



United States Department of Defense
**Executive Agent for
 Maritime Domain Awareness**

**MDA
 Enterprise
 Hub**

**Vessel
 Information
 Hub (VIH)**

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Background

The National Plan to Achieve Maritime Domain Awareness stated an objective to persistently monitor vessels and craft in the global maritime domain.

The National Concept of Operations for MDA (MDA CONOPS) recommended that the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI)/USCG Intelligence Coordination Center (ICC) co-located with the National Maritime Intelligence Center (NMIC) be designated as the MDA Enterprise Hub for Vessels.

This was formalized when the Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy designated ONI as the DoD lead for the MDA Enterprise Hub for Vessels.

Current State

The Vessel Information Hub (VIH) charter was approved by the MDA Executive Steering Committee co-chairs in September 2009.

Within the framework of the charter and in accordance with the Hub Implementation Plan (HIP), the VIH works to identify the following:

- Vessel-related data sources from the Global Maritime COI
- Interagency information sharing processes that work or don't work
- Recommendations to resolve processes that do not work

A Vessel Coordination Board has been formed to direct the efforts of Focus Teams in preparing specific reports & products derived from the MDA CONOPS, HIP, and the VIH charter.

Working closely with Architecture Management Hub (AMH), the VIH continues to recommend improvements for information exchange processes.



Successes/Milestones Achieved

Recent accomplishments of the VIH include the following:

- Cataloged vessel-related data system inventory for VIH Focus Teams
- Collaboration via a Wiki site; Provided JWICS postings of Focus Team products & catalogs
- Developed Processes, System, Data, and Tools Guide for cataloging vessel tracking systems
- Follow-on site visits planned to other vessel-relevant Navy, Coast Guard & interagency ops centers - JIATF-S, MIFC, CBP, EPIC

Moving Forward

The NMIC Director and Commander ONI have provided the requirements for them to execute their organizational responsibilities for the Vessel Information Hub and Interagency Solutions Analysis (IASA).

In October 2009, the Director of Naval Intelligence requested the assistance of the Office of the DoD EA for MDA to seek the required resources.

