

14 – INTERNATIONAL

14.4 – EfficienSea2 Project

14.4.2 – Report on IALA Work

Note by the IALA representative

1. INTRODUCTION

IALA leads Tasks 1.2 (Project/Test Bed Liaison) and Task 1.3 (Standardization) in EfficienSea 2. IALA also contributes to WP 2 (Communications - VDES) and WP 3 (Maritime Cloud).

2. CURRENT STATUS

The core work in Tasks 1.2 and 1.3 has been completed and Deliverables D1.4 and D1.5 accepted. The spread sheets on which the information is recorded are being kept updated and the current versions provided on the E2 website and potentially the IALA website.

3. IALA WORK PLAN

3.1. IALA Website

It is important to make sure that the latest versions of the information are available to all interested parties. This information can be posted on the IALA website, but there needs to be some redesign to achieve this, in particular, incorporating other existing websites that carry e-navigation information. A transfer of funds from personnel to external contractors has been proposed to carry out this work.

3.2. Standards development

It has also been proposed that external assistance be contracted to develop standards for VDES and Maritime Cloud. This approach may be extended to the Common Maritime Data Structure (S-200 Domains Management and S-2xx specification development). All of these tasks will be carried out in close cooperation with the respective ENAV WGs.

Documents would eventually be part of the IALA suite of technical recommendations and guidelines, as always envisaged by the E2 project.

3.3. Raising awareness

It is considered that a communications plan is needed for VDES (particularly in the lead up to WRC 2019) and the Maritime Cloud (especially at IMO MSC). This will need to be discussed with the WP1 Lead.

The Maritime Cloud is a new concept and is not yet well understood in IMO circles and elsewhere. One presentation has been made at IMO, but more will be needed, together with demonstrations, as the concept is converted into reality.

Similarly the case for VDES still needs to be put to the maritime and in particular, the radio regulatory organizations. This is essential if further problems with frequency allocations are to be avoided.



3.4. Workshops

IALA contributions to WP3 are to support the development of system and user requirements for the Maritime Cloud. It was envisaged that IALA in cooperation with Frequentis - leading Tasks 3.1 & 3.2, would organize an international workshop to advance this work. IALA could take on the organization of two workshops leading to the development of standards for architecture, management and security of the MC. Again this needs to be discussed with the WP3 lead.

IALA has time allocated to VDES standards development in WP2. This could be supported by workshops held at IALA to finalise system technical requirements.

3.5. Plan

The itemised plan is attached as an annex to this report.

4. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

Note the report and its annex.



ANNEX – IALA Plan for EfficienSea2 Work

1. Prepare a draft strategy/policy document on the future of digital communications, using ENAV17-11.20 as a basis and taking into account the IMO review of GMDSS;
2. Review existing IALA documentation relating to AIS and provide a recommendation on suitable consolidation / revision / inclusion of text relating to introduction of VDES;
3. Noting the above, propose IALA documentation structure for VDES with the inclusion of AIS documents as part of VDES;
4. Draft an overview document for VDES (high level introduction to VDES covering operational and basic technical aspects – similar to the IALA Guideline 1082 (Overview of AIS));
5. Prepare preliminary draft standards for VDES in IEC, based on existing ITU-R and IMO documentation;
6. Draft communications strategy for inter-committee aspects of VDES, noting the requirement to have input on VDES from other IALA Committees; and draft chapters on VDES for IALA Aids to Navigation Guide and IALA VTS Manuals;
7. Draft plan for shaping opinion in ITU-R to raise the level of understanding of VDES and its significance, in particular the importance of the sat-down link;
8. Design and plan a VDES compatibility test bed;
9. Implement VDES test bed;
10. Draft an information document and presentation on the Maritime Cloud, for possible use at IMO;
11. Prepare a plan/strategy for standardisation of the Maritime Cloud;
12. Prepare pages for the IALA website on standards and test beds, using information gathered in the E2 databases.