



**Agenda 10 – Technical Activities**

**10.5 – VTS**

**Update to IALA VTS Documentation on Adoption of Revised IMO Resolution on Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. At Council meeting C70 in December 2019, Council approved the addition of a new task to update Guideline *G1089 Provision of VTS - INS, TOS & NAS* as submitted in paper C70-11.4.3 (VTS47-13.2.2) *Input to Council on IALA VTS documents post adoption of revised A.857(20)*. The update to Guideline 1189 was completed at VTS49 and Guideline *G1089 Provision of a VTS* was approved at Council meeting C72 for issue on adoption of the new resolution by the IMO Assembly.
2. Council also authorized a process of secretarial amendment to IALA documents that only require changes to incorporate the new terminology and update quotes on adoption of the new resolution. The review of these documents, for update and publication early after adoption, has also now been completed.

**DISCUSSION**

3. Recognizing that a proliferation of documents that are clearly out-of-date would reflect adversely on IALA and in approving the process of secretarial amendment, Council was invited to note that this would only apply to documents that either required a simple transposition of terms, updates to quotes or involved minor textual changes to adopt the new terminology.
4. In reviewing this task, it became apparent that the scale of the work involved required support to the IALA Secretariat from the VTS Committee to ensure that all of the provisions of the new resolution were captured in those IALA documents that were to be reissued was significant. It was also recognized that it would be illogical to reissue these documents without including updates to any cross-references to, or quotes from, other IALA documents and that the opportunity should also be taken to align them as far as practicable to the new IALA style guide and standard templates. Whilst this has been a relatively mechanistic process that could be considered to be within the remit of the IALA Secretariat, the amendments overall might appear to be relatively extensive. It was, therefore agreed, on the advice of the Secretary General that, notwithstanding the authorization given by Council at C70 for these amendments to be delegated to the IALA Secretariat, the amended documents should be referred to Council as a package to ensure transparency for members of both the VTS Committee and Council.
5. These proposed updates will maintain the currency of each document, in that they will reflect the language of the new resolution that will carry each document through until it is scheduled for a full review and amendment in the normal course. This process will prevent such updates otherwise taking an unduly high precedence over other VTS Committee work to the detriment of the committee work programme as a whole. It should be recognized that these documents will not have been subject to the normal detailed committee review and should, therefore, be regarded as *“interim amendments pending more thorough revision in the normal course”*. To reflect this, these documents have been allocated a new version suffix number only rather than being recorded as new editions.



6. The amended documents in this package are enclosed. Exceptionally, and for clarity, all changes are shown in track change. These documents are also listed in the annex with comments/a brief summary on the substantive changes required to achieve alignment (other than those of a more secretarial nature of style or the updating of cross-references). The package includes Guideline *G1089* and three of the documents recently approved at C72 and C73 respectively as these documents have required further minor amendments to align with the revised draft version of the new Resolution issued on completion of MSC102; this version of the new Resolution is now expected to be the version submitted to the IMO Assembly, a copy of which is also included with the enclosures.
7. In addition, three documents were identified for withdrawal concurrent with the issue of the new resolution and the package of updated IALA documents:
  - a. **R102 (V-102) – *The application of the User Pays principle to Vessel Traffic Services***. The document revision record indicates revisions in 2011 and again in 2020, however, these were secretarial in nature to conform with numbering and style. The document has never been properly reviewed and updated since it was first issued in 1998. Much of the content is now highly questionable, irrelevant and, in some places, even misleading. Since all relevant principles are quoted from IMO policies that are not limited to VTS, there is no justification for IALA to duplicate such guidance. The VTS Committee does not consider that this document provides any real value either to VTS providers or competent authorities. In view of its limited relevance, it is recommended that the document be withdrawn.
  - b. **Guideline 1071 – *Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond Territorial Seas***. The new resolution now addresses the concepts of VTS beyond Territorial Seas either with, or without, being in association with a routing or reporting system. These concepts are captured in the new Guideline *G1089 Provision of A VTS*, which has a specific section on “VTS beyond Territorial Seas” that expands on, and explains how, the new Resolution should be interpreted. The two annexes to Guideline 1071 are no longer required; the extensive examples at Annex A were only included to justify the IALA interpretation in the absence of any IMO statement at the time and there should be no requirement for IALA to provide the guidance at Annex B of the guideline on the methodology for IMO submissions. It is, therefore, recommended that the document be withdrawn.
  - c. **The IALA Brochure – *What a shipmaster can expect of the VTS and what is expected of the shipmaster (Short title: VTS Awareness)***. The spreadsheet, C70-11.4.3.1<sup>1</sup>, to Council C70 identified that this document requires a complete rewrite to align with the new recommendation. It should also be noted that guidance to mariners on VTS has been proposed by IALA to IMO. This brochure will be in conflict with the new resolution and should be withdrawn when the new resolution is issued. Dependent on the response from IMO, the requirement for this brochure to be revised and reissued can be considered for inclusion in the Work Programme 2022-26 should the need arise.
8. Whilst Council will be considering this package in December in a similar timeframe to the IMO Assembly’s consideration of the new VTS Resolution, IMO have advised that the new VTS resolution is unlikely to be formally published until well into Q1 of 2022. These IALA documents must clearly indicate that they have been updated to reflect the provisions of the new IMO Resolution; it is essential, therefore, that they are dated on the title page and in the Document Revision table no earlier than the date of publication of the new IMO Resolution rather than the date of approval by Council.
9. This package of documents is submitted to Council for approval for issue or withdrawal as applicable, on publication of the new IMO Resolution *Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services* following adoption by the IMO Assembly. All documents will require subsequent final secretarial review and proof-reading to include the new resolution reference number as indicated and highlighted in each document and any additional minor editorial amendments to the Resolution made by the IMO Assembly.

---

<sup>1</sup> C70-11.4.3.1 (VTS-13.2.2.1) Enclosure to Council Liaison Note - IALA Docs Post Adoption



## ACTION REQUESTED

10. The Council is requested to approve, for implementation following the publication by IMO of the new IMO Resolution *Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services*:

- a. The package of documents listed in Table A of Annex A (dated appropriately and noting that final minor adjustments by the IALA Secretariat will be required to enter the new reference number for the resolution, to include any further editorial amendments to the Resolution by IMO prior to issue and to align them to the IALA Style Guide).
- b. Withdrawal of Guideline 1071 *Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond Territorial Seas*.
- c. Withdrawal of Recommendation R0102 (V-102) *The Application of the 'User Pays' Principle to Vessel Traffic Services*.
- d. Withdrawal of IALA Brochure *What a shipmaster can expect of the VTS and what is expected of the shipmaster*.

**ANNEX:** Summary of documents for amendment or withdrawal.

**ENCLOSURES** (the link to the listed documents below can be found [here](#))

1. R0103 (V-103) Ed 3.1 – *Training and Certification of VTS personnel*
2. R0119 (V-119) Ed 4.1 – *Establishment of a VTS*
3. R0127 (V-127) Ed3.2 – *VTS Operations*
4. R1012 Ed 1.1 – *VTS Communications*
5. R1021 Ed 1.1 – *Marine AtoN Awareness for Mariners*
6. G1027 Ed.1.2 – *Simulation in VTS Training*
7. G1045 Ed 1.2 – *Staffing Levels at VTS Centres*
8. G1083 Ed.1.1 – *Standard Nomenclature to Identify and Refer to a VTS*
9. G1089 Ed 2.0 – *Provision of a VTS*
10. G1101 Ed 1.1 – *Auditing and Assessing a VTS*
11. G1102 Ed 1.1 – *VTS Interaction with Allied or Other Services*
12. G1115 Ed 1.1 – *Preparing for an IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) on a VTS*
13. G1118 Ed 1.1 – *Marine Casualty / Incident Reporting and Recording, Including Near-Miss Situations as it Relates to a VTS*
14. G1124 Ed 1.1 – *The use of PAWSA MKII*
15. G1131 Ed 1.1 – *Setting and measuring VTS objectives*
16. G1132 Ed 2.1 – *VTS Voice Communications and Phraseology*
17. G1141 Ed 2.1 – *Operational Procedures for Delivering VTS*
18. G1142 Ed 1.1 – *The provision of a Local Port Service other than a VTS*
19. G1144 Ed.1.1 – *Promulgating the Requirements of a VTS to Mariners*
20. G1150 Ed 2.1 – *Establishing Planning and Implementing a VTS*
21. G1156 Ed 1.1 – *Recruitment Training and Certification of VTS Personnel*
22. G1169 Ed 1.1 – *Competencies for Planning and Implementing a VTS*
23. Brochure Ed 1.1 – *Guide for VTS Providers on Fatigue Awareness and Human Reliability*
24. Post MSC 102 - VTS Guidelines Extract



## ANNEX A SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS FOR AMENDMENT OR WITHDRAWAL

Table A: IALA Documents for Amendment:

Reference No	Title	Summary of Update (other than those of a more secretarial nature of style or the updating of cross-references)
<b>Recommendations:</b>		
R0103 (V-103) Ed 3.1	Training and Certification of VTS personnel	Update of terminology and change to quote in section 3
R0119 (V-119) Ed 4.1	Establishment of a VTS	Update of terminology and change to quote in section 3; new Guideline Gnnnn <i>VTS in Inland Waters</i> added to list of related guidelines
R0127 (V-127) Ed 3.2	VTS Operations	Change to quote page 4; update to terminology
R1012 Ed 1.2	VTS Communications	Change to quote page 4; update to terminology
R1021 Ed 1.1	Marine AtoN Awareness for Mariners	One very minor amend page 3
<b>Guidelines:</b>		
G1027 Ed 1.2	Simulation in VTS Training	Update of terminology, update of cross-reference and deletion of associated quote, substitution of description of "Types of Service" with the new text relating to the purposes of a VTS.
G1045 Ed 1.2	Staffing Levels at VTS Centres	Update of terms and definitions, alignment of quotes and text to new resolution (in particular removal of reference to Types of Service).
G1083 Ed 1.1	Standard Nomenclature to Identify and Refer to a VTS	Update of terminology, amendment to title, Section 3.1 - substitution of description of "Types of Service" with the new text relating to the purposes of a VTS.
G1089 Ed 2.0	Provision of a VTS	Adjustment to quote from new resolution at section 4 (previously approved at C72 for issue post publication of new resolution)
G1101 Ed 1.1	Auditing and Assessing a VTS	Update of terminology and cross-references, alignment of responsibilities section to new Resolution. The table with an extensive list of cross-references removed (the list is covered in another IALA document and this list will otherwise quickly become out-of-date).
G1102 Ed 1.1	VTS Interaction with Allied or Other Services	Update of terminology, update of cross-reference and deletion of one definition.
G1115 Ed 1.1	Preparing for an IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) on a VTS	Update of terminology and definitions, standardisation of quotes, removal of duplicated quote.
G1118 Ed 1.1	Marine Casualty / Incident Reporting and Recording, Including Near-Miss Situations as it Relates to a VTS	Update of terminology and cross-references.
G1124 Ed 1.1	The use of PAWSA MKII	Deletion of LPS as an active traffic management technique (p34) and implied reference to Types of Service (p73) (agreed by ARM Committee - lead).
G1131 Ed 1.1	Setting and measuring VTS objectives	Significant update of terminology and cross-references but within the scope of the task. Annex A - Amended to align with new resolution. Table presentation improved.
G1132 Ed 2.1	VTS Voice Communications and Phraseology	Change to quote in section 1



G1141 Ed 2.1	Operational Procedures for Delivering VTS	Update of terminology and change to quote in section 1
G1142 Ed 1.1	The provision of a Local Port Service other than a VTS	Update of terminology and quotes and update title to align with the new resolution.
G1144 Ed 1.1	Promulgating the Requirements of a VTS to Mariners	Update to terminology and change to quote in section 1
G1150 Ed 2.1	Establishing Planning and Implementing a VTS	Update to terminology and significant change to quotes in section 4.2
G1156 Ed 1.1	Recruitment Training and Certification of VTS Personnel	Update to terminology and significant change to quotes requiring a new section 4.2
<b>Brochures:</b>		
Ed 1.1	Guide for VTS Providers on Fatigue Awareness and Human Reliability	Minor update to terminology. Current edition identifier added.

**Table B: Documents proposed for Withdrawal**

Reference No	Title	Comment
<b>Recommendations:</b>		
R0102 (V-102)	The Application of the 'User Pays' Principle to Vessel Traffic Services	Refer sub-paragraphs 7.a & 10.b.
<b>Guidelines:</b>		
1071	Establishment of a Vessel Traffic Service beyond Territorial Seas	Refer sub-paragraphs 7.b & 10.c.
IALA Brochure	What a shipmaster can expect of the VTS and what is expected of the shipmaster (Short title: VTS Awareness)	Refer sub-paragraphs 7.c & 10.d.