

Agenda item 8 - IALA TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

8.3 VTS

8.3.4 Proposed Workshop on Human Factors and Ergonomics in VTS

Note by the Secretariat

1. Background

The VTS Committee wishes to conduct a Workshop on Human Factors and Ergonomics in VTS with the purpose of developing a draft Guideline in accordance with Technical Domain 3.3 in the strategic vision and task 3.3.1 in its draft revised Work Plan.

An explanation of the proposed Workshop and its purpose follows as an Annex.

2. Action requested

The IALA Council is requested to approve the proposed Workshop.

ANNEX**HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS IN VTS WORKSHOP PROPOSAL**

VISION	<p>The 2012 IALA VTS Symposium recognised the increasing awareness of, public perception of, and expectation for VTS Authorities and Professionals. This consequently places an enhanced degree of accountability on Competent/VTS Authorities, VTS Professionals and their subsequent management, delivery and oversight of VTS. It was further recognised that, in parallel with other safety critical professions, the management of human factors and ergonomics plays a significant role in maximising the performance of a VTS.</p> <p>Further, the Symposium also recognised that VTS is firmly established as a focus for information exchange and plays a pivotal role in the maritime transport domain. The full potential of VTS, specifically the optimisation of human performance and ergonomics, is still to be realised, particularly when compared to similar services in the aviation world.</p> <p>Through having increased awareness of the management of human factors and ergonomics in VTS, operational performance and, consequently, the awareness, public perception and expectation of VTS may be enhanced.</p>
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PROPOSAL	<p>To hold a workshop bringing together an expert group with professional expertise and experience in human factors and ergonomics. The workshop will involve several distinct working groups examining the following tasks:</p> <p>Human Reliability: With a view to improving human reliability in the VTS context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing IALA and wider industry guidance, including that on the risks of stress and fatigue, and subsequently identify strategies and best practices, • Explore and describe techniques and practices in dealing with, but not limited to, decision making and situational awareness in periods of both high activity/high workload and low activity/low workload. <p>Operational Effectiveness: With a view to managing operational requirements in a 24/7 and safety critical environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and explore the factors that VTS Authorities should take account of when planning, implementing and reviewing staffing levels and working patterns, • Provide examples and suggestions of best practice related to operational requirements on VTS professionals including, but not limited to, physical and mental health issues, medication and alcohol. <p>Working Environment: With a view to ensuring optimum human performance and operational efficiency in the VTS environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and explore the factors that VTS Authorities should consider in VTS Centre design and configuration so as to reduce the risk of distraction by internal and external influences such as lighting, noise and other sources of interference, • Identify and describe general principles of and best practices in workstation design and configuration.
PURPOSE(S)	<p>To provide the IALA VTS Committee with proposals, concepts and examples of best practice that can be used in the development of dedicated guidance on the management of human factors and ergonomics.</p> <p>The workshop would also facilitate the exchange of best practices, ideas and knowledge amongst a wide range of VTS professionals and those from other sectors.</p> <p>The workshop will contribute to influencing the formulation, review and updating of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IALA Recommendation V-103 and its associated Model Courses with specific reference to the modules dealing with personal attributes, • IALA Guideline 1045 on Staffing Levels, • The VTS Training Manual.
GOAL(S)	<p>To develop IALA guidance addressing the management of human factors and ergonomics in VTS with a view improving human reliability and performance taking full account of the increasing awareness, public perception and expectation of VTS professionals.</p>

WHO	<p>The workshop will provide a forum for discussion between stakeholder groups. It is envisaged that invitations will be sent to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IALA Members • IMO • IHMA • Pilotage Associations • IAPH • IFSMA • Accredited Training Organisations • Nautical Institute • VTS Personnel / VTS Authorities / Competent Authorities • VTS Stakeholders/Allied services • Human Factor experts in the transportation sector • Marine Accident Investigators
SIZE OF GROUP	It is expected that the workshop will attract a group of up to 50 persons.
WHERE	Gothenburg, Sweden (Chalmers University)
DURATION	5 days
WHEN	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th October 2015
COST TO PARTICIPANTS	Registration fee € 600