SINGAPORE HOSTS INAUGURAL REGIONAL FORUM ON VTS

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) was involved in the hosting of the inaugural Regional Forum on Vessel Traffic Services from 1st to 4th October 2013.

This Forum was jointly organised by MPA, the IMO, the Singapore Co-operation Programme (SCP), and IALA World-Wide Academy (IALA WWA) under the Singapore-IMO Third Country Training Programme.

A first in Asia, the Forum provided a platform for officers from maritime administrations from around the world to interact and discuss issues related to VTS, safety of navigation, maritime safety, and to identify capacity building needs in VTS for the region to enhance navigational safety.

About 20 overseas and local speakers presented on a wide range of VTS subjects such as the implementation and operation of VTS, VTS training and legislation.

Officiating at the Forum was MPA Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), Captain Muhammed Segar. In his opening address he highlighted the importance of navigational safety in Singapore’s busy port waters, “As one of the world’s busiest ports, Singapore places a strong emphasis on navigational safety and continually invests in enhancing navigational safety in and around our port waters. The upgrading of Singapore’s Port Operations Control Centres (POCC) with the next generation Vessel Traffic Information System underscores Singapore’s commitment to the maritime community in providing maritime safety. The Singapore economy is dependent on global trade and it is in Singapore’s interest to share their VTS experiences and expertise with like-minded countries through this Forum.”

The Forum was attended by 31 participants from 16 IMO Member States and Associate Members. As part of the Forum, MPA Singapore prepared two presentations on its VTS experiences and a technical visit was made to Singapore’s POCC.

IALA WWA is the association’s training and capacity building arm, and implements training courses for VTS personnel.
Picture caption
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IMO IALA MPA 1
Captain Muhammed Segar, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore addressing delegates at the inaugural Regional Forum on VTS held in Singapore from 1st to 4th October.

IMO IALA MPA 2
Rear-Admiral Jean Charles Leclair Dean of the IALA World-Wide Academy addressing representatives from 20 organisations, local and regional at the Forum.

IMO IALA MPA 3
The gathering of delegates at the inaugural Regional Forum on VTS.