



# WORKSHOP ON VTS COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

Establishing and operating VTS under national law

Rome, Italy

160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Italian Coast Guard  
Roma Eventi, Piazza di Spagna

20 – 24 January 2025

## PRELIMINARY WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

DAY 1 – Monday 20 January 2025

Time	Activity	
0930 – 1045	<b>Steering Committee meeting with session chairs and rapporteurs</b>	Workshop session chairs, rapporteurs and host
1000 – 1130	<b>Registration</b>	<b>Host</b>
1130 – 1300	<b>Session 1 – Opening of the Workshop</b>	<b>Chair: Monica Sundklev (VTS Chair)</b>
5 mins	Administration and safety briefing	Representative of the venue or host
10 mins	Welcome from IALA	IALA Secretary-General, Francis Zachariae
45 mins	Welcome from Italy	Representatives of the Italian Government and Coast Guard
1300 – 1315	<b>Group photo</b>	
1315 – 1430	<b>Light lunch</b>	
1430 – 1630	<b>Session 2 – Introduction / Background</b>	<b>Chair: Dirk Eckhoff (VTS Vice-chair)</b>
1430 – 1445	Workshop aim and objectives	Sweden, Monica Sundklev
1445 – 1500	Introduction workshop topics	Norway, Trond Ski
1500 – 1515	<b>Break</b>	
1515 – 1545	Background - IALA history and role in VTS	Norway, Trond Ski
1545 – 1630	Results from the previous VTS Questionnaire and the workshop questionnaire	Australia, Neil Trainor
Evening event 1830 – 2030	<b>Welcome Reception</b> Venue: Roma Eventi Congress Center Dress code: Casual	



DAY 2 – Tuesday 21 January 2025

Time	Activity	
0900 – 0950	<b>Session 3 - Regulatory and Legal Framework</b>	<b>Chair: Trond Ski</b>
0900 – 0930	<b>3.1 International framework</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea</li> <li>IMO Resolution A.1158(32) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services</li> <li>IALA Standards</li> <li>National Law</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions <i>Norway, Trond Ski</i>
0930 – 0950	<b>3.2 Policy, legislation, regulation and governance</b> The role and interrelationships of policy, legislation, regulation and governance.	Presentations and open discussions <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i>
0950 – 1030	<b>Session 4 - Translating international commitments into actionable and enforceable measures at national level</b>	
	<b>4.1 Contracting Governments – their responsibilities</b>	<b>Chair: Trond Ski</b>
0950 – 1030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a legal basis for VTS that gives effect to SOLAS regulation V/12</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i>
1030 – 1100	Break	
1100 – 1700	<b>4.1 Contracting Governments – their responsibilities (continue)</b>	<b>Chair: Neil Trainor</b>
1100 – 1230	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointing and authorizing a competent authority for VTS</li> <li>Compliance with the provisions of VTS</li> <li>Future technical and other developments</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions <i>Netherlands, Martijn Ebben</i> <i>Japan, Mayumi Arita</i>
1230 – 1330	Lunch	
1330 – 1500	<b>4.2 Competent Authorities - their responsibilities</b> <b>4.2.1 Regulatory framework</b> Establishing a regulatory framework for VTS in accordance with relevant international conventions and IMO instruments, IALA standards and national law, concerning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VTS providers</li> <li>Training Organizations</li> <li>Participating ships</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i> <i>UK, Keeta Rowlands</i> <i>Finland, Matti Latvalahti</i> <i>Sweden, Monica Sundklev</i>
1500 – 1520	Break	
1520 – 1700	<b>4.2.2 Authorization of VTS providers</b> Policies, processes and procedures associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorizing VTS providers under national law.</li> <li>Assessing conformance with:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The responsibilities of VTS providers as described in IMO Resolution A.1158(32)</li> <li>The responsibilities of VTS providers associated with normative provisions of IALA recommendations, guidelines and model courses specifically related to the establishment and operation of VTS</li> <li>The regulatory framework set by the competent authority</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i> <i>UK, Keeta Rowlands</i> <i>Finland, Toni Sobott</i> <i>Netherlands, Maarten Berrevoets</i>



Time	Activity	
0900 – 0915	Summary of Day 2	Chair: Monica Sundklev
0915 - 1230	4.2 Competent Authorities - their responsibilities (cont.)	Chair: Richard Aase
0915 - 1030	<p><b>4.2.3 Ensuring VTS providers continue to conform with their responsibilities and that appropriate equipment, systems and facilities are provided</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How should the functional and performance requirements for VTS systems and equipment be demonstrated?</li> <li>How is digitalization of VTS being handled?</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Norway, Richard Aase</i> <i>Korea, Min-Young Kim</i> <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i>
1030 – 1100	Break	
1100 – 1230	<p><b>4.2.4 Compliance and enforcement</b></p> <p>Establishing a framework with respect to violations of VTS regulatory requirements. Ensuring participating ships conform with the regulatory framework set by the competent authority.</p>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Sweden, Monica Sundklev</i> <i>UK, Keeta Rowlands</i> <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i> <i>Norway, Jeanette Assev-Lindin</i>
1230 – 1330	Lunch	
1330 – 1700	4.3 Competent Authorities – training responsibilities	Chair: Stefaan Priem
1330 – 1500	<p><b>4.3.1 Ensuring that VTS training is approved and VTS personnel are certified</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a framework for the accreditation of VTS training organisations, approval of model courses and certification of VTS personnel.</li> <li>Ensuring VTS training organisations continue to conform with the regulatory framework set by the competent authority.</li> <li>International recognition of VTS certification</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Belgium, Stefaan Priem</i> <i>Italy, Elisa Giangrosso</i> <i>Spain, Juan Carlos Salinas &amp; Raquel Rojo</i> <i>Australia, Kerrie Abercrombie</i>
1500 – 1520	Break	
1520 – 1700	<p><b>4.3.2 Ensuring VTS personnel are appropriately trained and qualified for their VTS duties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generic VTS training</li> <li>On-the-job training</li> <li>Periodic assessments and revalidation training</li> <li>Possession of appropriate certification</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Australia, Kerrie Abercrombie</i> <i>Spain, Juan Carlos &amp; Raquel Rojo</i> <i>Norway, Malin Dreijer</i> <i>Netherlands, Maarten Berrevoets</i>



**DAY 4 – Thursday 23 January 2025**

Time	Working Groups	
0900 – 0915	<b>Summary of Day 3</b>	<b>Chair: Monica Sundklev</b>
	<b>4.4 VTS Providers – their perspective and experiences</b>	<b>Chair: Martijn Ebben</b>
0915 – 1030	Views from a VTS provider’s perspective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VTS provider’s experiences in fulfilling their responsibilities and their interaction with the Competent Authority</li> <li>VTS provider’s challenges</li> </ul>	Presentations and open discussions: <i>Netherlands, Milou Aerts</i> <i>Finland, Sari Talja</i> <i>Japan, Mayumi Arita</i>
1030 – 1100	Break	
1100 – 1230	<b>Session 5 – Other elements to consider</b>	<b>Chair: Trond Ski</b>
1100 – 1230		Presentations and open discussions:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When Competent Authority and VTS provider are the same entity</li> <li>Two or more Governments have a common interest in establishing VTS in a particular area</li> <li>VTS beyond the Territorial Sea</li> </ul>	<i>Italy, Barbara Magro</i> <i>UK, Keeta Rowlands</i> <i>Denmark, Niels Mygind</i> <i>Belgium, Stefaan Priem</i> <i>Netherlands, Remi Hoeve</i> <i>Italy, Michele Landi</i> <i>Australia, Neil Trainor</i>
1230 – 1330	Lunch	
1330 – 1415	<b>Session 5 - Other elements to consider (cont.)</b>	<b>Chair: Trond Ski</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cyber security considerations</li> </ul>	<i>Netherlands, Martijn Ebben</i> <i>Norway, Richard Aase</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrating conformance with IMSAS (IMO Member State Audit Scheme)</li> </ul>	<i>Sweden, Monica Sundklev</i> <i>Norway, Jeanette Assev-Lindin</i> <i>Finland, Matti Latvalahti/Toni Sobott</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any other issue</li> </ul>	
1415 – 1815	<b>Technical Tour (to a historical place in Rome)</b>	
Evening event 2000 – 2200	Workshop Gala Dinner Venue: Roma Eventi Congress Center Dress code: Black tie	

**DAY 5 – Friday 24 January 2025**

Time	Activity	
0830 - 0910	<b>Steering Committee meeting with session chairs and rapporteurs</b>	Workshop chairs, rapporteurs and host
0915 – 0930	<b>Summary of Day 4</b>	<b>Chair: Monica Sundklev</b>
	<b>Session 6 – Open discussion</b>	<b>Chair: Gianluca Menabene</b>
0930 – 1000	Outcomes and feedback from the surveys and comments from the floor during the week	All workshop session chairs
1000 – 1030	Break	
	<b>Session 7 – Workshop review and conclusions</b>	<b>Chairs: VTS Chair and Vice-Chair</b>
1030 – 1100	Workshop review and conclusions	Monica Sundklev & Dirk Eckhoff
1100 – 1110	Way forward for the VTS Committee	Trond Ski
1110 – 1120	Closing remarks	Monica Sundklev
1120 – 1130	Closing the workshop	Italian Coast Guard and IALA Secretary-General, Francis Zachariae
1200 – 1300	Lunch	

Please note that the times are preliminary and may be adjusted to follow the discussions.