Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS49-10.3.6

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

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**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **□** Input

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**□** ENAV **□** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) 10

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 3.3.1

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Australian Maritime Safety Authority

Preparation of new Guideline on Recruitment, Training and Assessment of VTS Personnel (Task 3.3.1)

# PURPOSE OF the DOCUMENT

This document:

* Compliments the input papers prepared by Correspondence Group 2 (*VTS49-10.3.5 Input Paper - Summary of CG02-R0103 review-vs1, VTS49-10.3.5.2 R0103 Review-CG04-Draft Guideline-rev-CG2-5*).
* Highlights areas the VTS Committee may wish to give further consideration to.

# Background

As part of its 2018-2022 Work Programme the Committee is progressing a review and update of Recommendation V-103 on the Standards for Training and Certification of VTS Personnel and Associated Model Courses (Task 3.3.1).

To align the documentation with the IALA Standards, this also includes splitting the contents of the existing Recommendation into:

* A new and concise Recommendation specifying what practices shall be carried out in order to comply with that Recommendation; and
* An associated Guideline describing how to implement practices specified in a Recommendation.

The VTS48 Committee Meeting in March was cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic. As a means to continue momentum with the Committee’s work programme four correspondence groups were established to progress assigned tasks. Correspondence Group 2 was responsible for the Review of R0103 and the associated Model Courses.

The Correspondence concluded its work on 23 June and the working paper is at *VTS49-10.3.5.2*.

# Discussion

This paper is based on Input Paper *VTS49-10.3.5.2* and provides additional comments/suggested amendments (in track changes) to the draft outcome from Correspondence Group 2 as concluded in June 2020 for the Committee’s consideration.

Areas identified where the VTS Committee may like to give further consideration include:

1. Normative and Informative practices

IALA Standard 1050 highlights, amongst other things, that:

* The scope of the Standard includes:

1. Training and assessment – In particular, Recommendation 0103 on Training and Certification of VTS Personnel; and
2. Accreditation, competency, certification and revalidation – In particular, Recommendation O-149 on Accreditation of Training Organisations.

* Recommendation 0103 is a normative provision, and shall be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed.
* There are no informative provisions that should be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed.

Noting that the contents of the existing V-103 were prepared prior to the introduction of IALA Standards, in preparing the new Guideline careful consideration needs to be given to identifying and appropriately referencing:

* Practices that are deemed normative provisions and **shall** be observed if compliance with this Standard is claimed; and
* Practices that are deemed Informative provisions which specify additional desirable practices but with which it is not necessary to conform in order to claim compliance to the Standard.

Practices considered to be informative could be accommodated through the use of Annex’s or alternatively in additional informative guidance documents. Examples include ‘selection and recruitment’ and ‘VTS personnel’ are often subject to national and/or local law and this guidance may be better considered as Informative.

1. Purpose of the Model Courses

The purpose for each individual model Course needs to be clearly defined in the Guideline to mitigate differing interpretations and perceptions. Defining these clearly in the new guideline will assist in updating the existing model courses in terms of the module structure and identifying the best content to achieve the course objectives.

For example, the current V103/2 Supervisor Course does not clearly describe the common ‘*additional skills and competencies’* required by VTS authorities in addition to the knowledge/skills that a VTS operator should have already acquired in completing the V103/1 VTS operator and V103/3 OJT course.

It is also suggested that the new Guideline does not need to paraphrase the detailed contents of the model courses. It simply needs to introduce the purpose and framework and point the reader to the documents.

1. Model courses

The existing training guidance can be confusing with regards to the approval process and delivery of individual model courses. In particular, the existing Recommendation V-103 states that:

* *Model Courses should be* ***delivered under the framework of a Training Management System*** *within an approved quality system* (Section 2.4).
* *They should also* ***be accredited by the Competent Authority*** *concerned.* ***VTSO training should be carried out at a Training Organisation***(Section 7.1).
* *The IALA Guideline No 1014 Accreditation and Approval Process for VTS Training sets out the process by which VTS Training Courses* ***leading to the issue*** *of V‐103/1, V‐103/2, V‐103/3, V‐103/4 and V‐103/5 Course Certificates, can achieve approval.* (Section 2.4)

For example, questions often arise such as:

* Should a VTS authority providing OJT have a training management system and the course approved by the CA.
* Noting that V103/5, Recurrent Training can be delivered by a VTS Authority or Training Organisation, where this is provided by a VTS authority are they required to have a training management system in place in accordance with 1014.
* Does Adaption and Update training provided by a VTS authority need to be approved by the Competent Authority.

Items that may need further consideration include:

* Not all model courses are delivered by Training Organisations.
* Some courses delivered by a VTS Authorities may not result in a certificate being awarded on completion of a training course such as OJT.

1. Ongoing Training

The existing guidance uses a number of terms for different types of ongoing training (e.g. recurrent, refresher, revalidation, adaptation, update and proficiency assessments) which can be confusing to the reader. In addition, the term ‘Recurrent” may not well understood internationally and is not referred to in IMO Resolution A.857(20).

Consideration should be given to rationalising the terms used and clearly defining these in a manner consistent with the resolution (including the draft new resolution) and other relevant IMO training documentation.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested:

1. To forward the document to Working Group 3 for consideration in the progression of Task 3.3.1.
2. Draw the attention of all Committee members to this draft, and to provide input as appropriate to WG3 for its further development.

AttACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – guideline GXXXX on Training and assessment of VTS personnel. (VTS49-10.3.6.1)

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)