

All participating vessels shall seek clearance to enter or move within Maltese ports, internal and territorial waters before leaving berth, buoy or anchorage within the VTS areas.

Participating vessels required to report to Valletta VTS and Marsaxlokk VTS when passing reporting points:

- All vessels with a pilot engaged.
- Any vessel with an exempt master.
- All bunker barges.
- All fishing trawlers and work boats.
- Any vessel that is considered to have reduced manoeuvrability characteristics.

All other vessels shall remain in VHF radio communication, being ready to give a position report or inform the VTS of the vessel's intentions. Also, to take such direction or advice as the VTS deem necessary.

Additionally, participating vessels are required to report to the VTS in the following circumstances:

- Notification of ETA;
- When five miles from the Pilot Boarding Place, where applicable;
- When pilot embarks and disembarks;
- To request clearance;
- When passing a reporting position;
- Before anchoring;
- If disabled, leaking, on fire or has been on fire;
- If involved in collision, grounding, close quarters situation;
- When requesting clearance to depart;
- When requesting clearance to proceed;
- At ATA and ATD;
- When commencing and completing bunker operations;
- When commencing and completing work that requires a work permit;
- When port safety or the environment may be compromised, or the Master considers a report is warranted.

Any marine incident, such as collision, grounding or fire, occurring within a harbour, port or within territorial waters should without delay be reported to the VTS.