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