

Title Abstract: Making the Grade? An overview of [experience gained in auditing] VTS training

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Jillian Carson-Jackson FNI FRIN commenced her career in the Canadian Coast Guard, graduating from the Canadian Coast Guard College as a navigation officer. With over three decades in the industry, Jillian has worked both afloat and ashore in the CCG, including 10 years as an instructor at the CCGC. Following an active role at IALA in the development of VTS Training, she moved to France to work with IALA as Technical Coordination Manager. She then moved to Australia to work with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) as Manager of Vessel Traffic and Pilotage Services.



In 2016 Jillian left AMSA to set up her own consultancy, focusing on maritime technical advice and education. In May 2020 Jillian was appointed a Director of GlobalMET. Jillian represents The Nautical Institute at IALA as chair of the Emerging Digital Technologies Working Group (ENAV Committee) and the Personnel and Training Working Group (VTS Committee).

Abstract:

In 2017 the Nautical Institute carried out a survey of its membership on the effectiveness of aids to navigation, include VTS. The results were presented at the IALA Conference in Incheon, South Korea in 2018. The results highlight significant concern regarding the standardisation of training of VTS personnel, leading to concern on the consistency of service provision. Of particular interest from the survey was that despite all the work of IALA and its member authorities, 40% of mariners claimed that they were 'not confident' in the services provided. In the leadup to the 2020 Symposium the NI will carry out a follow up survey with a focus on VTS.

In Q2 of 2019 the Nautical Institute implemented an audit process to assist Competent Authorities in accrediting VTS Training Facilities and approving VTS training courses. Results of the survey will be presented along with results of VTS training audits completed. The presentation will include lessons learned and proposed next steps to continue to promote professional, consistent and effective VTS on a global basis.