IALA GUIDELINE

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TEMPLATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A DGNSS SERVICE FOR RECOGNITION AS A COMPONENT OF THE IMO WWRNS

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1. **BACKGROUND**

IMO Resolution A.953 (23), paragraph 3, invites Governments and organizations providing radio-navigation systems to consent to recognition of these systems by IMO for inclusion as a component of the World-Wide Radio Navigation System (WWRNS). The subject resolution outlines five criteria that the IMO should consider when deciding whether or not to recognize a radio navigation system. They are listed below with an explanation of how the [organization] system meets the criteria.

This Guideline provides a template for the submission of DGNSS services for recognition as a component of the IMO World-Wide Radionavigation Service (WWRNS).

2. **DISCUSSION**

1. The Government or organization providing, funding and operating the system has stated formally that the system is operational and available for use by merchant shipping.

   “Maritime DGPS was declared Full Operational Capability (FOC) on March 15, 1999. FOC declares that the system operates to the recommended standards set forth in the Federal Radionavigation Plan (FRP). The 1999 edition of the FRP similarly declares Maritime DGPS FOC and ready for use.”

2. Its continued provision is assured.

   “The 1999 edition of the FRP states ‘…….GPS will be the primary Federally provided radio-navigation system for the foreseeable future.’ The Maritime DGPS system is a vital augmentation of the GPS system that has gained a large number of users. We can state with absolute certainty that the Maritime DGPS system will be a cornerstone of U.S. radio-navigation for years to come. Indeed, the Maritime DGPS service is being used as the basis to expand this system across the U.S.”

3. It is capable of providing position information within the coverage area declared by the Government or organization operating and providing the system with an accuracy not less than that given in the Appendix.

   “The DGPS system is operated under the parameters set out in the USCG Broadcast Standard for the DGPS Navigation Service and the FRP. Both of these documents have criteria and standards which are in accordance with the guidelines given in the Appendix of IMO Resolution A.953 (23).”

4. Adequate arrangements have been made for the publication of the characteristics and parameters of the system and of its status, including amendments as necessary.

   “DGPS system characteristics and parameters are published in USCG Broadcast Standard for the DGPS Navigation Service and the FRP. System status is maintained and updated on the Navigation Centre webpage and can be obtained on the webpage, via phone or by email.”

5. Adequate arrangements have been made to protect the safety of navigation should it be necessary to introduce changes in the characteristics or parameters of the system, which could adversely affect the performance of ship-borne receiving equipment.

   “Changes to the DGPS system characteristics or parameters will be published in the FRP and on the Navigation Centre webpage. If temporary changes are made on short notice or in an emergency, users will be notified through the USCG Broadcast Notice to Mariners, USCG Local Notice to Mariners and the Navigation Information Service at NAVCEN.”
3. **FUTURE AND IMPLICATIONS**

“This offer to IMO reiterates the United States commitment to availability of the DGPS system for the foreseeable future on a continuous basis and free of direct user fees as provided in the Current Marine Navigation Requirements of the Federal Radionavigation Plan. Furthermore, the U.S. has stated that we will take all necessary measures to maintain the integrity of the service and expects to be able to provide at least 6 years notice prior to termination of DGPS operations. The USCG DGPS system meets the five criteria in IMO Resolution A.953 (23) and should be accepted as part of the WWRNS. Furthermore, it is believed that making this system available in the U.S. and its acceptance by IMO as part of the WWRNS will encourage other states to continue to develop and deploy compatible systems to gain acceptance as part of the WWRNS.”

4. **DEFINITIONS**

The definitions of terms used in this Guideline can be found in the *International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation* (IALA Dictionary) and were checked as correct at the time of going to print. Where conflict arises, the IALA Dictionary should be considered as the authoritative source of definitions used in IALA documents.

5. **ABBREVIATIONS**

- **DGPS**: Differential Global Positioning System
- **FOC**: Full Operational Capability
- **FRP**: Federal Radionavigation Plan (US)
- **IMO**: International Maritime Organization
- **NAVCEN**: Navigation Centre (USCG)
- **US**: United States (of America)
- **USCG**: United States Coast Guard
- **WWRNS**: Worldwide Radio Navigation System (IMO)

Please note: The US example is offered as an example and is for guidance only.