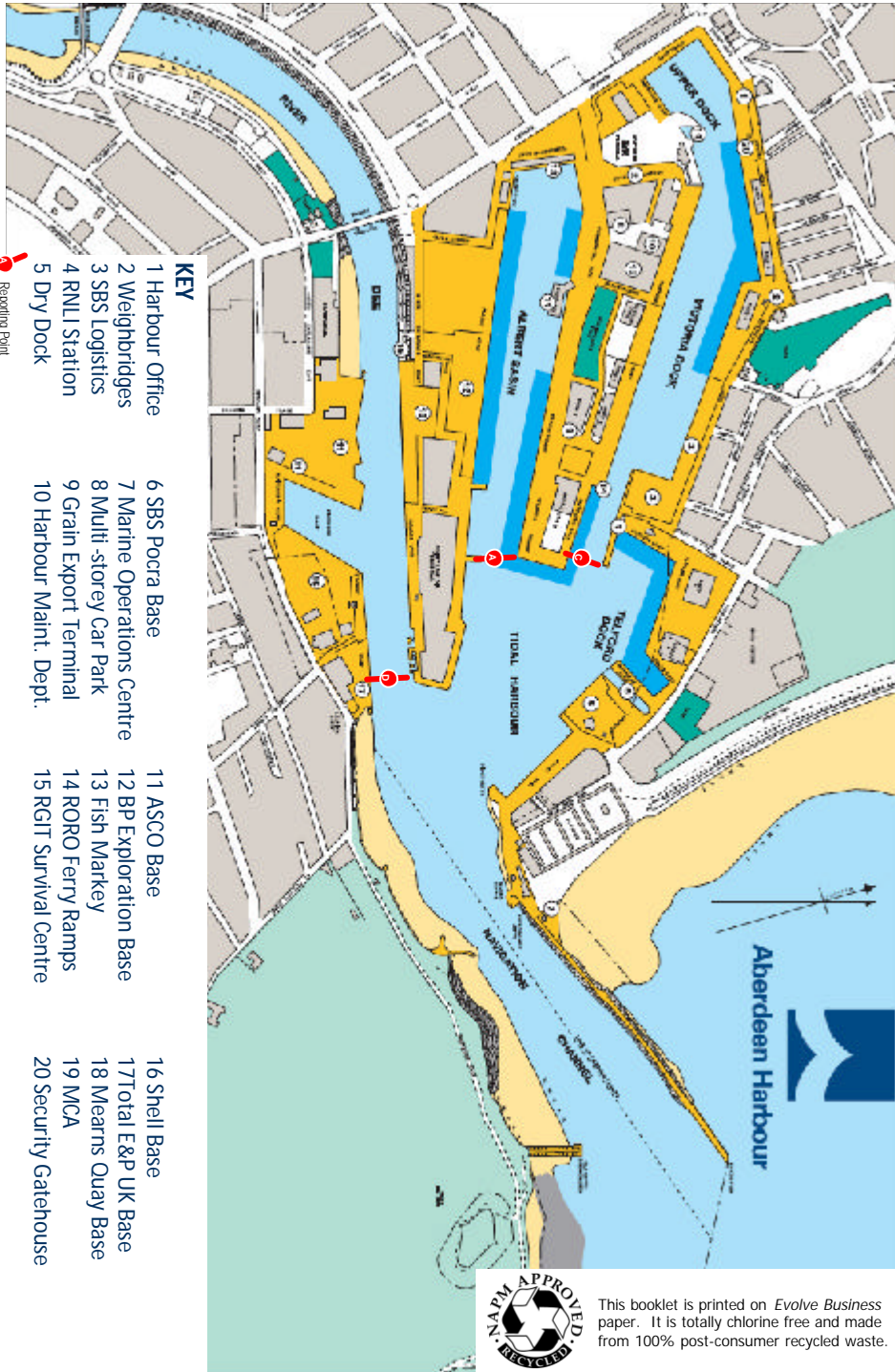




Aberdeen Harbour

# Aberdeen VTS: Guidance for Masters

January 2008, Version 3



# Port Control has evolved...

On the 1st October 2005 Aberdeen Port Control became Aberdeen Harbour Vessel Traffic Services (VTS). This leaflet has been produced to help you understand the changes that took place.

The new service conforms to the standards set by I.A.L.A. and our team of Navigation Control Officers has completed M.C.A. approved training and are now certified VTS Operators.

The final stages of the transformation were complete in Autumn 2006 when Aberdeen VTS moved into the new Marine Operations Centre located at the base of the North Pier. Designed by SMC Parr Associates of Dundee, the new building has one a number of architectural awards.

This facility accommodates all our marine operations services and houses state-of-the-art radar, radio and traffic management systems. The building also houses two ships bridge simulators and training rooms that are available for hire.

## A combined information and traffic organisation service

Aberdeen VTS is a combined service, providing both information and instructions to maritime traffic. Participation in the VTS scheme is compulsory for all vessel's operating the VTS area. Further details are available on Admiralty Chart 1446 "Approaches to Aberdeen Harbour" and also in "Admiralty List of Radio Signals Volume 6(1)".

The **information service** aims to ensure essential information is supplied to ships in time to aid navigational decision making.

The **traffic organisation service** aims to prevent the development of dangerous maritime traffic situations. It will give instructions and clearances to make sure that vessels move around the port safely and efficiently.

**Masters will continue to have absolute responsibility for the safety and conduct of their vessel at all times. Aberdeen VTS does not relieve a vessel's Master of these responsibilities.**

Further information is available from **Aberdeen VTS Authority, Aberdeen Harbour Board, 16 Regent Quay, Aberdeen, AB11 5SS** or by calling +44 (0) 1224 59700; faxing +44 (0) 1224 571507 or emailing [harbourmasters@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk](mailto:harbourmasters@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk)

## Identifier

The call identifier for Aberdeen Harbour is "Aberdeen VTS"

## Clearance

**All** vessels must receive "traffic clearance" from Aberdeen VTS before carrying out **any** manoeuvre.

## Communications and Surveillance

Aberdeen VTS monitors current tidal and meteorological conditions and is also equipped with:

VHF Radio	The working channel is Ch12. Ch16 also monitored.
AIS Receiver	Ensure your AIS is transmitting accurate, up-to-date data.
Radar	Coverage is not available to the south of Girdle Ness.
Telephone	+44 (0) 1224 597000
Fax	+44 (0) 1224 597007
CCTV	Most quayside areas covered.
Email	<a href="mailto:vts@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk">vts@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk</a> (The VTS Office) <a href="mailto:waste@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk">waste@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk</a> (Ships Waste Notifications ONLY) <a href="mailto:dangerous@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk">dangerous@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk</a> (Dangerous Goods Notifications ONLY) <a href="mailto:pfso@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk">pfso@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk</a> (ISPS Pre-Arrival Notifications ONLY)

N.B. All these services are recorded.

Marine related information, including the latest Aberdeen Harbour Notices to Mariners, can be found at <http://www.aberdeen-harbour.co.uk/marine.html>

## Reporting Points

Five reporting and holding points have been designated. **All** vessels must report when passing points I and B, and must report at points A, C and D when required by VTS to do so.

India:	Three miles from the Fairway Buoy.
Alpha:	The transition point between the Tidal Harbour and <b>A</b> lbert Basin.
Bravo:	In the vicinity of the Fairway <b>B</b> uoy.
Charlie:	The transition point between the Tidal Harbour and Victoria Dock (The <b>C</b> ut).
Delta:	The transition point between the Turning Basin and the River <b>D</b> ee.



Panoramic view from Marine Operations Centre