

Japan Coast Guard



17th August 2007

Mr. Mahesh Alimchandani
Technical Coordination Manager IALA
Directeur Technique AISM
20 ter, rue Schnapper
78100 Saint Germain en Laye, France

Dear Mr. Mahesh Alimchandani,

The information of the virtual AtoN AIS provided on IALA Recommendation A-126 and the AIS binary messages provided on IMO S/N Circ .236 are expected as one of the important functions of AIS.

Additionally, it is important to construct Electronic Navigation Supporting System (ENSS) which could display AIS and other information, in order to utilize it effectively.

JCG, at the domestic study committee held in 2004-2007, studied and researched how to apply these AIS functions in order to improve safety and efficient navigation, and also conducted AIS field tests on the sea.

As the result, most of the members related to marine services recognized that these AIS functions would be improved for further effective operation between ships and shore stations.

Although works for standardizations of ENSS to display AIS information are not progressed internationally in addition that guideline on provision using Virtual AtoN AIS has not established yet, we believe that using the services of the AIS binary messages, the virtual AtoN AIS and ENSS would contribute greatly to safe and efficient navigation.

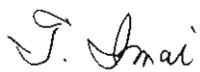
After discussed how to proceed these subjects, JCG prepared following three proposals, which were based on the conclusion at the committee.

Three proposals submitted by JCG are;

- a) Application of binary messages,
- b) Development of "IALA Guidelines on provision of virtual AtoN AIS" and display of "Symbols", and
- c) International standardizations of "Electronic Navigation Support System (ENSS)".

JCG would appreciate it if you could make an arrangement to discuss for them at e-NAV3 to be held in Norway.

Sincerely yours,


Tadayoshi IMAI,

Director,

Aids to Navigation Engineering Division

Maritime traffic Department

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