Guiding Principles

Drafting the revised/new Resolution for VTS

Introduction

The '*guiding principles*' provide the framework for drafting the revised/new resolution in a manner that will ensure the outcomes identified in the IMO document MSC 99/20/3 are achieved. That is:

> *"The output is required for VTS to fulfil its role as a measurable and proactive instrument in the prevention of maritime incidents and accidents. This will be achieved by providing a clear and concise framework to implement and deliver VTS globally in a realistic, consistent and harmonized manner."*

Purpose of the Resolution

The Resolution:

INVITES Governments to take account of the annexed Guidelines when developing, implementing and operating vessel traffic services;

RECOMMENDS Governments to encourage masters of ships navigating in areas for which vessel traffic services are provided to make use of such services.

Guiding Principles

The revised/new resolution should be prepared in a form that assists Contracting Governments and Competent Authorities to meet their obligations under SOLAS Chapter V (Safety of Navigation) Regulation 12 to plan, implement and deliver VTS in a consistent and harmonized manner.

In particular, the revised/new resolution should:

- Provide an appropriate high-level framework that is both clear and concise,
- Provide a link between SOLAS, the resolution, IMO documentation and requirements relevant to VTS and IALA Standards (<u>as amended or as adopted</u>).
- Recognise:
    - The "key areas" identified in the IMO document MSC 99/20/3; and
    - The outcomes from the Intersessional Meeting of the IALA VTS Committee's Working Group 1 (Operations) in April 2018.

Evaluating Proposed Text

As a guide, the following questions should be asked when considering content/proposed text for the revised/new Resolution:

- Is it clear and concise?
- Is the topic/issue already prescribed in, or is a cross reference required to, existing IMO and/or IALA documentation?
- Does it add value?
- Is it in conflict with other parts of the revised/new Resolution?