

MINISTERU GHAR-RIŻORSI U L-
AFFARIJJIET RURALI

Direttorat għall-Kontroll tas-Sajd



MALTA

MINISTRY FOR RESOURCES AND
RURAL AFFAIRS

Fisheries Control Directorate

VMS BEST PRACTICES

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Regulations

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 404/2011 of 8th April 2011

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009

establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy, amending Regulations (EC) No 847/96, (EC) No 2371/2002, (EC) No 811/2004, (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 2115/2005, (EC) No 2166/2005, (EC) No 388/2006, (EC) No 509/2007, (EC) No 676/2007, (EC) No 1098/2007, (EC) No 1300/2008, (EC) No 1342/2008 and repealing Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1627/94 and (EC) No 1966/2006

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1005/2008 of 29 September 2008

establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, amending Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1936/2001 and (EC) No 601/2004 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1093/94 and (EC) No 1447/1999.

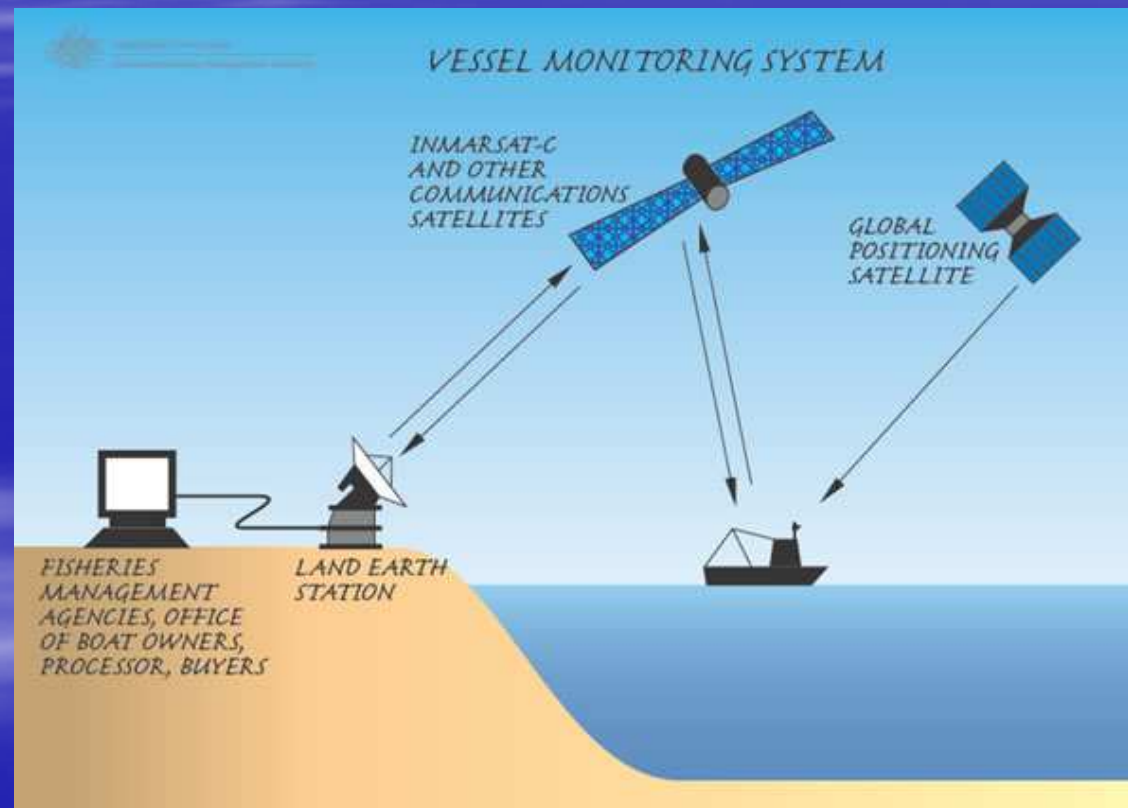
COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1967/2006 of 21 December 2006

concerning management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea, amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1626/94.

Council Regulation (EC) 302/2009 of 6th April 2009

HOW VMS WORKS ?

The most basic function of a VMS is to determine the vessel's location at a given time, and periodically send this information, usually by satellite, to a monitoring station ashore.



Maltese Fishing Fleet

The Maltese fishing fleet is composed of 1099 vessels of which

This is then divided into groups:

Full time (MFA),

Part time (MFB),

Recreational fisheries (MFC),

Auxiliary Vessels (MFD).

104 Maltese vessels are equipped with VMS terminals (Blue Box).

12 to 15 Metres – 24 Vessels,

15 to 24 Metres - 45 Vessels,

Over 24 Metres - 14 Vessels,

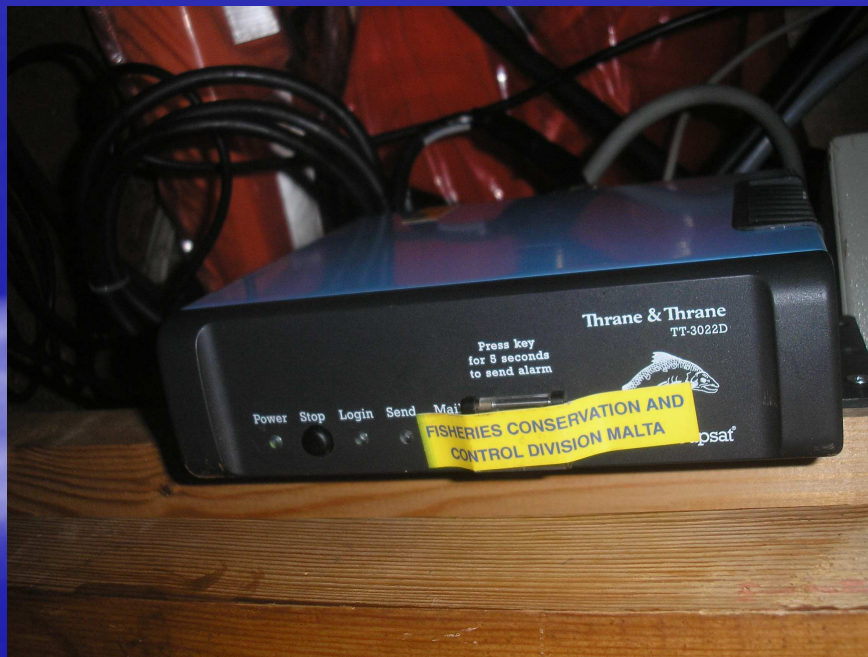
Auxiliary (MFD) – 21 Vessels.

Type of fishing gear used and Principal target species

Location	Fishing Gear	Species
Offshore bottom	Longlines	Dogfish, Skate, Ray, Grouper, Bream
Inshore/reefs (rocky shoals)	Trammel-nets and Gill-nets	Bogue and Horse-Mackerel
Offshore	Trolling lines	Frigate Mackerel, Bronze Bream, Bonito and Small Tunas
Coastal	Purse-seining	Bogue, Mackerel and Horse-Mackerel, Tuna and Swordfish
Offshore	Long-Lines	Tuna and Swordfish
Offshore	Kannizzati	Dolphin fish, Pilot fish and Amberjack
Offshore / Coastal	Lampara / Trawl	Mackerel, Horse Mackerel

How Does it work?

- 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 them to the appropriate Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC).
- The Data is transmitted once every 2 hours.



Blue Box / Transceiver

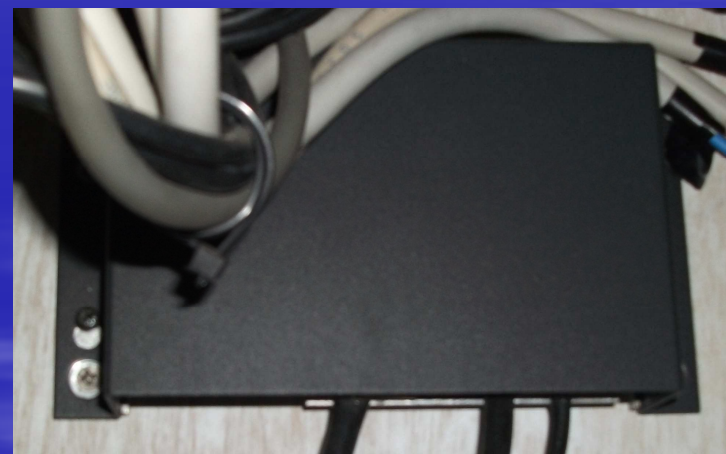


Antenna

Other types of VMS units on board Maltese Fishing vessels.



Distress Button



Transceiver

Enforcement

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EC) No 404/2011 of 3rd November 2008

Laying down detailed provisions regarding satellite – based Vessel Monitoring Systems

The basic function of VMS is to provide reports on the location of a vessel at regular intervals. VMS tracks the vessel movements and may provide information on its speed and course. The monitoring authorities can thus check a range of factors, including whether the vessel,

- Operates in an area where fishing activities are not allowed;
- Operates in the Exclusive Economic Zone of another Member States or third countries or waters under the responsibility of a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation;
- Holds the necessary licences and quotas to fish in the relevant area.

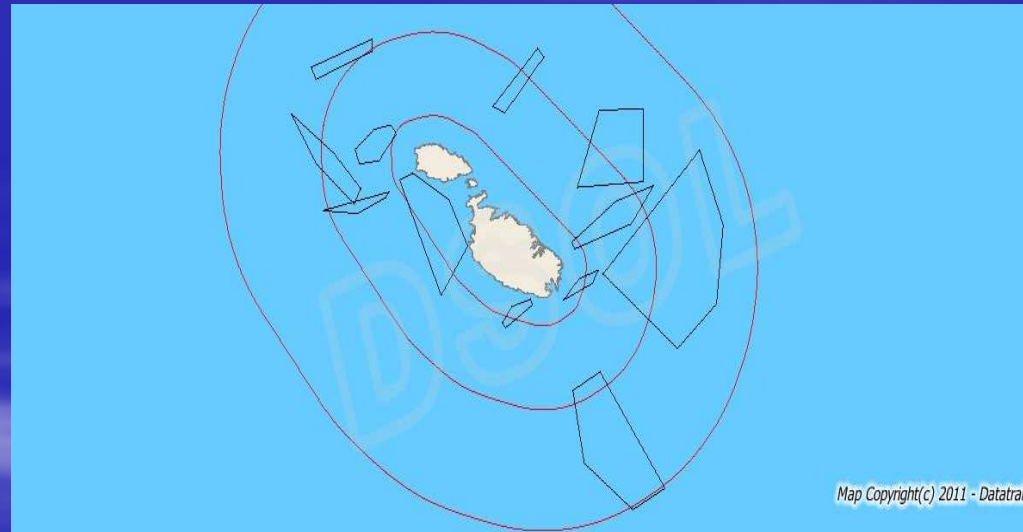
Monitoring of the 25 ENMZ and Protected Habitats

by VMS Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006

Only fishing vessels under 12m are permitted to operate inside the 25 ENMZ of Malta, unless they have a License that's permits them to do so.

- Monitoring of Fishing vessels permitted to fish inside the 25 ENMZ.
- vessel not permitted to fish inside 25 ENMZ.
- Trawls Fishing 200m.
- Trawls Prohibited 1.5 NM of the coast (3 NM).

- Protected Habitats.
- Marine Parks.
- Wrecks.
- Depths and Distances.
- No towed gear inside 3 NM or 50 isobaths.



VMS Screen shot of 25 NMEZ.

Artisanal Long liner's

Fishing for lampuki (the dolphinfish *Coryphaena hippurus* or mahi-mahi) using Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) that are laid in 130 locations in the sea along straight line courses around the Maltese Islands. There are no size restrictions on vessels fishing for lampuki during the fishing season between 15th August 31st December.

All Maltese Fishing vessel over 12 metres are not permitted to operate within the 25 ENMZ unless they have a license when fishing for Dolphin fish during the period of 16th August to 31st December.

Mobile List | Watchboxes | Status | Display | Find | History | User Zoom Window | Landmarks | Converter

Mobile: [redacted]
From | To: 21-Sep-11 00:00 | 23-Sep-11 09:51
Updates/sec: 20
LOCATION: [redacted]

ID	Date	NM	Dir	Conf	Location
0	20/09/2011 23:3...	0	27	✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
1	21/09/2011 01:3...	0	292	✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
2	21/09/2011 03:3...	0	257	✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
3	21/09/2011 04:2...	0		✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
4	21/09/2011 05:3...	0	59	✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
5	21/09/2011 06:1...	0		✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
6	21/09/2011 07:3...	0	138	✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX
7	21/09/2011 08:4...	0		✓	IX-XATT TA' XBIEX TA' XBIEX

Status Events Callback received @ 09:55:37
Lat: 34,97749 DMS Lat: 34.58.39 N Lng: 15.80618 DMS Lng: 15.48.22 E

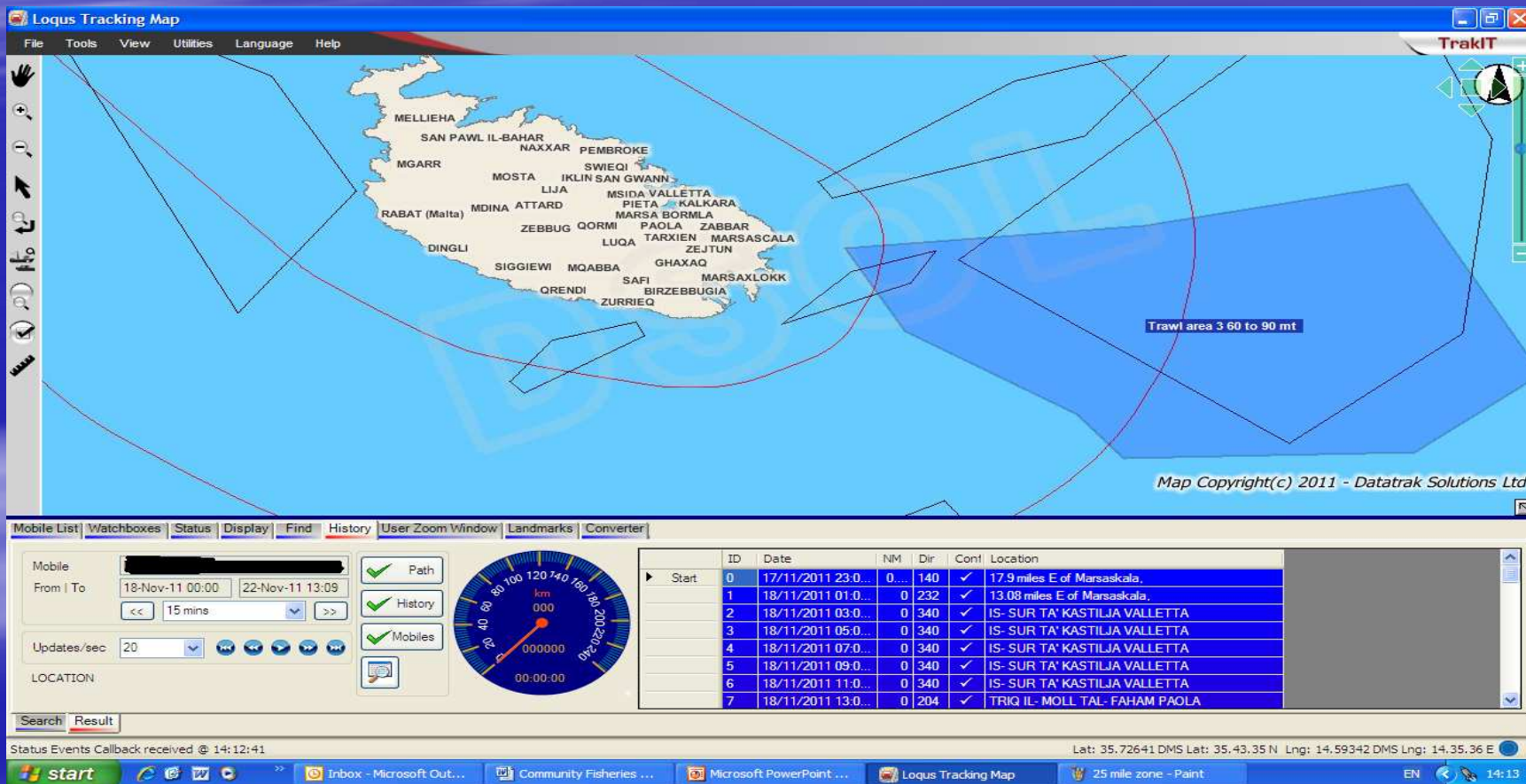
start | Inbox - Microsoft Out... | Loqus Tracking Map | EN | 09:56

Trawlers

Out of the 21 trawlers in the Maltese fishing fleet, 12 are permitted To operate inside the 25 ENMZ.

4 trawlers – In all waters within the 25 NMEZ.

8 trawlers – In waters deeper than 200 metres only.



Screen shot of trawl area

Fishing Vessel Journey report

VMS

datatrak

Detailed AVL Report

Mobile ID:	[REDACTED]	Requested By:	Chris Schiberras, 19 March 2011, 12:35
Label:	[REDACTED]	Report From:	19 March 2011, 00:00
Registration No.:	[REDACTED]	Report To:	19 March 2011, 12:35
Mileage is:	Approximate	New Journey Interval:	2h 00m 00s
Update Rate:	3s		
Click Here for Raw Data			

JOURNEY 1

DATE	TIME	LOCALITY/CLOSEST TO	DIRECTION	LAT/LONG	SPEED	DISTANCE	CONFIDENCE	TIME	CONSUMPTION
19/03/2011	01:46:00	Journey Started at Triq Pinto, Valletta							
19/03/2011	01:46:00	Triq Pinto, Valletta	335	35.90/14.52	0	0.00 n.miles	Good	0s	
19/03/2011	03:40:00	Triq Pinto, Valletta	161	35.90/14.52	0.2	0.22 n.miles	Good	1h 54m 00s	
19/03/2011	03:40:00	Journey Finished at Triq Pinto, Valletta							
									0 ltrs

Journey Start/End	Triq Pinto, Valletta to Triq Pinto, Valletta
Covering Periods	19/03/2011 01:46:00 to 19/03/2011 03:40:00
Journey Summary	0.22 n.miles in 1h 54m 00s (including 0s)
Consumption	0 ltrs

JOURNEY 2


DATE	TIME	LOCALITY/CLOSEST TO	DIRECTION	LAT/LONG	SPEED	DISTANCE	CONFIDENCE	TIME	CONSUMPTION
19/03/2011	19:02:00	Journey Started at Unknown Location							
19/03/2011	19:02:00	Unknown Location	208	35.80/14.59	9.4	0.00 n.miles	Good	0s	
19/03/2011	20:58:00	Unknown Location	211	35.55/14.39	8.4	9.07 n.miles	Good	1h 56m 00s	
19/03/2011	22:52:00	Unknown Location	209	35.29/14.20	9.4	19.22 n.miles	Good	3h 50m 00s	
20/03/2011	00:48:00	Unknown Location	208	35.04/14.00	9.4	29.38 n.miles	Good	5h 46m 00s	
20/03/2011	02:42:00	Unknown Location	211	34.78/13.80	10.2	40.39 n.miles	Good	7h 40m 00s	
20/03/2011	04:38:00	Unknown Location	221	34.52/13.60	9.8	50.98 n.miles	Good	9h 36m 00s	
20/03/2011	06:34:00	Unknown Location	232	34.36/13.48	2.4	53.57 n.miles	Good	11h 32m 00s	
20/03/2011	08:28:00	Unknown Location	159	34.32/13.44	2.4	56.16 n.miles	Good	13h 26m 00s	
20/03/2011	10:24:00	Unknown Location	239	34.27/13.35	2.4	58.75 n.miles	Good	15h 22m 00s	
20/03/2011	12:18:00	Unknown Location	0	34.25/13.34	2.4	61.34 n.miles	Good	17h 16m 00s	
20/03/2011	14:14:00	Unknown Location	53	34.31/13.41	3	64.58 n.miles	Good	19h 12m 00s	
20/03/2011	16:10:00	Unknown Location	58	34.35/13.46	2.4	67.18 n.miles	Good	21h 08m 00s	
20/03/2011	18:04:00	Unknown Location	203	34.39/13.48	2.6	69.98 n.miles	Good	23h 02m 00s	
20/03/2011	20:00:00	Unknown Location	292	34.38/13.38	2.2	72.36 n.miles	Good	1d 0h 58m 00s	
20/03/2011	21:54:00	Unknown Location	122	34.38/13.38	2.6	75.17 n.miles	Good	1d 2h 52m 00s	
20/03/2011	23:50:00	Unknown Location	141	34.33/13.46	2.6	77.98 n.miles	Good	1d 4h 48m 00s	
21/03/2011	01:46:00	Unknown Location	66	34.40/13.44	2.4	80.57 n.miles	Good	1d 6h 44m 00s	
21/03/2011	03:40:00	Unknown Location	200	34.45/13.49	1.4	82.08 n.miles	Good	1d 8h 38m 00s	
21/03/2011	05:36:00	Unknown Location	279	34.48/13.41	2.4	84.67 n.miles	Good	1d 10h 34m 00s	
21/03/2011	07:30:00	Unknown Location	323	34.53/13.35	2.4	87.26 n.miles	Good	1d 12h 28m 00s	
21/03/2011	09:26:00	Unknown Location	311	34.58/13.28	1.8	89.21 n.miles	Good	1d 14h 24m 00s	
21/03/2011	11:22:00	Unknown Location	107	34.58/13.28	2.4	91.80 n.miles	Good	1d 16h 20m 00s	
21/03/2011	13:16:00	Unknown Location	165	34.54/13.35	0.8	92.66 n.miles	Good	1d 18h 14m 00s	
21/03/2011	15:12:00	Unknown Location	301	34.59/13.26	2.6	95.47 n.miles	Good	1d 20h 10m 00s	
21/03/2011	17:06:00	Unknown Location	275	34.60/13.13	3.4	99.14 n.miles	Good	1d 22h 04m 00s	
21/03/2011	19:02:00	Unknown Location	88	34.61/13.05	1.2	100.44 n.miles	Good	2d 0h 00m 00s	

Port

Port inspections – Under Article 18 (1) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EC) No 404/2011 a fishing vessel is not allowed to leave port without a functioning VMS.

Port inspection data is cross-checked with the VMS to confirm that it is either in port or at sea.

If a fishing vessel is at sea as determined by the port inspection and the VMS states that the vessel is in port, then the owner is notified in compliance of Article 26 (1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 404/2011

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Department tal-Kontroll tas-Sajd Fisheries Control Directorate

VMS PORT INSPECTION FORM

Date..... Time.....

- 1. Fishery Protection Officers
 - 1.1 Name.....
 - 1.2 Nationality.....
 - 1.3 Inspectors identity card number/type (ICATT).....

2. ST PAULS BAY. CHECKED ON VMS

MFA0250	Robbie.....
MFA0075	Madonna Ta' L Isperanza.....
MFA0252	Erlin.....
MFA0192	Lina.....

3. MARFA

4. Signatures.

Fishery Protection Officers.

Barriera Wharf, Valletta.
TELEPHONE: (356) 22031000

Copy of St Pauls port inspection

Fishing Logbook

IL-LOGBOOK TAD-DIPARTIMENT MALTI TAS-SAJD																							
Isem il-bastiment u radio call sign/s jekk ghandek (1)		Inumru ta' Registrazzjoni (2)		Isem il-kaptan (i) (3)		Gurnata		Xahar		Siegħa		Sena		20__ AA 0011									
				Indirizz (i)		Tluq (4)						Minn											
						Dhul Lura (5)						Sa											
						Fejn Hattetju (6)						Sa											
Ikkaplu (8)		Qies ta' Majja (9)		Qies (10)		I-'kaz ta' trasferiment (7)		Gurnata		Xahar		Isem u/jew radio call sign (jekk ghandek)		Numru ta-Registrazzjoni									
Qbid skond l-ispeċi ta'l-hut miżmum abbord f'piz mhux imnaddaf u bl-irġus (15)																							
Data (11)	Għadd ta' s'diet (12)	Hin domt tistad (13)	Rettangolu Statistiku	MEDITERRAN	Zona ICES/NAFO	Zona ta' sajd ta' pajjiż mhux membru	Qbid	Headbuck	Saitine	Whiting	Pleice	Sole	Herring	KAVALLI	PIXISPAD	TONN	A'LINGA	Velew/Piri/Tung	Slyback	ORAJN	Aġli l-piz mhux imnaddaf ta' l-ispeċi li qbadt	Inizjali	
DIKJARAZZJONI TAL-QABDA					Zona ICES/NAFO (20)	Zona ta' sajd ta' pajjiż mhux membru (20)	Dikjarazzjoni ta-Qbid/trasferiment (*) (18) f'kilogrammi jew numri: _____ Kilogrammi														Stima totali ta'l-hut mormi (16)		
Prezentazzjoni ta'l-hut (17)																					Firma		
Kwantitajiet (19)																					Kaptan/Agent (*)		
Prezentazzjoni ta'l-hut (17)																							
Kwantitajiet (19)																							
Prezentazzjoni ta'l-hut (17)																					L-isem u l-indirizz ta' l-Agent (fejn applikabbli)		
Kwantitajiet (19)																							
(*) Hassar fejn ma japplikax.				Kummenti: _____																			

Also a fishing vessel logbook can be crosschecked with VMS to determine that either the VMS was functioning or if the vessel was in an area where it should NOT have been and that a catch was not recorded in the logbook for that day.

Ref. 20/3

Patrol Vessels

VMS does not replace existing monitoring methods, but it makes them more effective by providing the authorities with the location of vessels suspected of having committed infringements, thus enabling inspectors on patrol vessels to carry out targeted checks at sea. Even when suspected infringements are not immediately detected, irregularities can still be spotted later in the course of cross – checking data.



Fishery Patrol Vessel P- 52 AFM JDP 2011

Third County Vessels

Article 9 (6) COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1224/2009
Of 20 November 2009



Third County vessel

Safety

VMS itself can help in search and rescue (SAR), especially when the SAR organization participates in the Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS). Some VMS have built-in Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRB), although a dedicated VMS unit may not be able to have an emergency beacon that automatically floats to the surface and starts transmitting when it detects it is in salt water. At the very least, the SAR agency can get a last reported location of the vessel, and perhaps its course, from the FMC.

Past event

On the 14/11/2010 the Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC) of the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM) requested that the FMC confirm the last reported location of a fishing vessel, as a crew member had suffered an accident and needed to be transported to a hospital at Malta.

Thank you

Fisheries Control Directorate