

IALA COUNCIL
80th session



24-28 June 2024
Istanbul, Türkiye

10 – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

10.7 – Documents

10.7.2 – Proposed protocol for versioning and approval of the PS and TS

Note by the Secretariat

1. INTRODUCTION

Product Specifications (PS) and Technical Services (TS) are the main building blocks of e-Navigation services. While PS's documents describe the content (data) and structure (data model) of digital maritime services, the TS's documents describe the way the data should be exchanged between the data producer and the data consumer.

This document outlines the approach for the editioning of IALA TS and PS documents, aligning them with IHO standards. It covers the rules and procedures for document editions, focusing on the distinction between versions intended for testing and validation versus those for implementation.

Further information can be found in paper C80-10.6.4 *The specification of e-navigation technical services*. The guideline is intended for service architects, system engineers and developers in charge of designing and developing a Technical Service or designing and developing a device to use it.

2. PROPOSAL FOR EDITIONING OF TS AND PS

PS and TS documents are subject to continuous updates. The IALA committees regularly and iteratively update these documents until they reach Edition 2.0.0, which is intended for implementation by members. Editions 1.n.n are designated for testing and validation by members and other interested parties.

The basic PS and TS document numbering or versioning scheme is defined by the IHO S-97 standard. To align with this standard, IALA will follow the same scheme:

- Edition 1.0.0 to 1.9.9:
 - Intended solely for testing and validation purposes.
 - Not for publication or implementation.
 - Agreed at committee level and not subject to Council approval.
- Edition 2.0.0 and afterwards:
 - Subject to Council approval.
 - Published and distributed to all members and other interested parties for implementation.

Upon approval of this proposal for editioning of TS and PS, versions 1.n.n of these documents will be shared on the IALA website for members to perform validation and testing. They may also be shared with other relevant international organizations wishing to do validation and testing.

During this phase, the specifications will be updated based on feedback and further validation.

3. WORK OF THE COMMITTEES

During the first round of committee meetings, three technical service related documents are up for Council to note.

- C80-10.3.4 New draft Service specification for the provision of AtoN Information Service
- C80-10.5.4 New draft Service design for VTS traffic clearance service
- C80-10.5.5 New draft Service specification for VTS traffic clearance service

3.1 List of Product Specifications under development, and their current versions

Domain	PS	Title	Committee	Edition
AtoN	S-201	Aids to Navigation Information	ARM	1.1.0
	S-125	Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN)	NIPWG (ARM)	0.0.4
Positioning	S-240	DGNSS Station almanac	ENG	1.2.0
	S-245	eLoran ASF Data	ENG	1.0.0
	S-246	eLoran Station almanac	ENG	1.0.0
	S-247	Differential eLoran Reference stations almanac	ENG	1.0.0
Comms.	S-230	Application Specific Messages (ASM)	DTEC	Planned
VTS	S-210	Inter VTS exchange format (IVEF)	VTS	Started
	S-211	Port Call Messages	IPCDMC	1.0.0
	S-212	VTS digital information service	VTS	0.6.4

3.2 List of Technical Service descriptions under development

Technical Service Specification	Committee	Referenced PS	Planned Completion Date	Service Design	Planned Service Design Completion Date
Marine AtoN Technical Service Specification for the provision of AtoN information	ARM, DTEC	S-125	Ed 1.0.0: ARM18 Ed 2.0.0: (depending on S-125)	SECOM based	Edition 1.0.0: ARM19
Marine AtoN Technical Service Specification for the provision of enhanced AtoN information	ARM, DTEC	S-201		SECOM based	
Voyage information service	VTS, DTEC	S-421, ...			
Route information service	VTS, DTEC	S-421, ...			
S-200 based ASM provision	DTEC	S-230			
Slot management service	VTS, DTEC				

Traffic clearance service	VTS, DTEC	S-212, S-421	Ed 1.3.0: VTS 55	SECOM based	Ed 1.0.0: VTS 55
Anchorage assignment service	VTS, DTEC				

4. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

APPROVE the described way forward for the versioning and approval of documents relating to Product Specifications and Technical Services.