

IMO at IALA Solutions for e-navigation

IMO participated in the 20th E-Navigation Committee meeting (ENAV 20) at the HQ of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France from 13-17 March.

IALA has been actively supporting IMO in the development of e-navigation.

ENAV 20 discussed a number of technical solutions to progress the harmonization of information between shore and ships in electronic format, including the data format and structure of Maritime Service Portfolios (MSP), the use of VHF Data Exchange System (VDES), as well as the Maritime Cloud and other solutions under the e-navigation umbrella.

The next ENAV committee meeting in September will provide valuable input to the work on e-navigation at the next session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR 5) in 2018.

IALA makes recommendations and guidelines on marine aids to navigation (AtoN) such as fairway buoys and lighthouses fitted with AIS transponders as well as the provision of VTS (vessel traffic services). Its worldwide membership manages and operates such assets.

ENAV 20 was attended by 137 representatives from IALA Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, as well as private companies, many of which are service or communications providers for the maritime industry.