

Input paper for the following Committee(s):

(Select as appropriate)

☐ ARM☐ ENG☒ PAP☐ ENAV☐ VTS**Purpose of paper:**☒ Input☐ Information**Agenda item**

6.4.1

Technical domain/ Task number**Author(s)/Submitter(s)**

Secretariat and LAP chair

CLASSIFICATION OF THE OTHER APPROPRIATE PAPERS

1. INTRODUCTION

In the structure of the IALA documents, five primary categories are outlined in the General Regulations: standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals, and other pertinent documents. Recently, the committee has been working on documents that fall outside these established categories.

The objective of this paper is to present a proposal for the classification of these non-conforming documents, proposing their inclusion under the "other appropriate papers." This category could include the technical notes, model courses, and in particular, the S-200 Product Specification (PS) and Technical Service (TS) documents.

Previously, there was a consideration by PAP to classify PS and TS documents as guidelines. However, upon further evaluation, it has been deemed more fitting to categorize these documents as "other appropriate papers."

This reclassification offers a more suitable and inclusive approach for accommodating these types of documents within the IALA document hierarchy.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. TECHNICAL NOTES

The VTS committee developed a discussion paper on MASS implications from a VTS perspective. While this document was reported to the council, it lacks official status.

Other documents, such as the Maritime Communication (MARCOM) Manual of DTEC, contain evolving information and require frequent updates, making them unsuitable for manual classification.

There are also guidelines, like G1161 Evaluation of Platforms for Maritime Services, that do not fit neatly into any category.

Categorizing technical notes as "other appropriate documents" allows them to be referenced in recommendations, guidelines, or manuals effectively.

2.2. MODEL COURSES

The Council has approved approximately 40 model courses for training, aimed at standardizing training and promoting best practices in Marine AtoN services. These courses are instrumental in enhancing global

maritime safety and efficiency, offering specialized, high-quality training for individuals tasked with maintaining and operating Marine AtoN. However, there is ambiguity regarding their placement within the existing documents hierarchy.

2.3. S-200 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS AND TECHNICAL SERVICE DOCUMENTS

The S-200 Product Specifications, developed in alignment with the IHO S-100 standard, encompass a wide range of committee topics including Aids to Navigation, VTS, positioning systems, and communication systems. These specifications, including documents like S-201, S-210, S-211 and etc., are subject to continuous development and refinement, reflecting the nature of harmonisation. More information can be found at <https://www.iala-aism.org/technical/data-modelling/>.

The Technical Service Documents are essential in the development of the Maritime Services in the context of e-Navigation. They consist of a set of service specifications, service technical design and service instances. In essence, a Technical Service is a digital service offered by an electronic device to another electronic device. More information can be found at <https://www.iala-aism.org/technical/technical-services/>.

2.4. DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION PROCESS

The development of the S-200 Product Specifications and Technical service documents involves a complex and demanding process, including extensive testing and validation within a specialized testbed environment. This ensures their operational effectiveness and relevance. The dynamic nature of these specifications necessitates regular updates and modifications to accommodate new technologies and operational feedback.

2.5. CLASSIFICATION OF THE OTHER APPROPRIAT PAPERS

Given the evolving nature of both the S-200 Product Specifications and Technical Service Documents, their initial classification as guidelines appears impractical. These documents, due to their dynamic and frequently updated nature, are better suited to the "other appropriate documents" category. This classification will provide the necessary flexibility and adaptability for timely updates and revisions. Below is the proposed structure of the documents.

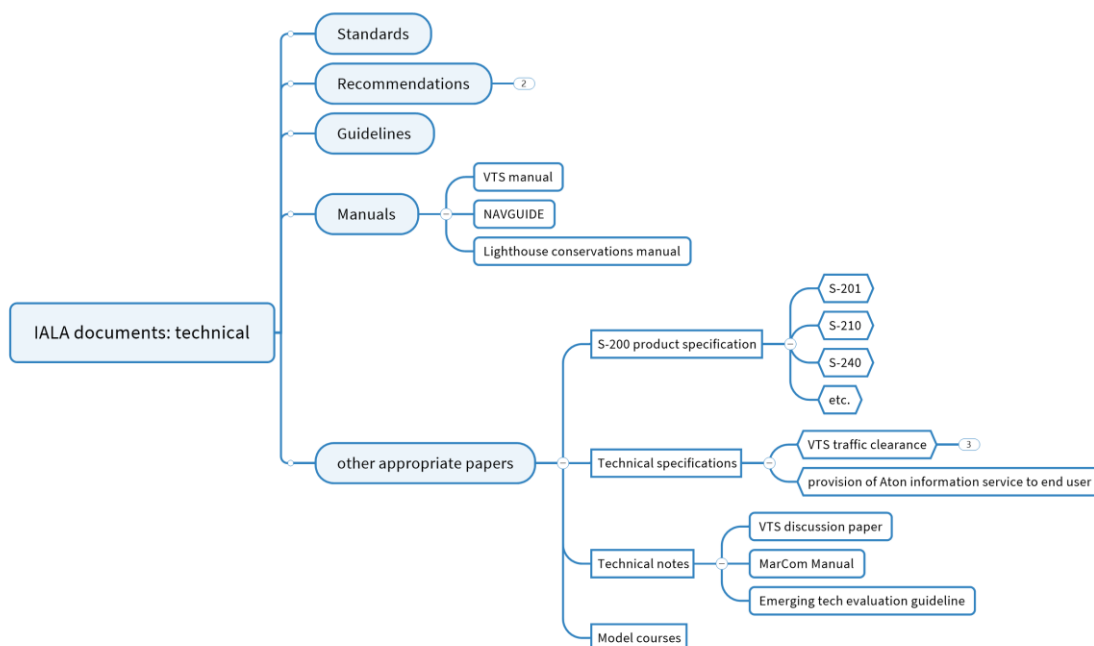


Figure 1 Proposed structure of the technical documents

The secretariat is dedicated to efficiently handling the documents and related publications, ensuring they are suitably organized and accessible. This commitment includes providing templates for these document types.

2.6. PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

The proposal suggests initiating a discussion to reach a consensus on the new categorization of S-200 product specification, technical specifications, technical notes and the model courses. Following agreement by PAP, the secretariat would then present this proposal to the Council for approval.

3. ACTION REQUESTED OF PAP

The PAP is requested to discuss this matter and agree to the reclassification of the technical notes, model courses, S-200 Product Specifications and Technical Service Documents into the "other appropriate documents" category, recognizing their unique and evolving characteristics.