



**DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DEL TERRITORIO MARÍTIMO Y MARINA MERCANTE
DIRECTEMAR
CHILEAN NAVY**

National Matters

72nd session of the IALA Council

COURSE L2 OPERATION AIS ATON

Between November 9 and 27, the first multinational level 2 course with international certification for Spanish-speaking technicians was held, based on the WWA L2.8.1 model course - Operation of AIS AtoN devices, (modules 1 to 5) and the IALA recommendation E-141.

The course was taught in conjunction with the HIDROVÍA Academy of Training in Navigation Aids of Argentina (associate member), the MSM Maritime Signals Company of Spain (industrial member) and DIRECTEMAR (national member).

The course was conducted by videoconference and was attended by 50 students from 13 Spanish-speaking countries, who at the end expressed their satisfaction with the knowledge acquired and great interest in continuing to participate in this type of initiative.

On November 30, the closing ceremony of the course was held, which was attended by the Deputy Secretary-General of IALA Mr. Omar Frits Eriksson, who praised the initiative and urged the organization to continue on the same path, which it contributes enormously to the development of aids to navigation in the region and called for this type of initiative to be replicated.

The advantages observed and that allowed the course to be successfully taught were:

- Course taught in Spanish for technicians.
- For a very lower cost you can obtain quality training with certification for technicians, since travel and accommodation costs are saved.
- Of the online execution stands out, the fact of successfully circumventing the sanitary restrictions resulting from COVID-19.
- The union of a national, industrial and associated member as organizers of the course allowed a look from different perspectives to a common problem and to give a holistic approach to the development of the IALA model course. Likewise, the fact of being able to coordinate between three countries even on different continents, shows that great tasks can be accomplished.



- Given the experience of the three organizations, the student was able to observe the subject from very varied points of view, from the necessary requirements for the acquisition, implementation, operation and maintenance in the field, to the exchange of experiences and visualization of the potential use that can be given to the devices.

However, the greatest wealth obtained from this experience is given in the number of people involved, that allowed technical staff to find people who do the same job, have common interests and similar problems to solve. This made it possible to strengthen ties of friendship and create a network of consultations.

Finally, the students unanimously pointed out the importance of having more international training of the same quality and professionalism, under the support of IALA.