

Liaison Note to PAP

Draft position paper considering whether or not IALA should include the possibility for non-SOLAS vessels to access some e-Navigation services using any available equipment such as tablets and mobile phones.

1 Introduction

The ENAV committee was requested to draft a position paper for consideration by a future PAP meeting regarding conclusion 5 of the IALA 2014 Conference:

“Shore based authorities should recognise that there is a significant population of smaller and non SOLAS vessels that is [are] not equipped to take advantage of all aspects of e-navigation services.”

2 Details of draft position paper

Many existing SOLAS vessels built before July 2014 of less than 10,000 gt and many non-SOLAS vessels may not have full access to e-navigation services. Smaller SOLAS and non-SOLAS vessels frequently carry sophisticated navigational and communications equipment that is not mandated by IMO and may not be type approved under IMO requirements. Consideration might be given to providing e-navigation services to such vessels.

While the potential benefits of growing access to e-navigation services should be recognised, the risks associated herewith should be taken into account. It should also be recognised that equipment carried on such vessels, with the potential to access e-navigation services ranges from complex Electronic Chart Systems to personal devices used to access many non-regulated services with few if any quality assurance or security requirements. Risk mitigation could be achieved by giving careful consideration to a number of aspects, including:

- 1 Level of competence in utilising the information provided.
- 2 Quality assurance of equipment.
- 3 The risks associated with the use of outdated, incorrect, corrupt or malicious information.
- 4 Quality, reliability, availability and security aspects of information.

IALA members should recognize that, in many parts of the world, there is a significant population of smaller and non-SOLAS vessels, for which some e-Navigation services may be very valuable, given that the risks associated with providing such services can be sufficiently mitigated.

3 Action requested

The PAP is requested to note, and if appropriate, adopt the proposed position paper in part or in whole as the IALA position on the subject matter.