


VMS AND RELATED CONTROL SYSTEMS

**Working group on VMS and related control
systems in the GFCM Area
1-2 October 2013**

Our Aim

- ▶ Our Aim is to ensure fishing activities are conducted in a sustainable manner within the 25 NM Fisheries Management Zone.
 - ▶ In order to do so the DFA have installed tracking devices on a large number of the Maltese fleet.
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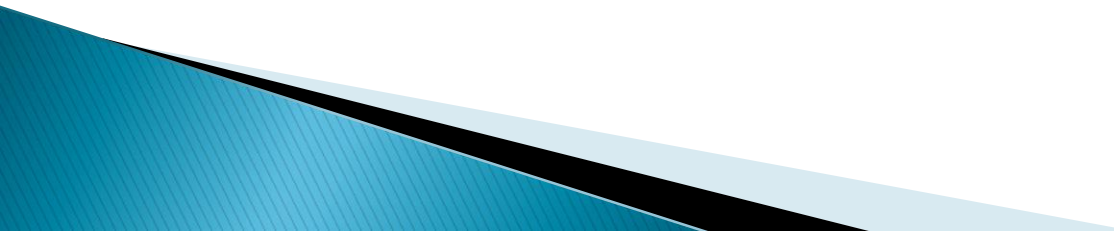
Maltese Fishing Fleet

Just to give you a picture of our fleet, the Maltese fishing fleet is composed of 1076 vessels of which divided into groups:

Full time vessels (MFA),
Part time vessels (MFB),
Recreational vessels (MFC),
Auxiliary Vessels (MFD).

For the first two categories—those vessels over 12 meters and those having a special authorisation (such as vessels authorised to fish for lampara, tartarun are monitored via GPRS.

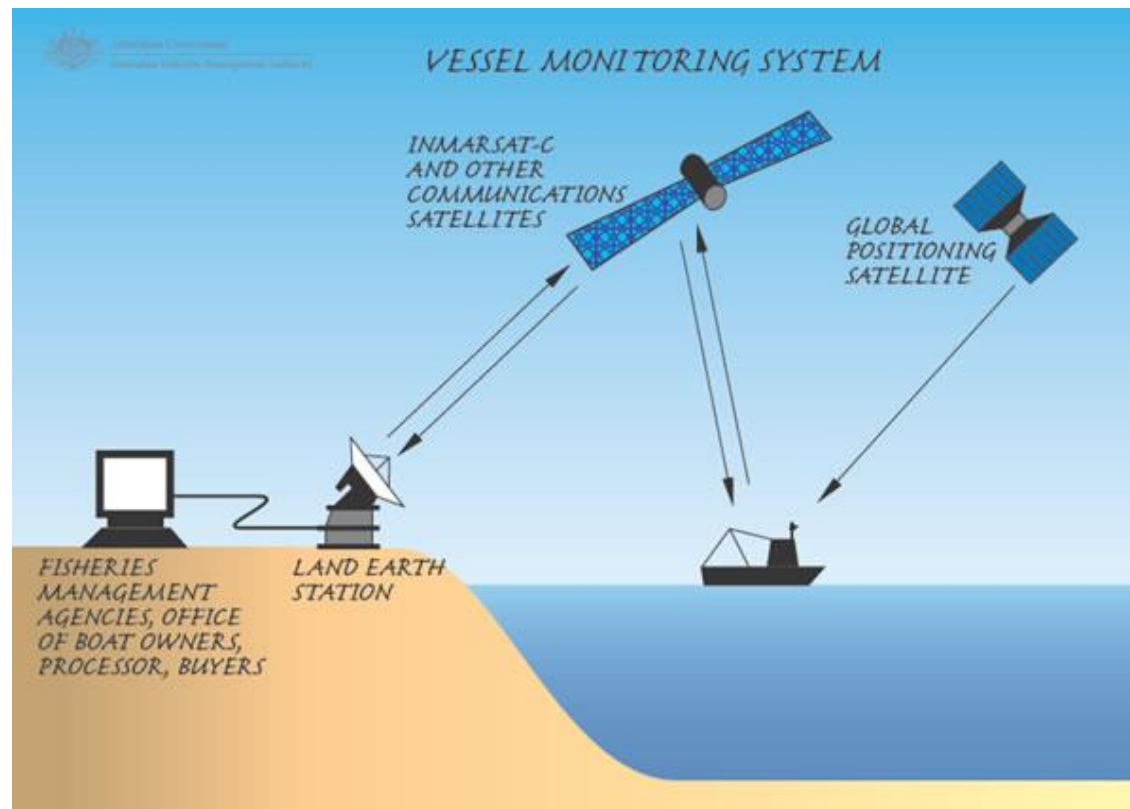
Malta's Tracking System....

- ▶ Malta's tracking system is made up of:
 1. VMS
 2. AIS
 3. GPRS
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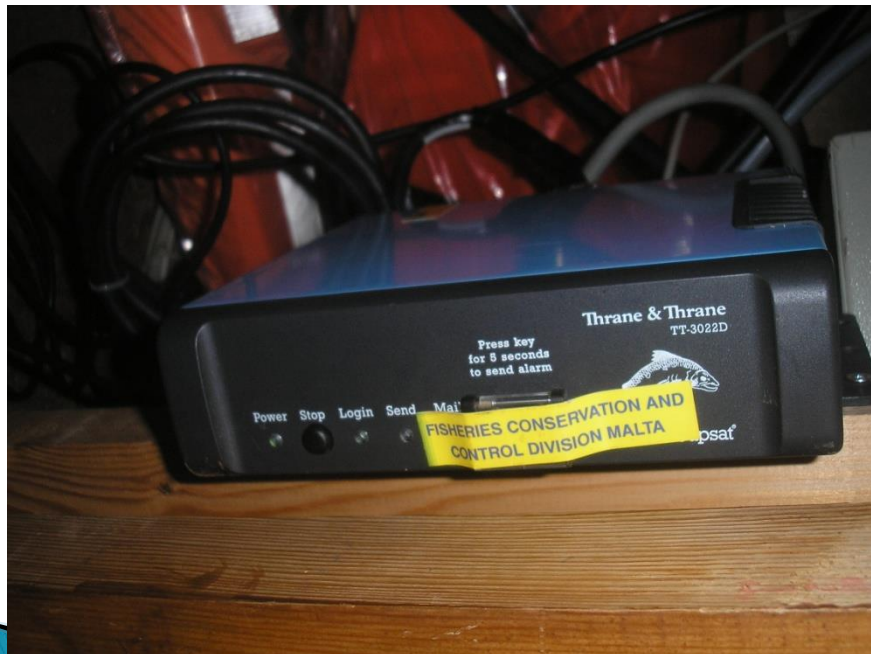
Purpose of the monitoring system

- ▶ To monitor Maltese vessels
- ▶ To monitor vessels entering Malta's 25 NM Fisheries Management Zone (FMZ)
- ▶ To monitor the designated trawling zones (in line with Annex 5 CR 1967/ 2006)
- ▶ To monitor fishing activities by vessels fishing with long-lines (BFT and SWO), FADs (Fishing Aggregating Devices).
- ▶ Vessels that are issued with a special authorisation In accordance to our local management plans. For vessels under 12mt this is done via GPRS
- ▶ To prohibit fishing activity outside authorised areas (such as on sensitive habitats).

HOW VMS WORKS



- ▶ Electronic devices (transceivers) or 'blue boxes', are installed on board fishing vessels.
- ▶ These devices automatically send data to a satellite which transmits to a land base station which in turn, sends data to the appropriate Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC).
- ▶ The Data is transmitted once every 2 hours.



Blue Box / Transceiver



Antenna

Other types of VMS units on board Maltese Fishing vessels.

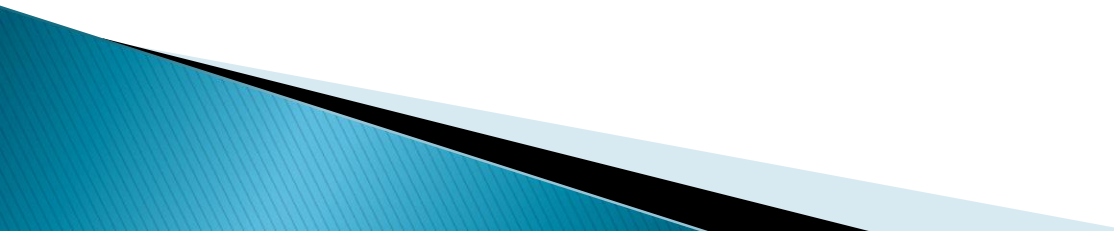


Distress Button



Transceiver

VMS Data

- ▶ Is collected and updated automatically
 - ▶ Each time vessels equipped with VMS move in different watchboxes, an alert is sent to Control room (via sms/email/pop-up)
 - ▶ Data sometimes requested internally for inspections or scientific purposes.
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Patrol Vessels

- VMS does not replace existing monitoring methods
- makes them more effective by providing the authorities with the location of suspect vessels
- Vms enables inspectors on patrol vessels to carry out targeted checks at sea.



Fishery Patrol Vessel P- 52 AFM JDP 2011

Thank you for your attention