



IALA RECOMMENDATION

R0118 (O-118) THE RECORDING OF AIDS TO NAVIGATION POSITIONS

Edition 1.2

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DOCUMENT HISTORY

Revisions to this document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

Date	Details	Approval
June 2000	1 st issue	
December 2005	Entire document Reformatted to reflect IALA documentation hierarchy.	
September 2020	Edition. 1.2 Editorial corrections.	



THE COUNCIL

RECOGNIZING that GPS and DGPS services define positions in terms of the WGS84 datum, have the potential to cause plotting errors when using paper charts that use a different datum;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the responsibilities of National Authorities to inform Hydrographic Authorities of the position of aids to navigation;

HAVING CONSIDERED the proposals by the IALA Operations Committee;

RECOMMENDS THAT:

- 1 Where an Authority has operational DGPS stations, a program should be implemented to determine the WGS84 positions of each aid to navigation (fixed and floating) within the coverage area, and for this information to be passed to the national hydrographic authority for future use. It is anticipated that the information would assist the hydrographic authority in checking the accuracy of charts, planning future survey requirements and for updating List of Lights.
- 2 In the case of lighted fixed aids to navigation the WGS84 position should be measured close to the focal centre of the light so that the WGS84 elevation is also determined. Alternatively, several positions around the optic or lantern house could be measured and a central position computed.
- 3 In the case of unlighted fixed aids to navigation the WGS84 position should be the base of the structure.
- 4 In the case of floating aids to navigation the WGS84 position should be that of the sinker or mooring.
- 5 Each position should be recorded to three decimal places of a minute and include the time, date and details of the measuring equipment.
- 6 Where an Authority has to refer to charts of different datums, positions are communicated with the appropriate datum reference. For example, 51° 04.372'N, 100° 26.794'E (WGS 84).