



U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System

1200 New Jersey AVE, SE
Washington, DC 20590
202-366-3612

www.cmts.gov

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Contact: Heather.Gilbert@cmts.gov

The U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System releases 'U.S. Navigation Information Strategic Action Plan: 2021-2026'

The U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) published the 'U.S. Navigation Information Strategic Action Plan: 2021-2026 (March 2021). This plan outlines high-level strategy for U.S. Federal agencies to deliver navigation information to mariners in support of a safer and more secure marine transportation system (MTS), by advancing the evolution and implementation of the e-Navigation concept. This plan supersedes the 2012 'e-Navigation Strategic Action Plan' that served as the foundational document for e-Navigation implementation for the United States.

RDML Richard Timme, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy, U.S. Coast Guard and current Chair of the CMTS Coordinating Board, noted, "Execution of this 2021 Navigation Information Strategic Action Plan will guide federal agency coordination in establishing a framework that enables the transfer of actionable navigation information and the use of timely and resilient maritime data for safer, more secure and efficient navigation in U.S. waters."

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) defines e-Navigation as "...the harmonised collection, integration, exchange, presentation and analysis of maritime information onboard and ashore by electronic means to enhance berth to berth navigation and related services, for safety and security at sea and protection of the marine environment.

The Navigation Information Strategic Action Plan was developed by the CMTS Future of Navigation Integrated Action Team (IAT), whose members include the navigation services agencies: U.S. Coast Guard, US Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Geospatial Agency, as well as additional interested agencies.

In implementing this Strategic Action Plan, the CMTS - Future of Navigation Integrated Action Team - will continue to work towards advancing e-Navigation through six focus areas:

- Integrating Systems
- Seamless Data Exchange
- User-based requirements
- Decision-focused information
- Improved Connectivity, and
- Inter-agency Information Coordination

Federal agencies that provide navigation information services must be in alignment while supporting ever-evolving technology and internationally recognized frameworks such as the International Hydrographic Organization's S-100. The elements of this Strategy collaboratively provide a pathway for federal agencies to deliver defined maritime services and support technological advancements facilitating maritime navigation.

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