

IALA Recommendation O-132

On

Quality Management for Aids to Navigation Authorities

Edition 2

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Document Revisions

Revisions to the IALA Document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

Date	Page / Section Revised	Requirement for Revision
Oct 2006	Entire Document	Updated to reflect implementation of the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme

Recommendation on Quality Management for Aids to Navigation Authorities

(Recommendation O-132)

THE COUNCIL:

RECALLING the function of IALA with respect to safety of navigation, the efficiency of maritime transport and the protection of the environment;

RECOGNISING that it is of the greatest importance that aids to navigation equipment and systems, including VTS, provide and maintain a high standard of availability and reliability throughout their working life.

RECOGNISING ALSO that a Quality Management System represents one of the most important means of ensuring a high standard of availability and reliability.

RECOGNISING FURTHER that a range of standards published by national and international agencies is widely used by the majority of public authorities and public utilities, and could cover the requirements of aids to navigation authorities.

NOTING the initiative of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in adopting Resolutions A.973(24) and A.974(24) on the Voluntary IMO Members States Audit Scheme (VIMSAS) at its 24th session, November 2005.

NOTING FURTHER that there are well established, authoritative standards agencies operating in many countries, and that these are invariably affiliated to one of the principal international standards organizations.

NOTING ALSO that the area of supplier relationships, including purchasing specifications, and Quality Assurance procedures represents one of the most important means of helping to achieve a high standard of availability and reliability.

CONSIDERING that:

- Many aids to navigation authorities see the benefit in a Quality Management System and are moving to implement such systems;
- Quality Management Systems, will be beneficial when participating in the VIMSAS;
- The increasing use of Quality Management Systems by aids to navigation authorities will increase incentives for suppliers to offer equipment and services that comply with recognised standards.

ADOPTS the use of Quality Management Systems for Aids to Navigation Service Delivery, as presented in IALA Guideline 1052 on the Use of Quality Management Systems for Aids to Navigation Service Delivery; and,

RECOMMENDS that:

1. Authorities responsible for aids to navigation implement and maintain a Quality Management System.
2. Authorities ensure the ongoing integrity of the QMS through periodic:
 - certification by an accredited third party; and/or
 - assessment by a third party; and/or
 - self assessment.
3. Authorities responsible for aids to navigation use related IALA documentation, including:
 - IALA Guideline 1052 on the Use of Quality Management Systems for Aids to Navigation Service Delivery;
 - IALA Guideline 1034 on the Certification of Marine Aids to Navigation Products.

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