

From: VTS Committee

To: IALA Secretariat

LAP18-12.2  
(VTS43-12.1.2)  
24 March 2017

## LIAISON NOTE

### Draft IALA Standards

#### 1 Introduction

The VTS Committee reviewed the Draft IALA Standards at VTS43 in March 2017, including:

- IALA Standard 1010 AtoN Planning and Service Requirements
- IALA Standard 1020 AtoN Design and Delivery
- IALA Standard 1030 Radionavigation Service
- IALA Standard 1040 Vessel Traffic Services
- IALA Standard 1050 Training and Certification
- IALA Standard 1060 Digital Communication Technologies
- IALA Standard 1070 Information Services.

#### 2 Discussion

The review of the draft IALA Standards highlighted a need for the Standards to reflect the international framework for and Vessel Traffic Services and aids to navigation as provided under the International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea 74/78 (SOLAS) Chapter 5 (Safety of Navigation). In particular:

- Regulation 12 - Vessel Traffic Services, and
- Regulation 13 - Establishment and operation of aids to navigation

SOLAS states that Contracting Governments planning and implementing VTS shall, wherever possible, follow the guidelines developed by the Organization.

IMO Resolution A.857(20) Vessel Traffic Services defines a Vessel Traffic Service as:

*A service implemented by a Competent Authority, designed to improve the safety and efficiency of vessel traffic and to protect the environment.*

Further, it defines the Competent Authority as:

*The authority made responsible, in whole or in part, by the Government for safety, including environmental safety, and efficiency of vessel traffic and the protection of the environment.*

The draft Standards do not refer to "Competent Authorities". This situation may cause some confusion amongst governments in giving effect to their international obligations under SOLAS. Furthermore, a conclusion from the VTS2016 Symposium was that the legislative relationship between VTS and AtoN need to be considered in the light of international conventions.

It is the view of the Committee that the international framework for AtoN and VTS provided in SOLAS and the associated legislative arrangements for VTS and AtoN in countries should be reflected in the proposed IALA Standards.

To address the confusion the Committee suggests the following minor amendments to the draft IALA Standards:

- Section 1 Introduction  
IALA publishes Standards, Recommendations, ~~and~~ Guidelines and **Model Courses** for the global harmonisation of the provision, maintenance, and operation of marine aids to navigation **and Vessel Traffic Services**, to foster the safe, economic, and efficient movement of vessels, and for the protection of the environment.
- Section 2 Purpose  
IALA Standards are suitable for direct citation by States in the interest of an efficient and harmonised global network of aids to navigation ~~and services~~ **and Vessel Traffic Services**.
- Section 3 Application  
This Standard is suitable for implementation by all **Competent** Authorities for marine-aids to navigation **and VTS**.

A revised version of the IALA VTS Standard 1040 is provided at the Annex for consideration.

The VTS Committee would also like to express its concern that Standards are approved by General Assembly, which meets only once every four years. The Committee suggests that consideration be given to providing a policy and procedural framework for updating a standard where a new Recommendation is deemed necessary.

The Committee is also on the view that the title of IALA Standard 1070 creates some confusion with regard to “Information services” as defined by IMO Resolution A.857(20). Suggest the name of the Standard be amended (e.g. Information Processing) to mitigate any confusion.

### **3 Action requested**

That IALA give consideration to:

- Accommodating the minor amendments suggested by the Committee (as provided at the Annex) to provide greater clarity in the Standard to the entity responsibly for VTS under the international framework for VTS – that is the competent authority, and
- Adopting a policy and procedural framework for updating a standard accordingly when a new Recommendation is deemed necessary.
- Amending the name of Standard 1070 to avoid confusion with IMO definition.



# IALA STANDARD

1040

VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICES

**Edition 1.0**

**June 2018**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

IALA publishes Standards, Recommendations, ~~and~~ Guidelines **and Model Courses** for the global harmonisation of the provision, maintenance, and operation of marine aids to navigation **and Vessel Traffic Services**, to foster the safe, economic, and efficient movement of vessels, and for the protection of the environment.

They are defined as follows.

Document	Definition
<b>IALA Standards</b>	IALA Standards form a framework, implementation of which by all coastal states will harmonize marine aids to navigation <b>and Vessel Traffic Services</b> worldwide. IALA standards cover technology and services and are non-mandatory.
<b>IALA Recommendations</b>	IALA Recommendations specify what practices shall be carried out in order to comply with a Recommendation, and may be referenced, in full or in part, in an IALA Standard.
<b>IALA Guidelines</b>	IALA Guidelines describe how to implement practices normally specified in a Recommendation.

## 2. PURPOSE

The IALA Strategic Vision for the period 2014-2026, adopted by the General Assembly in 2014, had two Goals, the first of which is to

“Ensure that aids to navigation systems and related services, including e-Navigation, Vessel Traffic Services, and emerging technologies, are harmonized through international cooperation and the provision of standards.”

IALA Standards are suitable for direct citation by States in the interest of an efficient and harmonised global network of aids to navigation and ~~services~~**Vessel Traffic Services**.

## 3. APPLICATION

This Standard is suitable for implementation by ~~all marine aids to navigation authorities~~ **and VTS Competent authorities** **for Vessel Traffic Services**.

## 4. SCOPE

IALA Standards may contain Normative and Informative provisions.

Normative provisions are those with which it is necessary to conform in order to claim compliance with the Standard.

Informative provisions are those which specify additional desirable practices but with which it is not necessary to conform in order to claim compliance with the Standard.

This Standard references Normative and Informative provisions, detailed in the listed IALA Recommendations, covering the following scope.



- Vessel Traffic Services Implementation
- Vessel Traffic Services Operations
- Vessel Traffic Services Data and Information Management
- Vessel Traffic Services Communications
- Vessel Traffic Services Technologies
- Auditing and Assessment of Vessel Traffic Services

## 5. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

In this Standard, any reference to a Recommendation is to the most recent version approved by the IALA Council.

In this Standard the word 'shall' is used to indicate that a provision is Normative and so is to be followed in order to comply with the standard. The word 'should' introduces Informative provisions.

The following Recommendations are **Normative** provisions, and **shall** be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed.

Scope	Number	Title
<b>Vessel Traffic Services Implementation</b>	V-119	The Implementation of Vessel Traffic Services
<b>Vessel Traffic Services Operations</b>	V-127	Operational Procedures for Vessel Traffic Services
<b>Vessel Traffic Services data and information management</b>	V-125	The Use and Presentation of Symbolology at a VTS Centre
<b>Vessel Traffic Services Technologies</b>	V-128	Operational and Technical Performance of VTS Systems
<u>Aids to Navigation Planning &amp; Service Requirements</u> <u>Quality Management</u>	<u>O-132</u>	<u>Quality Management for Aids to Navigation Authorities</u>
<u>Training and Certification</u>	<u>tbd</u>	<u>Accreditation and approval process for VTS training organisations</u>



<a href="#">Training and assessment</a>		
<a href="#">Training and Certification</a> <a href="#">Competency certification and revalidation</a>	<a href="#">V-103</a>	<a href="#">Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel</a>
<a href="#">Information Services</a> <a href="#">Data modelling and data encoding</a>	<a href="#">V-145</a>	<a href="#">The inter-VTS Exchange Format (IVEF) Service</a>

The following Recommendations are **Informative** provisions and **should** be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed.

Scope	Number	Title
<b>Vessel Traffic Services Implementation</b>	V-102	The application of the 'User Pays' principle to Vessel Traffic Services
	V-120	Vessel Traffic Services in Inland Waters
<a href="#">Aids to Navigation Planning &amp; Service Requirements</a> <a href="#">Risk Management</a>	<a href="#">O-134</a>	<a href="#">The IALA Risk Management Tool for ports and Restricted Waterways</a>

## 6. SUPPLEMENTARY ELEMENTS

There are no supplementary elements to this Standard.

## 7. ADOPTION OF AND AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS

IALA Standards may be adopted or amended by a majority vote at a General Assembly of national members.



## 8. DOCUMENT HISTORY

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Date	Amendment Details	Approval
2018-06-01	First issue	General Assembly Resolution, Incheon, Korea, May 2018.