Maritime AtoN area classification for MASS operations

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# Introduction:

The avionic domain has a various categories for types of airports. It appears that a similar system can be used for AtoN in the various maritime environments.

## Definition of autonomous

There are various definitions for the levels of autonomy including that used by the IMI, the UK MCA and the academic world that often refers to Thomas B Sheridan and William L Verplank (1976).

## Terrestrial AtoN in the aerospace environment

The aerospace industry has the following definitions for airports:

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| **Level** | **Description** |
| Non- precision Approach Runway | An instrument runway served by visual aids and nonvisual aid providing at least directional guidance adequate for a straight-in approach |
| Precision Approach Runway, CAT I | A precision instrument approach and landing with a decision height not lower than 200 feet (60 meters) and with either a visibility of not less than 800 meters or a Runway Visual Range of not less than 550 meters |
| Precision Approach Runway, CAT II | A precision instrument approach and landing with a decision height lower than 200 feet (60 meters) but not lower than 100 feet (30 meters) and a Runway Visual Range of not less than 350 meters |
| Precision Approach Runway, CAT IIIA | A precision instrument approach and landing with a decision height lower than 100 feet (30 meters) or no decision height, and a Runway Visual Range of not less than 200 meters |
| Precision Approach Runway, CAT IIIB | A precision instrument approach and landing with a decision height lower than 50 feet (15 meters) or no decision height, and a Runway Visual Range of less than 200 meters but not less than 50 meters |
| Precision Approach Runway, CAT IIIC | A precision instrument approach and landing with no decision height and no Runway Visual Range limitations |

# IALA AtoN classification

Using the example of the aerospace sector, it appears that the maritime AtoN environment can develop a similar classification system leading to a known environment within the maritime AtoN area.

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| **Level** | **Description** |
| Category 1 | To be developed |
| Category 2 | To be developed |
| Category 3 | To be developed |
| Category 4 | To be developed |
| Category 5 | To be developed |