



## IALA Council – 74 session

### NATIONAL MATTERS

#### Canada

#### WORKSHOP ON CYBERSECURITY – NOVEMBER 2021

The IALA workshop on Cybersecurity was virtually held between Nov 12, 13-19, 2021 involving 64 participants. The Canadian Coast Guard was really pleased to host this workshop in collaboration with IALA. This workshop will have contributed to maritime cybersecurity resilience globally by bringing together experts from various backgrounds in order to tackle this important issue. The workshop was supposed to be held, in person, in the beautiful Québec City where participants would have been able to see the ever challenging St. Lawrence River and our system of aids to navigation, vessel traffic services and e-Navigation services which all contribute to marine safety on the river. Unfortunately, COVID-19 has decided that the workshop would be virtual. Nevertheless, our organization was really pleased with the outcomes of the workshop.

#### MODERNIZATION OF MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION

The Canadian Coast Guard is constantly looking to modernize its aids to navigation program services. Works continue to define the Canadian framework on the use and deployment of AIS AtoN. Preliminary testing along with positive feedback from mariners are encouraging.

The replacement of summer and winter buoys with 4-season ruggedized buoys continues to unfold. Technical solutions for fast current and ice conditions were designed, tested and implemented on the St. Lawrence River over the past few years. Tests are now being done on the Atlantic Coast and in the Great Lakes area.

CCG is in the initial stages of launching a plastic buoy recycling trial/feasibility study. This is part of CCG investigating disposition paths for end-of-life plastic buoys. The emphasis will be on 100% material recovery (circular - diversion from landfill), using innovative/non-traditional recycling technologies.

Finally, CCG is investigating modular plastic buoy design concepts to reduce reliance on certain types of plastics. This initiative is looking for new design features such as the modularity of plastics for ease of recycling, alternatives to foam buoyancy materials and life extension of plastic buoys in order to minimize waste.

#### CESSATION OF THE CANADIAN DIFFERENTIAL GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (DGPS) SERVICE

As communicated at Council 73, the Canadian Coast Guard wishes to remind its IALA partners that it will shut down its Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) service by the end of 2022. The exact date of the shutdown is still to be finalized but it will be in December 2022.

Stakeholders have been expecting this decision, given the trend to find alternatives to aging DGPS infrastructure and the cessation of the United States Coast Guard's NDGPS in September 2020.

The absence of DGPS will not impact the safety of navigation in Canadian waters or Coast Guard services. Modern GPS has improved to meet marine navigation requirements and exceeds the performance of DGPS.