

**IALA World-Wide Academy**

**Model Course**

**For**

**Aids to Navigation**

**Level 2 – Technician Training**

**Introduction to Radionavigation and Differential Global Navigation Satellite Systems**

Edition 1: December 2012

**Module 9 (L2.9.1- 9.9)**

**Edition 1.0**

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***AISM***Association Internationale de Signalisation Maritime ***IALA***

International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities

10, rue des Gaudines

78100 Saint Germain en Laye, France

Telephone: +33 1 34 51 70 01 Fax: +33 1 34 51 82 05

e-mail: [contact@iala-aism.org](mailto:contact@iala-aism.org) Internet: [www.iala-aism.org](http://www.iala-aism.org)

DOCUMENT REVISIONS

Revisions to the IALA Document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

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| **Date** | **Page / Section Revised** | **Requirement for Revision** |
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FOREWORD

The International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) recognises that training in all aspects of Aids to Navigation (AtoN) service delivery, from inception through installation and maintenance to replacement or removal at the end of a planned life-cycle, is critical to the consistent provision of that AtoN service.

Taking into account that under the SOLAS Convention, Chapter 5, Regulation 13, paragraph 2; Contracting Governments, mindful of their obligations published by the International Maritime Organisation, undertake to consider the international recommendations and guidelines when establishing aids to navigation, including recommendations on training and qualification of AtoN technicians, IALA has adopted Recommendation E-141 on Standards for Training and Certification of AtoN personnel.

IALA Committees working closely with the IALA World Wide Academy have developed a series of model courses for AtoN personnel having E-141 Level 2 technician functions. This model course which is an introduction to radionavigation and differential global navigation satellite systems should be read in conjunction with the Training Overview Document IALA WWA.L2.0 which contains standard guidance for the conduct of all Level 2 model courses

This model course is intended to provide national members and other appropriate authorities charged with the provision of AtoN services with specific guidance on the training of AtoN technicians in the principles of radionavigation and differential global navigation satellite systems. Assistance in implementing this and other model courses may be obtained from the IALA World Wide Academy at the following address:

The Dean

IALA World Wide Academy Tel: (+) 33 1 34 51 70 01

10 rue des Gaudines, 78100 Fax: (+) 33 1 34 51 82 05

Saint Germain-en-Laye e-mail: [contact@iala-aism.org](mailto:contact@iala-aism.org)

France Internet: [www.iala-aism.org](http://www.iala-aism.org)

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# PART A - COURSE OVERVIEW

## Scope

This course is intended to provide technicians with the theoretical training necessary to have a basic understanding of radionavigation including Differential Global Navigation Satellite Systems (DGNSS).

This course is intended to be supported by further training modules on the practical operation and maintenance of radar beacons; Automatic Identification Systems; aspects of power supplies; lightning protection and the maintenance of structures. Details of these supporting model courses can be found in the Level 2 Technician training overview document IALA WWA L2.0.

## Objective

Upon successful completion of Elements 9.1-9.5 of this course, participants will have acquired sufficient theoretical knowledge and skill to undertake the practical elements of Module 9 (9.6 – 9.9) which will enable them to maintain DGNSS transmission stations whilst on the job within their organizations.

## Course Outline

The first theoretical part of this course is intended to cover the knowledge required for a technician to understand the principles of radionavigation systems including DGNSS and the importance of uninterrupted Position, Navigation and Timing (PNT). This section comprises 5 classroom training modules and a site visit designed to consolidate theoretical knowledge. The second more practical part of this course covers the operation and maintenance of DGNSS transmission stations. It comprises 2 classroom modules and 2 modules undertaken at a DGNSS transmission site.

It is expected that not all trainee technicians will require to take the second part of the complete course. Successful participants who have proved their competency only in the theoretical part of this Module may be awarded a Certificate of Competence covering only Elements 9.1-9.5. Participants who have proved their competency in both the theoretical and practical aspects of this course should be awarded a Certificate of Competence covering the whole of Module 9. Each training module begins by stating its scope and aims, and then provides a teaching syllabus.

## Table of Teaching Modules

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Title** | **Time in hours** | **Overview** |
| Introduction to radionavigation systems | 2.0 | This module describes the basic functions and types of radionavigation systems, covering GNSS and terrestrial systems.  **Note:**  Radar beacons are covered in Level 2 Module 7 and the Automatic Identification System (AIS) in L2 Module 8 |
| Position, Navigation and Timing (PNT) | 1.0 | This module describes the concepts of PNT, and how they are calculated. |
| Accuracy, integrity, continuity, availability and vulnerability | 2.0 | This module describes the factors that can affect the performance of radionavigation signals |
| Applications of GNSS on AtoN | 0.5 | This module describes which AtoN components rely on GNSS signals for their effective operation (eg. Monitoring, light synchronisation) |
| Introduction to DGNSS and principles of operation | 2.0 | This module describes the principles of the transmission of differential signals from a DGNSS shore station or AIS base station |
| Evaluation | 0.5 | Written test |
| **Total Hours:** | **8.0** | One day course |

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An optional visit to a DGNSS transmission station would be desirable to consolidate theoretical knowledge gained in Modules 9.1 – 9.5.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Title** | **Time in hours** | **Overview** |
| DGNSS receivers; integrity and reference modules | 3.0 | This module describes the principles of how GNSS receivers are used to produce DGNSS corrections, and how the integrity of the transmitted signal is monitored. |
| DGNSS transmission stations | 3.0 | This module describes the principles of how DGNSS transmitters are used to broadcast DGNSS corrections. |
| DGNSS operation and maintenance | 4.0 | This module reinforces Modules 6 & 7 with practical training and should be undertaken at a DGNSS transmission site or a live test facility. |
| Monitoring of accuracy and signal strength | 2.0 | This module describes the principles of how DGNSS services are monitored to ensure that IALA performance standards are met. |
| Evaluation | 1.0 | Written test |
| **Total Hours:** | **13.0** | Two day course |

## Specific Course Related Teaching Aids

1. This course involves both classroom instruction and a visit to a DGNSS transmission station. Classrooms should be equipped with blackboards, whiteboards, and overhead projectors to enable presentation of the subject matter.
2. A large scale general arrangement diagram of the DGNSS transmission station should be available to each participant.
3. Hand-held satnav receiver(s)
4. Relevant DGNSS and transmitter hardware (Modules 6 & 7)
5. Test equipment (Modules 8 & 9)

## References

In addition to any specific references required by the Competent Authority, the following material is relevant to this course:

* IALA NAVGUIDE
* IALA Recommendations A-124/16; R-115; R-121; R-129; R-135
* IALA World Wide Radio Navigation Plan
* IALA Guidelines 1060
* Technical documentation from DGNSS equipment manufacturers

# PART B - TEACHING MODULES

## Module 1 – Introduction to Radionavigation Systems

### Scope

This module describes the basic functions and types of radionavigation systems not covered in other Modules.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of the function and types of both terrestrial and satellite radionavigation systems

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 Terrestrial radionavigation systems

1. History of radionavigation systems
2. Hyperbolic radionavigation systems
3. e-Loran

Lesson 2 Satellite radionavigation systems

1. History of Global Navigation Satellite Systems
2. Operational and planned GNSS
3. Military and civilian GNSS signalsy
4. Deriving position from satellites
5. Satellite datum (WGS84)
6. Obtaining a position from a hand-held satnav
7. Introduction to IALA WWRNP

## Module 2 – Position, Navigation and Timing

### Scope

This module describes the concepts of PNT, and how they are calculated.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of PNT and augmentation systems and their vital importance to safe navigation

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 Position, Navigation and Timing

1. Concept of location and time
2. PNT services from satellite (including ephemeris etc.)
3. Uses and users of PNT services
4. Accurate time (UTC)
5. Alternative sources of time

Lesson 2 – Satellite and Ground Based Augmentation Systems

1. Introduction to Satellite Based Augmentation Systems
2. Introduction to Ground Based Augmentation Systems

## Module 3 – Accuracy, availability, continuity, integrity and vulnerability

### Scope

### This module describes the basic performance parameters of a radionavigation system, and identifies factors that can affect the accuracy and uninterrupted receipt of radionavigation signals.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of how a radionavigation system performance can be defined, and identifies errors inherent in GNSS and its potential vulnerability

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 Radionavigation system parameters

* + - 1. Accuracy
      2. Availability
      3. Continuity
      4. Integrity (including RAIM)
      5. Coverage

Lesson 2 GNSS Errors

1. Signal, clock and orbit errors
2. Atmospheric delays
3. Geometric Dilution of Position
4. Multipath errors

Lesson 3 Physical and Intentional Interference

1. GNSS signal strength
2. Space weather and its effect on GNSS signals
3. Jamming and spoofing
4. HP microwave signal damage

## Module 4 – Applications of GNSS on AtoN

### Scope

This module describes which AtoN components rely on GNSS signals for their effective operation.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of which AtoN are dependent on uninterrupted PNT

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 Review of radionavigation components fitted to AtoN Stations

1. AtoN dependency on PNT (monitoring, synchronisation)
2. AIS

## 

## Module 5 – Introduction to DGNSS and principles of operation

### Scope

This module describes the principles of the transmission of differential signals from a DGNSS shore station or AIS base station.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of the principles of differential corrections to GNSS with theoretical training consolidated through a site visit

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 – Introduction to DGNSS

1. Principles of differential corrections to pseudoranges
2. ITU standard formats
3. Geostationary satellite corrections to portable systems
4. IALA MF DGNSS beacons and coverage
5. Basic components of a DGNSS transmission station (including redundancy)
6. Introduction to integrity and reference modules; how integrity is achieved
7. Virtual reference stations
8. AIS Message 17

Lesson 2 – DGNSS Site Visit

1. Visit DGNSS site (or AIS base station)
2. Identify key components and their functions

## Module 6 – DGNSS receivers; integrity and reference stations

### Scope

This module describes the principles of how GNSS receivers are used to produce DGNSS corrections, and how the integrity of the transmitted signal is monitored.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of the components of a DGNSS shore station.

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 – DGNSS Reference Station

1. Components (receiver, processor, modulator, antenna, cabling)
2. Setting of parameters as per IALA Rec.R-121 (eg. Position, frequency, ID, Mask angle, message types)
3. Setting up of modulator
4. Significance of antenna position / survey
5. Power supplies
6. Lightning protection

Lesson 2 – DGNSS Integrity Monitor

1. Components (receiver, processor, demodulator, antenna, cabling)
2. Setting of parameters as per IALA Rec.R-121 (eg. Position, frequency, ID, Mask angle, alarm levels)

## Module 7 – DGNSS transmission stations

### Scope

This module describes the principles of how DGNSS transmitters are used to broadcast DGNSS corrections.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of the components of a DGNSS transmitter station.

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 – DGNSS Transmitter Station

1. Components (Transmitter, Aerial Tuning Unit, Aerial)
2. Components of transmitter and adjustments (e.g. Back-off levels)
3. RF Safety
4. Use of Low power settings and dummy load
5. Power supplies
6. Lightning protection

Lesson 2 – Aerial Tuning Unit

1. Aerial electrical characteristics / radio propagation
2. Components (coil, tuning tap, auto-tuning, feedback to transmitter)
3. RF Safety
4. Tuning for reactive and resistive loads
5. Engineering for large or small aerials / wider bandwidth
6. Lightning protection

Lesson 3 – MF/LF Aerial system

1. Components (mast, guys, insulators, ground plane)
2. Safety (Physical and RF)
3. Cleanliness of Insulators, tracking
4. Lightning protection

## Module 8 – DGNSS operation and maintenance

### Scope

This module reinforces Modules 6 & 7 with practical training and should be undertaken at a DGNSS transmission site or a live test facility.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of practical aspects of DGNSS operation and maintenance.

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 – DGNSS Reference Station & Integrity Monitor

1. Hands-on setting up of Reference Station
2. Hands-on setting up of Integrity Monitor
3. Modulator
4. GNSS/DGNSS antennae
5. Fault identification
6. Use of Low power settings and dummy load
7. Power supplies
8. Lightning protection

Lesson 2 – DGNSS Transmitter & ATU

1. Identification of key components
2. RF Safety
3. Use of Low power settings and dummy load
4. Tuning for reactive and resistive loads
5. On site performance measurement
6. Lightning protection

Lesson 3 – MF/LF Aerial system

1. Physical inspection

## Module 9 – Monitoring of accuracy and signal strength

### Scope

This module describes the principles of how DGNSS services are monitored to ensure that IALA performance standards are met.

### Learning Objective

To gain a **basic** understanding of how a DGNSS service is monitored and verified. It is not intended to provide a detailed knowledge of the manufacturer-specific site communications equipment.

### Syllabus

Lesson 1 – Control and Monitoring function

1. Components (software. PC, router, modem)
2. Use of software locally and remotely / network security
3. Reset functionality
4. Performance monitoring against IALA standards (Rec. R-121)
5. Use of Far Field Monitors

Lesson 2 – Calibration and verification of service

1. Accuracy monitoring against local or national benchmarks
2. Range measurement
3. Range and station parameter calculations