

All vessels proposing to call and navigating within Maltese ports, internal and territorial waters are required to participate in the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS).

VTS will assist in:

- Safety of life at sea
- Safety of navigation
- Efficiency of vessel traffic movement
- Protection of the marine environment
- Supporting maritime security, and
- Protection of adjacent communities and infrastructure

Information and broadcasts transmitted by VTS provide:

- Sécurité messages, weather forecast and warnings;

Broadcast times are:

Valletta VTS via VHF channel 11,

- 08:03, 12:03, 18:03, 23:03. All times are LT.

In this capacity, VTS authorises:

- Traffic clearance /denial of entry or departure of vessels, and vessel movements to anchorages, within territorial waters.
- Passing relevant information to vessels moving within the ports to assist with the safe navigation of such vessels.
- Warnings to vessels within in territorial waters when they may affect the safety of such vessels.

Malta VTS, as the coastal radio station, broadcasts navigational warnings on VHF Channel 69; and monitors VHF 16 for distress urgency and safety messages.