Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-2) VTS50-9.1.3

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **X**  Input

**□** ENAV**X** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-3) 9.1

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 Task…1.1.1.2………………

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Task..Group..1.1.1.2……

Update to IALA VTS Documentation on Adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services

# Summary

Task Group 1.1.1.2 was formed to conduct an intersessional review of all IALA VTS documents that were not scheduled for update by Dec 2021 as part of current tasks and to:

* Propose amendments to align terminology with the new IMO Resolution – *Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Service*
* Update cross-references

This review is now complete; the attached package of documents is forwarded as an input to VTS50, for submission to Council for approval and for issue on adoption of the new resolution, expected in December 2021.

# Background

At Council meeting C70 in December 2019, Council approved [1] the input paper *IALA VTS Documentation post adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services* [2] and specifically the addition of a new task to update Guideline G1089 - *Provision of VTS - INS, TOS & NAS* and also authorised a process of secretarial amendment, following adoption of the new resolution to documents that only require changes to incorporate the new terminology. The first task was completed at VTS49 and the update to G1089 was approved by Council at C72 [3] for issue on adoption of the new resolution by the IMO Assembly. The second part of this work was formalised as Task 1.1.1.2. Whilst the approval given by Council was for the alignment of terminology, it became clear during VTS49 that the scope of the task should be broadened to include updates to cross-references together with any associated quotes and that some of the changes, whilst aligned to the new resolution, might appear to be more extensive than previously envisaged. On the advice of the Secretary General post VTS49, this broader remit was agreed but, in order to maintain transparency, it was suggested that both the VTS Committee and Council should be given visibility of the proposed changes. The Secretary General considered that presentation of the proposed changes to Council as a package of documents was both viable and realistic.

The task group continued the work started at VTS49 intersessionally taking into account this broader remit. The task group comprised:

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| --- | --- |
| Harmen VAN DORSSER | NL - Port of Rotterdam |
| Barry Goldman (Chair) | IHMA |
| James HANNON | UK - MCA |
| Jillian CARSON-JACKSON | The Nautical Institute |
| Junhyeok BYUN | Korea – Vessel Traffic Division of Korea Coast Guard |
| Neil TRAINOR | Aus - AMSA |
| Remi HOEVE | NL – Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management |
| Tuomas MARTIKAINEN | Finland – Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency |
| Wei WANG | China - MSA |
| Xian WU | China - MSA |
| Yuncong XU | China - MSA |
| Yunhang LI | China - MSA |
| Su Changlieng | China - MSA |

# Discussion

Twenty-one such documents have been identified for update following review and three documents recommended for withdrawal. A proposed draft liaison note covering the submission of the package to Council is enclosed. This, in turn, refers to the documents proposed for amendment or withdrawal. All of the amended IALA documents forming the package to be forwarded to Council have been uploaded to the “Nextcloud” fileshare and a link provided at the end of this input paper.

In the course of the review a number of further issues were identified, which are recommended for consideration by members of the VTS Committee.

## Documents for Submission to Council

Under cover of the draft liaison note, twenty-one documents have been amended to include simple transposition of terms, minor textual changes to adopt the new terminology and updates to any cross-references or quotes and three documents are recommended for withdrawal.

The draft liaison note sets out the purpose of the submission and encloses all twenty-one amended documents for approval on adoption of the new VTS resolution by IMO and gives the justification for withdrawal of the three obsolete documents namely: Guideline 1071 – *Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond Territorial Seas,* V-102 – *The application of the User Pays principle to Vessel Traffic Services* and the IALA Brochure – *What a shipmaster can expect of the VTS and what is expected of the shipmaster (Short title: VTS Awareness).*

## Issues for Further Consideration by the VTS Committee

In the process of reviewing these documents, the task group identified further issues for consideration by VTS Committee members some of which may be relevant for incorporation into current tasks:

* 1. **G1105 – *Shore-Side Portrayal Ensuring Harmonisation with E-Navigation Related Information***. This document is in the process of being reviewed as part of Task 2.1.1 under the lead of WG 2 for completion at VTS50. Amendments for documentary alignment have been passed to WG2 for inclusion in the redraft and can be forwarded to Council for inclusion in the package should the update be delayed. Reviewers suggest that the Committee consider the amalgamation of Recommendation V-125 on *The Use and Presentation of Symbology at a VTS Centre* with Guideline 1105 to form a single consolidated document as part of the current update of the guideline.
  2. **G1045** **–** ***Staffing Levels at VTS Centres***. The main purpose of the recent review of G1045 (task 3.2.2) was to amend the Annexes with only a superficial update to the main text. There is a case for considering a more thorough review of this document as a new task in the work programme for the next session. The following points have been identified as worthy of consideration at any further review:
     1. This document covers issues broader than just levels of staffing albeit that the level of staffing is an important conclusion to the considerations addressed. It is suggested that the title is amended to “*Staffing at VTS Centres*”, which would facilitate the broadening of the scope of the guideline to more accurately reflect its purpose.
     2. The existing text relating to operational procedures (section 2.2) is more appropriate to Guideline G1141 – *Operational Procedures for VTS* and consideration should be given to incorporating the relevant aspects of section 2.2 in G1141 while it is currently under review with a view to withdrawing this text from G1045 at the next update. This section should focus more on the impact of these procedures on staffing levels.
     3. There is an overlap between this guideline and the IALA Brochure “*Guide for VTS Providers on Fatigue Awareness and Human Reliability*”. It is recommended that the relevant parts of the brochure are transferred into this guideline at the next update and the brochure withdrawn on completion (see sub-paragraph 3.2.f. below).
     4. There is no explanation that this guideline is not intended to be prescriptive in view of the wide variation of local, cultural, and national considerations and that it only identifies general factors which should be taken into account and national/local solutions applied.
     5. There is no link between the main part of the guideline and the Annexes. This link should explain their purpose in setting out an objective method of calculating a theoretical starting point for more detailed decision making in developing this into a practical solution. This explanation currently only appears in the introduction to Annex B and should be stated in the main body of the guideline.
  3. **G1102 –** ***VTS Interaction with Allied Services***. Annex C to this document is entitled “Examples of Operating Procedures” but the content largely comprises action lists. This annex is more appropriate to IALA Guideline G1141 – *Operational Procedures for VTS* that is currently under review and there is a danger of conflict between these two guidelines. The content of this annex should be taken into account in the update to G1141 (see sub-paragraph 3.2.e.) and, subsequently, Annex C to guideline G1102 should be deleted at the next full review.
  4. **V-120 – *VTS in Inland Waterways***. This document was originally issued as a recommendation in 2001 but the main content is in the form of a guideline. Currently it cuts and pastes bits from various other IALA guidelines and recommendations and sets them out without addressing the most relevant issue of where VTS in inland waters differs from a standard VTS. The TG was unable to align this document within the terms of the scope of Task 1.1.1.2 and recommend it be reviewed and transposed by the committee into a new guideline. It was considered that any update did not need to copy parts of other IALA documents but simply to identify that, because vessels in inland waters may also operate beyond inland waters into coastal and port/harbour areas, there is considerable benefit in such control being harmonised globally and should follow IALA guidance for all VTSs established in coastal and port/harbour areas. It need only set out the relevant references and identify areas where VTS in inland waters may differ. As a guideline, reference to it could be incorporated comfortably within recommendation R0127 – *VTS Operations*, which is currently being updated and it is recommended that the link to this as a new guideline be incorporated in recommendation R0127.
  5. **R0127 – *VTS Operations* & G1141** **–** ***Operational Procedures for VTS***. These documents are currently being reviewed by WG1 as part of Task 1.2.1 for completion at VTS51. It is recommended that:
     1. TG 1.2.1 notes the comment at sub-paragraph 3.2.b.ii above, taking into account the existing text in guideline G1045 relating to operational procedures at its section 2.2 and considers incorporating the relevant aspects of section 2.2 into G1141 while it is currently under review.
     2. TG 1.2.1 notes the comment at sub-paragraph 3.2.c above and takes into account the content of Annex C to guideline G1102 – *VTS Interaction with Allied Services* when updating guideline G1141 – *Operational Procedures for VTS.*
     3. Assuming VTS Committee agreement to the transposition of Recommendation V-120 – *VTS In Inland Waters* to a Guideline (see sub-paragraph 3.2.d. above), that reference to “VTS in Inland Waters” be included in section 4 of Recommendation R0127 together with the other updates to terminology and quotes passed separately to the chair of TG 1.2.1.
  6. **The IALA Brochure – *Guide for VTS Providers on Fatigue Awareness and Human Reliability.*** Task Group 1.1.1.2 have reviewed this document and have made proposed amendments to align it with the new resolution. The document contains guidance of significant relevance; however, the group questioned the rationale for issuing important guidance directed primarily at VTS providers as a brochure rather than as a formal guideline. The group consider that much of the content of this brochure could be incorporated into Guideline G1045 – *Staffing Levels at VTS Centres* and recommend that this is undertaken at the next update of G1045 after which the brochure could be withdrawn. The group also noted that some of the content may be relevant to Task 3.1.1 -
  7. **IALA NAVGUIDE.** The IALA NAVGUIDE contains a summary of VTS at its Chapter 5. Whilst this is only four pages long, it will all be entirely out-of-date and misaligned with the new IMO Resolution, the IALA VTS Manual and most VTS related Recommendations and Guidelines including an extensive list of out-of-date references. This demonstrates the danger of summarising one set of documents under the control of one committee in a document under the control of another committee. A simple statement that guidance on VTS is addressed in a separate manual and associated recommendations and guidelines would be a preferable way to avoid such misalignment.

# References

1. C70-19.1 Report of the 70th Session of the IALA Council 10-13 December 2019 – section 11.4.3.
2. C70-11.4.3 (VTS47-13.2.2) Input paper - IALA VTS Documentation post adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services.
3. C72-19.1 Report of the 72nd Session of the IALA Council 8 – 10 December 2020 - section 11.4.5.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Approve the enclosed draft liaison note together with the package of documents for amendment and recommendations for withdrawal for submission to Council.
2. Consider the amalgamation of Recommendation V-125 on *The Use and Presentation of Symbology at a VTS Centre* with Guideline 1105 – *Shore-Side Portrayal Ensuring Harmonisation with E-Navigation Related Information*.
3. Consider the case for a more thorough review of guideline G1045 – *Staffing Levels at VTS Centres* as a new task in the next session to address the considerations set out in paragraph 3.2.b.i, ii, iii, iv & v.
4. Take into account the content of Annex C to guideline G1102 – *VTS Interaction with Allied Services* when updating guideline G1141 – *Operational Procedures for VTS* as part of Task 1.2.1 and to consider the deletion of Annex C at the next full review of guideline G1102.
5. Consider the need to conduct a full review of recommendation V-120 – *VTS in Inland Waters* and to transpose it into a guideline.
6. Task 1.2.1 considers incorporating the relevant aspects of section 2.2 of G1045 relating to operational procedures and Annex C to guideline G1102 into G1141 and include reference to the guidance on VTS in Inland Waters in section 4 of Recommendation R0127 during the current updates.
7. Consider the incorporation of IALA Brochure – *Guide for VTS Providers on Fatigue Awareness and Human Reliability* into Guideline G1045 – *Staffing Levels at VTS Centres* at the next update of G1045, inclusion of relevant points in Task 3.1.1 and the subsequent withdrawal of the brochure.
8. Limit reference to VTS to a short statement on where IALA’s detailed documentation and guidance on VTS can be found at the next update to the IALA NAVGUIDE.

# Enclosure

VTS50-9.1.3.1– Draft Council Liaison Note “Update to IALA VTS Documentation on Adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services”

# documents uploaded to Nextcloud fileshare

(<https://nextcloud.iala-aism.org/index.php/apps/files/?dir=/Committees/VTS/VTS50/VTS50%20Input%20%26%20Output%20Papers/Input%20Papers/1.1.1.2%20%E2%80%93%20IALA%20Docs%20Editorial%20Alignment&fileid=95909>)

1. R0103 (V-103) Ed 3.1 – *Training and Certification of VTS personnel*
2. R0119 Ed 4.1 – *Establishment of a VTS*
3. R1012 Ed1.1 – *VTS Communications*
4. R1021 Ed1.1 – *Marine AtoN Awareness for Mariners*
5. G1027 Ed.1.2 – *Simulation in VTS Training*
6. G1045 Ed 1.2 – *Staffing Levels at VTS Centres*
7. G1083 Ed.1.1 – *Standard Nomenclature for a VTS*
8. G1089 Ed 2.0 *– Provision of a VTS*
9. G1101 Ed 1.1 – *Auditing and Assessing a VTS*
10. G1102 Ed1.1 – *VTS Interaction with Allied or Other Services*
11. (G1105 – *Shore-Side Portrayal Ensuring Harmonisation with E-Navigation Related Information\*)*
12. G1115 Ed 1.1 – *Preparing for an IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) on a VTS*
13. G1118 Ed 1.1 – *Marine Casualty / Incident Reporting and Recording, Including Near-Miss Situations as it Relates to a VTS*
14. G1124 Ed 1.1 – *The use of PAWSA MKII*
15. G1131 Ed 1.1 – *Setting and measuring VTS objectives*
16. (G1132 Ed.1.1 – *VTS VHF Voice Communication\**)
17. G1142 Ed1.1 – *The provision of a Local Port Service other than a VTS*
18. G1144 Ed.1.1 – *Promulgating the Requirements of a VTS to Mariners*
19. G1150 Ed 2.1 – *Establishing Planning and Implementing a VTS*
20. G1156 Ed 1.1 – *Recruitment Training and Certification of VTS Personnel*
21. Brochure – *Guide for VTS Providers on Fatigue Awareness and Human Reliability*

\*Only required if not updated in the scheduled timeframe

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-3)