

From: VTS Committee
To: e-NAV Committee
ANM Committee

VTS32/output/3
11 March 2011

Liaison Note

Common Maritime Information / Data Structure

1 Introduction

In progressing Task 7 – *Produce a Recommendation on harmonised functional VTS/VTM requirements for networking and information exchange* and considering the draft *Recommendation on the Inter-VTS Exchange Format (IVEF) Service* the VTS Committee noted the following Liaison Notes to VTS32:

- Introduction to the IALA Universal Maritime Data Module (UMDM), VTS32/9/1 (formerly e-NAV/Output/6), and
- Note from e-NAV Vice Chair about Data Structures, VTS32/15/5 (Also, e-NAV9/11/7)

The VTS Committee also notes that following Council's approval for the submission to IMO NAV55 of paper NAV55/11/1 (IALA's work on e-Navigation) the e-NAV Committee has progressed the development of the IALA UMDM, in accordance with the following statement made in the IMO submission:

'The high-level needs noted in the report of NAV54 include a common maritime information / data structure and IALA is progressing towards an IALA Maritime Data Model and Data Object Identifiers.'

2 Discussion

Implementation of IMO's e-navigation strategy leads to a larger variety and higher volume of information and increased information exchange due to globalisation. Consequently there is a need to handle information more effectively and in a standardised way.

There is a need for a common data model that meets these requirements and which is also extendable so that it can grow as more end user requirements are identified and captured.

IHO's S-100 is fully developed and came into force 1 Jan 2010. S-100 is a new standard that supports a variety of hydrographic related digital data sources, products and customers. It also enables the handling and visualizing of many other data types in support of dynamic ECDIS, marine Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and other related web-based services.

S-100 could accommodate the requirements of IALA for e-navigation, and also other stakeholders, if the stakeholders are prepared to use supplementary registers, or domains within a supplementary register, within S-100.

There may be potential issues if IALA stakeholders encode aids to navigation according to an IALA registry and IHO encode aids to navigation according to an IHO registry describing many common real world elements.

3 Action requested

The Committees note that the VTS Committee:

- 1 Agrees with the action requested in the Liaison note from the e-NAV Vice Chair about Data Structures (VTS32/14/5 (Also, e-NAV9/11/7)). That is:

- (a) The relevant Committees (e-NAV, VTS and ANM) should investigate the implementation of AIS, IVEF (inter VTS exchange format) and AtoN information through the S-100 registry and provide feedback to IHO on the results, and
 - (b) Consideration is given to establishing a channel for co-ordinated responses from IALA to IHO and IMO on the subject of data structures.
- 2 Will reflect the use of an IALA governed domain within the S-100 framework in developing documents pertaining to the UMDM such as the draft *Recommendations on harmonised functional VTS/VTM requirements for networking and information exchange* and the *Inter-VTS Exchange Format (IVEF) Service*.