

Title Abstract: 'Future VTS' – Embracing opportunities in a digital world

By: Mr Neil TRAINOR | Australian Maritime Safety Authority

Contact e-mail: neil.trainor@amsa.gov.au

Neil Trainor is currently employed with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority as Principal Advisor, Vessel Traffic Services. His major areas of responsibility include:

- Managing AMSA's role as the competent authority for VTS, including oversight of the associated regulatory framework, the assessment and appointment of VTS Authorities and the accreditation of VTS Training Organisations.
- Providing strategic advice to AMSA with regard to meeting its responsibilities as the competent authority for VTS.



Neil is also Chairman of the Australian VTS Advisory Group. Prior to this position Neil was the manager for the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait Vessel Traffic Service (REEFVTS), a joint initiative by the Australian and Queensland Governments.

Abstract

VTS is a recognised, well-established, safety measure that contributes to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation and protection of the marine environment from possible adverse effects of maritime traffic (SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 12 Vessel Traffic Services). Today's VTSs achieve this through sophisticated close track monitoring and traffic management capabilities and decision support tools.

However, we are witnessing a rapidly changing world in terms of technologies and business requirements that are driving new trends, such as the development, adoption and implementation of maritime digitalisation, digital Maritime Services. Future VTS's will need to embrace this changing world if they are to continue to serve as an effective internationally recognised measure. Noting they are already information rich, provide a communication hub, resourced and legal entities recognised by SOLAS, VTS is well positioned to achieve this.

This presentation focuses on the opportunities for VTS in a digital world, including maritime services in the context of e-navigation, through examining:

- Trends that will have a major impact on how "Future VTS" will contribute to enhancing safe, efficient and secure maritime logistics, improved data exchange between ports and ships, and raising global standards for safety, security and efficiency,
- Potential changes to the role, function and operation of VTS,
- Possible challenges to achieving this in a coordinated and structured manner.