Conditions for VMS data use

Access and use conditions for Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data made available through ICES Data calls

June 2014

Goal

These data are made available to facilitate the scientific basis for advice to fisheries management in support of marine policies. The ICES Secretariat is acting on the wishes of the providers of these data to ensure that we clearly state the usage conditions to the nominated end user, and that these conditions are formally acknowledged.

Scope

This policy applies to all end user[1]s of data given access in accordance with the aims of the specific data call, and to ICES activities for providing access to these data.

End user security requirements

1. Data shall be used only for the purposes of facilitating scientific advice and will be strictly related to the agreed terms of reference of the activity executed by the end user.
2. Electronic data provided to the end user(s) shall not be kept on a users computer/database upon completion of the task related to the term of reference.
3. End users shall treat the data as confidential and the transmission or sharing of these data are not allowed.
4. End users shall ensure that visualisations or data products derived from the data cannot be identified to any individual vessel or legal entity associated to the vessel, or at a resolution violating confidentiality rules[2].
5. The data will be made available to nominated end users in a secure password protected server using encrypted protocol.

Data ownership

The data is provided by ICES member countries, or by proxy through the Regional Fisheries Commissions, and therefore in all cases data are owned by the individual countries.

Limitations of the data

Although the ICES Data Centre may perform some data quality/integrity control, the data providers always retain complete responsibility for data quality.

Policy for Use of Data

ICES, as the host and provider of access to the data, will make data available in a timely way according to the following principles:

- Correct and appropriate data interpretation is solely the responsibility of data users.
- Data sources must be duly acknowledged.
- Data Users are obliged to inform ICES of any suspected problems in the data.
- End Users must respect any and all restrictions on the use or reproduction of data such as restrictions on use for commercial purposes (see End user security requirements)

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[1] All persons (and groups of persons) that are members of an ICES Group (e.g., Expert Group, Advice Drafting Group, Workshop), or in the case of joint calls, members of a recognised OSPAR/HELCOM group/committee and that have access to and are working with VMS data that were provided by ICES for that purpose.

[2] Please contact the ICES professional Secretary or ICES Data Centre should there be some doubt with a particular product

Acknowledgement of these conditions

End user name (printed)	Email address	Date	Signature