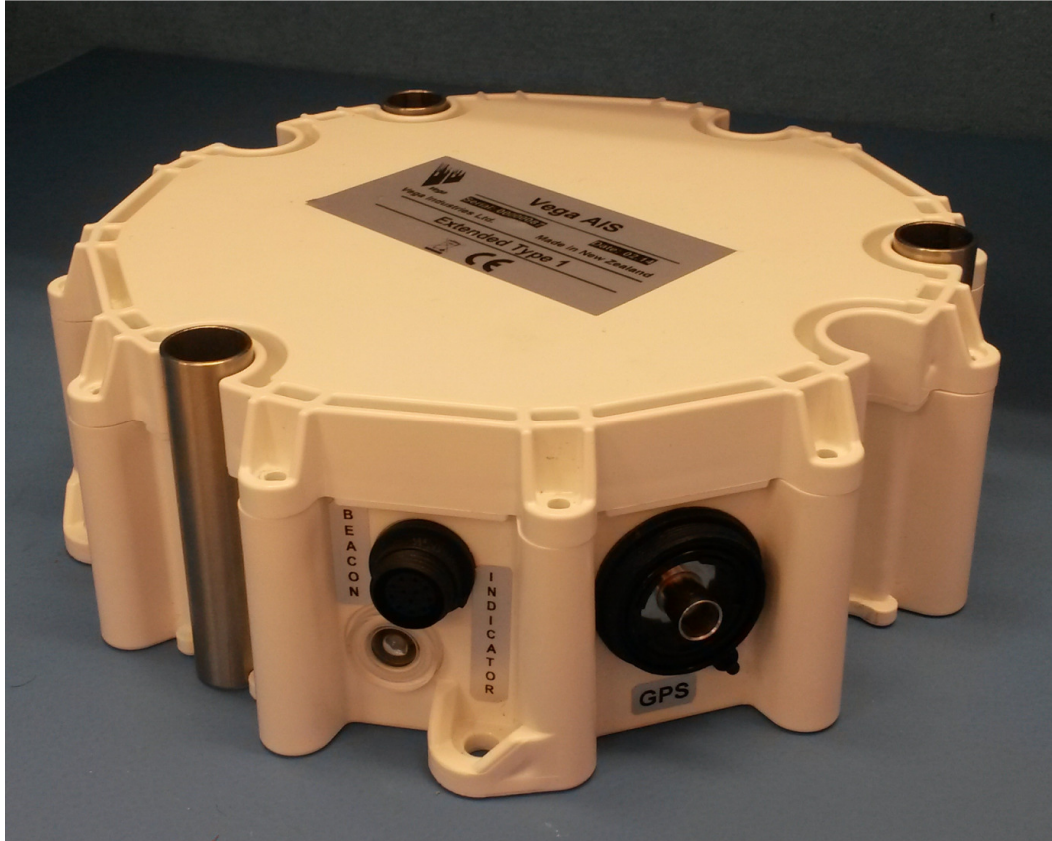




VEGA INDUSTRIES LIMITED

VegaAIS AtoN Station

Installation and Operation Manual



VegaAIS Product Manual	
Available models	VAIS-1S Type 1 Standard Model VAIS-1E Type 1 Extended Model VAIS-3S Type 3 Standard Model VAIS-3E Type 3 Extended Model
Options	Unidirectional Current / Voltage sensor Bidirectional Current / Voltage sensor
Product Version	1
Software version:	1.0
Manual version:	1.0.8
Date released:	5 th June 2015
Status:	Released

Manual revision history

Manual Version	Released	Description of Change	Software version	VegaAIS Serial number
1.0.0	Sept 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pre-release for BSH review		
1.0.1	Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added voltage reference for power consumption figures		
1.0.2	Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added Manual Configuration section		
1.0.3	Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added description of battery protection feature		
1.0.4	Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Initial Release	1.0	21000000+
1.0.5	Jan 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added General Warning section	1.0	21000000+
1.0.6	Jan 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Add reference to DOC	1.0	21000000+
1.0.7	May 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added information about external fuses and disconnect devices	1.0	21000000+
1.0.8	June 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added Type 3 power consumption figures	1.1	21000000+

Caution: This device generates potentially harmful levels of radio frequency radiation. Please read section 1.1.5 General Warnings before operating this device.

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SECTION 1 OVERVIEW OF THE VEGA AIS ATON STATION

1.1 Introduction

The VegaAIS AtoN Station is a Type 1 or Type 3 AIS AtoN Station as described in IALA A-126 Edition 1.5, June 2011. The VegaAIS AtoN Station will provide broadcast information of the location and operation of the Aid to Navigation to vessels and base stations receiving AIS messages.

The VegaAIS unit can also transmit AtoN monitoring information and also relay Meteorological / Hydrographic information as part of the overall AIS system.

1.1.1 Model Range

The following model range is available:

Model	Description
Type 1 Standard Model	Transmit only, FATDMA, no extended I/O
Type 1 Extended Model	Transmit only, FATDMA, extended I/O
Type 3 Standard Model ¹	Transmit and Receive, FATDMA and RATDMA, no extended I/O
Type 3 Extended Model ¹	Transmit and Receive, FATDMA and RATDMA, extended I/O

Notes:

1. Type 3 models not yet available.

The extended inputs supported by the Extended models are:

- eight isolated digital inputs
- two isolated analogue inputs
- three additional inputs (optionally isolated) for RACON presence and failure monitoring

1.1.2 Additional Factory Options

Additional Factory options for the VegaAIS AtoN Station:

- Weather Station Port
- Unidirectional Current / Voltage Sensor
- Bidirectional Current / Voltage Sensor
- RACON Port (for Standard model only)
- Collision Detection and Reporting (Type 3 models only)

Each of these options is described more fully later in this manual.

1.1.3 Approvals & Certification

The VegaAIS type 1 unit has been tested to IEC 62320-2 by German Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency BSH. Certificate number: **BSH/4542/002/4322515/15**.

Vega Industries declares that this product is in compliance with the essential requirements and other provisions of the R&TTE directive 1999/5/EC.

See Appendix B Declaration of Conformance for a copy of the Declaration of Conformance.

1.1.4 Quality Assurance

All manufacture and assembly is performed under ISO9001 certification.

1.1.5 General Warnings

RF Emissions:

Caution: This device generates and radiates electromagnetic energy. This device must be installed and operated according to the instructions contained in this manual. Failure to do so can result in product malfunction and / or exposure to potentially harmful levels of radio frequency radiation.

Caution: Never operate this device unless it is connected to a VHF antenna.

The system has a Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE) radius of 1m from the antenna. This has been determined assuming the maximum power of the transponder and using a standard monopole VHF antenna with a maximum gain of 3dBi and termination impedance of 50 ohms.

When installing the antenna and operating the equipment consider the following,

- Higher gain VHF antennas will require a larger MPE radius
- Do not operate the unit when anyone is within the MPE radius of the antenna
- The antenna should not be collocated or operated in conjunction with any other transmitting antenna.

1.2 Supported AIS Messages

The VegaAIS AtoN Station supports the following messages as defined in ITU-R M.1371-4:

- Message 21 - Aids-to-Navigation report
- Message 6 - Addressed binary message
- Message 8 - Binary broadcast message

Message 21 is the primary message for AIS AtoN systems as it is the standardised AtoN status message. The VegaAIS unit complies with the message 21 definition as described in the ITU-R specification above and the IALA Recommendation A-126 Ed 1.5.

The VegaAIS unit can also transmit monitoring data, either addressed (message 6) or broadcast (message 8). Two data formats are currently supported, a proprietary format used to log data to the VegaWeb server, and the IALA GLA format as described in Annex C, Table 4 of the IALA A-126 Recommendation.

The VegaAIS unit can also transmit Meteorological / Hydrographic data. This data is only transmitted as a broadcast message (message 8) and the data format conforms to the IMO SN.1/Circ.289 (2 June 2010) Table 1.1 recommendation.

1.2.1 Aids-to-Navigation Report

As described above, the Aids-to-navigation report complies with the message 21 definition in ITU-R M.1371-4 and IALA Recommendation A-126 Ed 1.5.

The AtoN status bits in message 21 may be generated in a number of ways:

- Fixed status bits
- Light on/off determined from digital input
- Light on/off determined from serial signal (Vega beacons only)
- Light on/off determined by beacon current
- Light ok/fail determined by digital input
- Light ok/fail determined by serial signal (Vega beacons only)
- Light ok/fail determined by light detected off when it should be on
- RACON presence determined from digital input
- RACON failure determined from digital input

These options can be selected using the VegaAIS Configuration Tool. AtoN and RACON status monitoring is more fully described in SECTION 4 ATON AND RACON STATUS MONITORING.

1.2.2 Monitoring Report

Monitoring reports are described in SECTION 5 MONITORING REPORTS.

1.2.3 Meteorological / Hydrographic Report

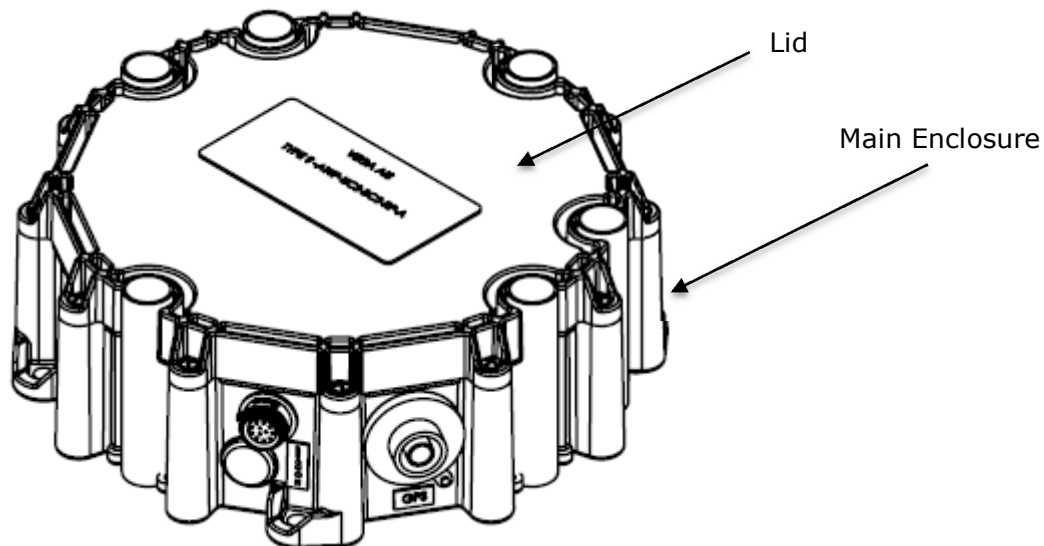
Meteorological/Hydrographic reports are described in SECTION 6 METEOROLOGICAL / HYDROGRAPHIC REPORTS.

1.3 Mechanical Description

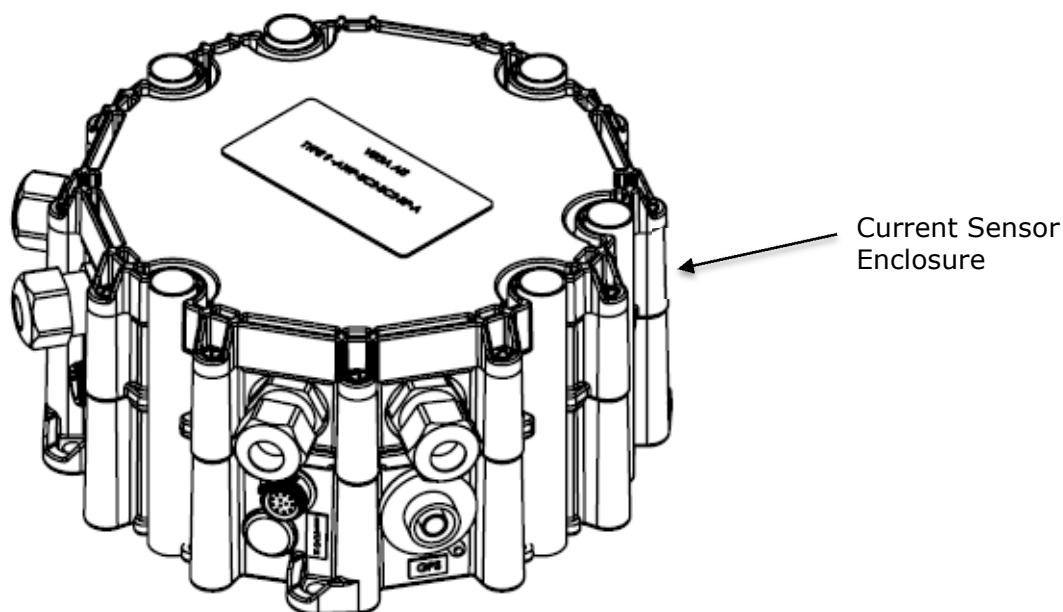
1.3.1 Construction

The standard VegaAIS unit consists of a main enclosure and a lid. Where the current / voltage sensor option is required, another enclosure is sandwiched between the main enclosure and the lid.

The main enclosure which is common to all models houses the AIS engine including VHF transmitter and receiver (type3 units only) as well as the AtoN monitoring electronics. This unit is not user serviceable and, to minimise the risk of compromising the sealing, should not be opened.



The current / voltage sensor unit is mounted on top of the main unit and houses the screw connections for the current / voltage sensor(s) as well as the glands for passing cables in and out of this unit.



The lid fits onto either the main unit or the current sensor unit depending on whether the current sensor unit is fitted. The lid is assembled using self-tapping fasteners into the enclosure. Take care not to over torque these screws when assembling the lid.

The VegaAIS unit is designed to be sandwiched under an AtoN that is mounted on the standard three or four hole mount on a 200mm PCD – as shown below.



If this mounting option is chosen, the stainless steel anti-crush tubes must be fitted to prevent the VegaAIS enclosure from bearing the weight of the AtoN.

Alternately, the VegaAIS unit may be secured using the four mounting lugs on the main enclosure.

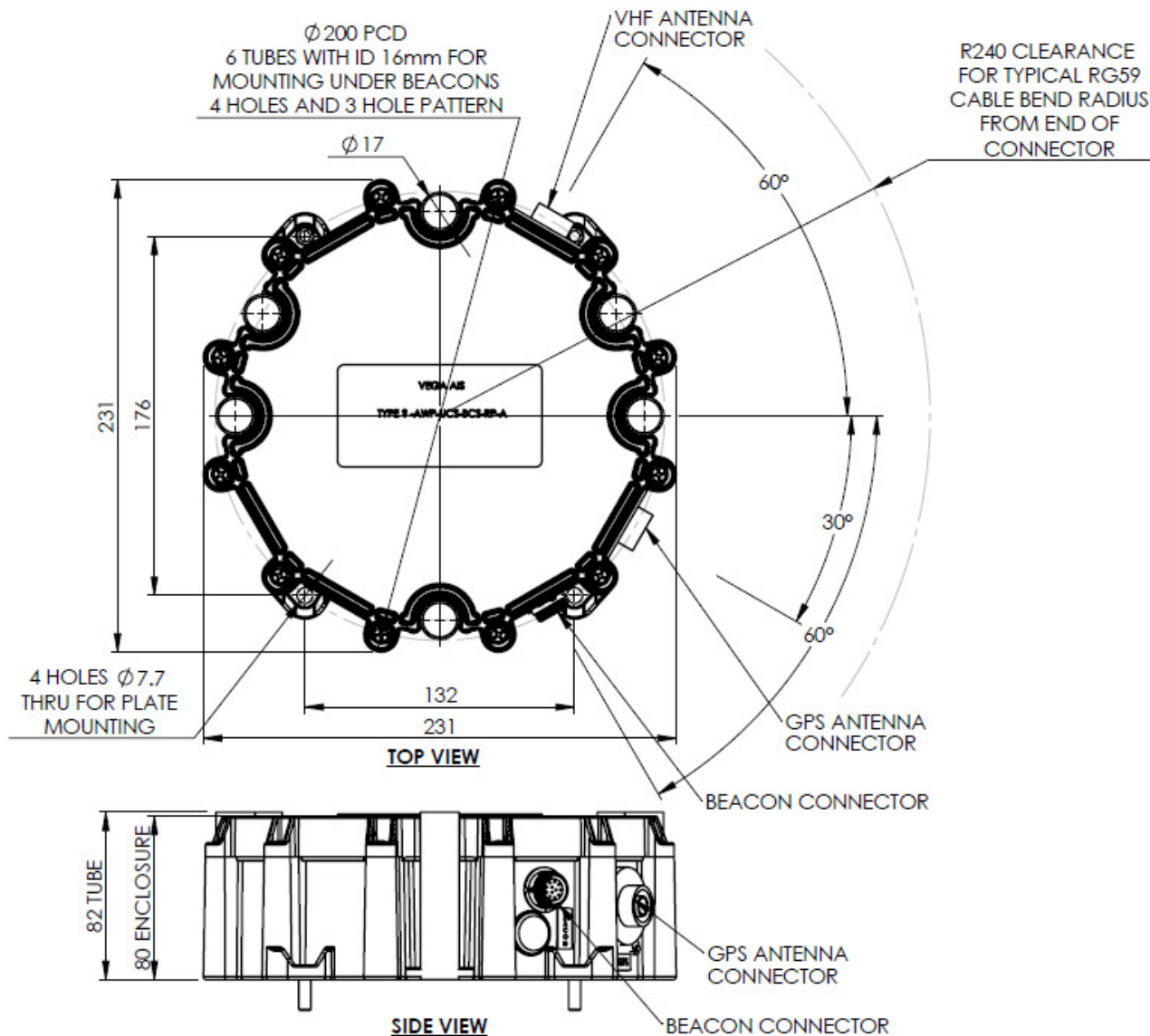
1.3.2 Sealing

The VegaAIS unit is sealed to the IP68 standard against the ingress of moisture, dust, insects and other environmental contaminants. Because the VegaAIS unit does not need to be opened for configuration, these seals can remain undisturbed for extended periods. If the current sensor unit is opened to connect the current sensor terminals, do not let any water accumulate in this compartment and take care to ensure the sealing O ring is correctly located in its O ring groove when reassembling.

1.3.3 Installation

As mentioned above, the VegaAIS unit may be mounted under an AtoN using a three or four hole mount on a 200mm PCD. Alternately the VegaAIS unit may be mounted using the four mounting lugs on the base of the main enclosure.

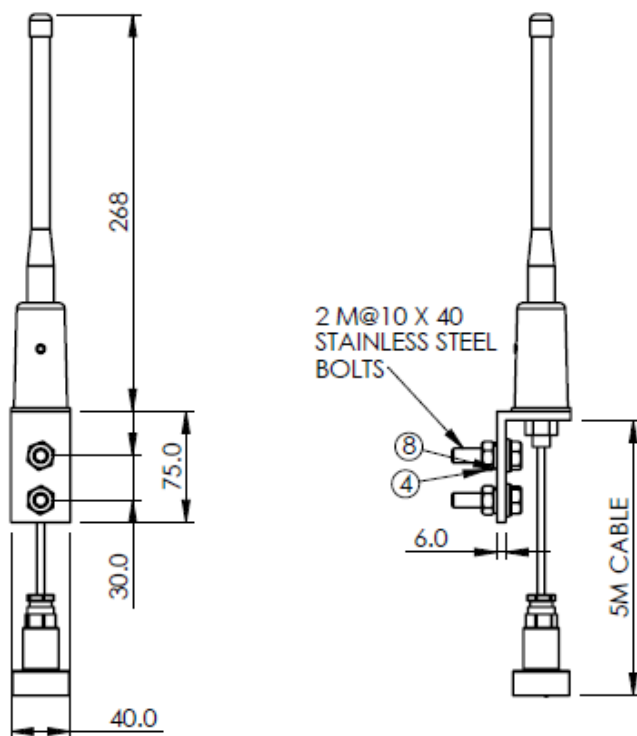
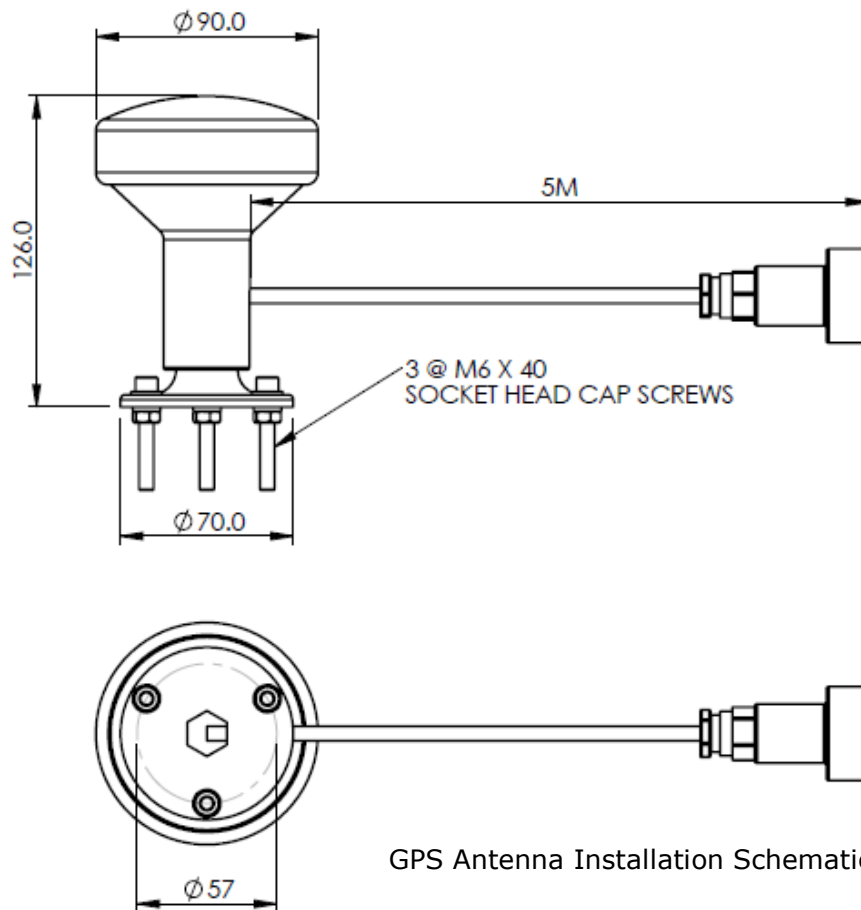
Installation details are shown below.



If an AtoN is mounted on top of the VegaAIS unit, the stainless steel anti-crush tubes must be fitted to prevent the VegaAIS unit from bearing the weight of the AtoN. As can be seen in the schematic above, these tubes sit proud of the top of the enclosure and therefore bear the weight and clamping forces of the AtoN.

The VegaAIS unit is supplied with both a GPS and a VHF antenna – installation schematics shown below. These may be mounted on any convenient mounting point with the following provisions.

- The GPS antenna must be mounted such that it has a clear view of the sky. Any obstruction of this view will diminish the performance of the GPS antenna.
- The VHF antenna should be mounted as high as possible and as far away as possible from any metallic structure that may interfere with transmission and reception.
- Both antennas should be mounted with the main axis of the antenna vertical.



Both the GPS and VHF antennas are potted at the antenna and use the IP68 Bulgin Buccaneer connector to connect to the VegaAIS unit. The connection locations are shown on the VegaAIS installation schematic – these connection locations are also labelled on the VegaAIS unit. Furthermore, the polarities of these two connectors are reversed meaning that it is impossible to connect either antenna to the wrong location.

The other electrical connections are described in the Electrical section below.

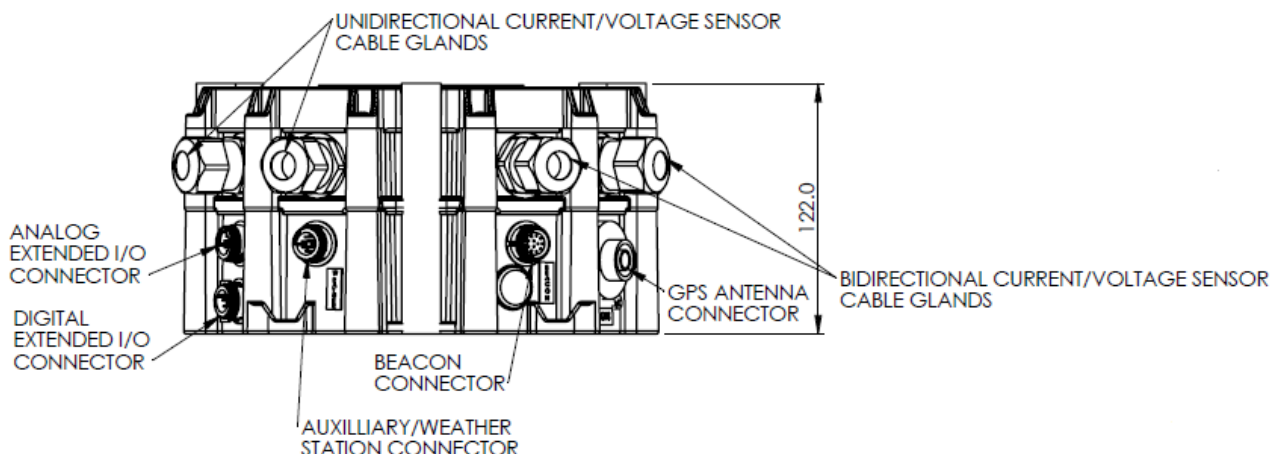
1.4 Electrical

1.4.1 Electrical Connections

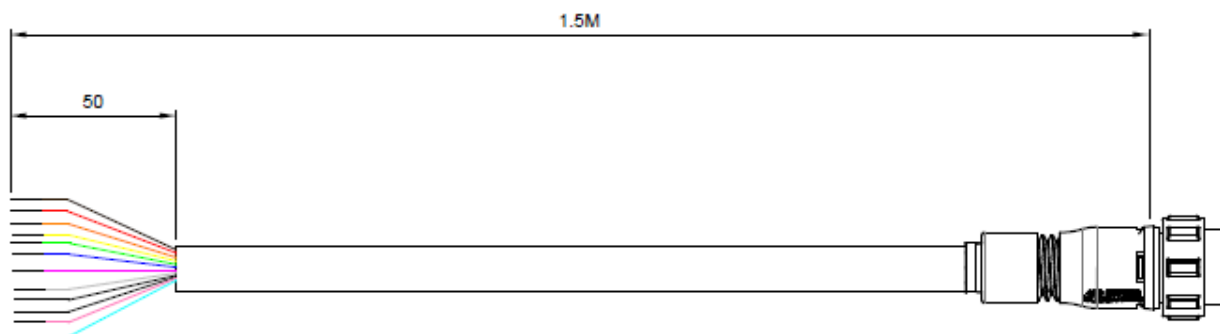
The number of electrical connections will depend on the VegaAIS model and options selected.

All units will have a RF antenna and a GPS antenna connection. The installation of these antennas and their electrical connections are detailed in the Installation section above.

There are four other possible connectors on the main VegaAIS unit; these are called the Beacon Connector, the Weather Station Connector, the Analogue Extended I/O Connector and the Digital Extended I/O Connector. The position of these connectors is shown on the schematic below.



All connectors are labelled on the VegaAIS unit and all connectors have different pin counts and polarity to ensure they cannot be incorrectly connected. Cables are supplied for all installed connections. The supplied cables are 1.5m long with unterminated ends - as shown below.



All units will have at least the Beacon Connector as this contains the serial interface for the configuration tool. The pinout for the Beacon Connector is shown below.

Pin	Colour	Description
1	Red	Positive Supply
2	Black	Ground
3	Orange	No connection
4	Violet	RS232 Rx – for config tool or connection to Vega smart beacon
5	Yellow	RS232 Tx – for config tool or connection to Vega smart beacon
6	Green	Sync connection
7	Brown	No connection
8	Grey	AtoN on digital input
9	White	AtoN fail digital input

10	Blue	No connection
11	Cyan	No connection
12	Pink	No connection

Beacon Cable Pinout

The Extended models will also be supplied with the Analogue Extended I/O Connector and the Digital Extended I/O Connector and cables. The pinouts for these cables is given below.

Pin	Colour	Description
1	Red	Positive Supply
2	Black	Ground
3	Orange	No connection
4	Yellow	RACON fail digital input
5	Green	RACON presence digital input
6	Blue	RACON common
7	Violet	Isolated ADC B negative
8	Grey	Isolated ADC B positive
9	Brown	Isolated ADC A negative
10	Pink	Isolated ADC A positive

Analogue Extended I/O Cable Pinout

Note that the Analogue Extended I/O connector includes the RACON inputs. Therefore, if the RACON port option is selected for a VegaAIS standard mode, this connector will be fitted.

Pin	Colour	Description
1	Brown	Isolated digital input #1
2	Red	Isolated digital input #2
3	Orange	Isolated digital input #3
4	Yellow	Isolated digital input #4
5	Green	Common
6	Blue	Common
7	Violet	Isolated digital input #5
8	Grey	Isolated digital input #6
9	White	Isolated digital input #7
10	Black	Isolated digital input #8

Digital Extended I/O Cable Pinout

If the Weather Station Port option is required then the Weather Station connection and cable will be supplied. The pinout for this cable is given below.

Pin	Colour	Description
1	Red	Positive Supply
2	Black	Ground
3	Orange	Boot
4	Violet	RS232 Rx – for weather station comms
5	Yellow	RS232 Tx – for weather station comms
6	Green	Sync connection
7	Blue	RS232 ground
8	Grey	No connection
9	White	RS485-B
10	Brown	RS485-A
11	Pink	RS422-A
12	Cyan	RS422-B

Weather Station Cable Pinout

These connections are described below:

1.4.1.1 Power Supply / Ground

This input provides power for the VegaAIS unit. Voltage range: 10 – 36VDC. Max current: 2A.

The VegaAIS unit can be powered from the Beacon Connector, the Analogue Extended I/O Connector, the Weather Station Connector or the Unidirectional Current sensor. The VegaAIS unit will automatically switch between these inputs depending on which input is powered.

Do not connect directly to a battery or power supply - an external fuse **must** be fitted between the battery/power supply and the VegaAIS unit.

When powering the VegaAIS unit via the Beacon connector, the Analogue Extended I/O connector or the Weather Station connector, this fuse should be 2.5A. If it is required to disconnect the VegaAIS unit from the supply, just disconnect the appropriate connector that is supplying the power. If more than one connector is supplying power (e.g. a backup supply) then remove all connectors supplying power to the VegaAIS unit. If necessary, mark the cables to be disconnected to completely disconnect the supply so it may be done by an untrained operator.

When powering the VegaAIS unit via the unidirectional current sensor, the value of the fuse depends on the load being powered from the unidirectional current sensor. This fuse should never exceed 40A.

When powering the VegaAIS unit via the unidirectional current sensor, a readily accessible disconnect device should be incorporated in the external power supply so that the VegaAIS unit may be disconnected when required.

1.4.1.2 Beacon Connector RS232 Rx and Tx

This is the RS232 connection used for VegaAIS configuration and (optionally) for communications with a Vega smart beacon. Baud rate 38400bps, 8 bits data, no parity, one stop bit.

1.4.1.3 Sync Connection

This output provides a GPS sync pulse for flash synchronisation of AtoNs. The active sync pulse can be configured to be high or low. Flash character length is also configurable.

1.4.1.4 AtoN On Digital Input

This input can be used to indicate if the AtoN is on or off for use in the Message 21 AtoN Status byte. This input has a configurable pull-up or pull-down resistor. The active polarity is also configurable. Active polarity in this case means the polarity when the AtoN is on.

1.4.1.5 AtoN Fail Digital Input

This input can be used to indicate if the AtoN has failed for use in the Message 21 AtoN Status byte. This input has a configurable pull-up or pull-down resistor. The active polarity is also configurable. Active polarity in this case means the polarity when the AtoN has failed.

1.4.1.6 RACON Fail Digital Input

This input can be used to indicate if the RACON has failed for use in the Message 21 AtoN Status byte. This input has a configurable pull-up or pull-down resistor. The active polarity is also configurable. Active polarity in this case means the polarity when the RACON has failed.

1.4.1.7 RACON Present Digital Input

This input can be used to indicate if a RACON is present or not for use in the Message 21 AtoN Status byte. This input has a configurable pull-up or pull-down resistor. The active polarity is also configurable. Active polarity in this case means the polarity when the RACON is present.

1.4.1.8 Isolated ADC Inputs (A & B)

These are two isolated, differential analogue inputs. Input range 0 – 36VDC. 12 bit ADC.

1.4.1.9 Isolated Digital Inputs (1-8)

These are eight isolated digital inputs referenced to an isolated common. These may be individually configured to be a current source or sink.

1.4.1.10 Boot Input

This pin is used when reprogramming the VegaAIS unit in bootstrap mode. Not currently supported. This input must be left unconnected.

1.4.1.11 Weather Station Connector RS232 Rx and Tx

This is the RS232 connection used for Weather Station communications. Baud rate 38400bps, 8 bits data, no parity, one stop bit.

1.4.1.12 Weather Station Connector RS485-A, RS485-B

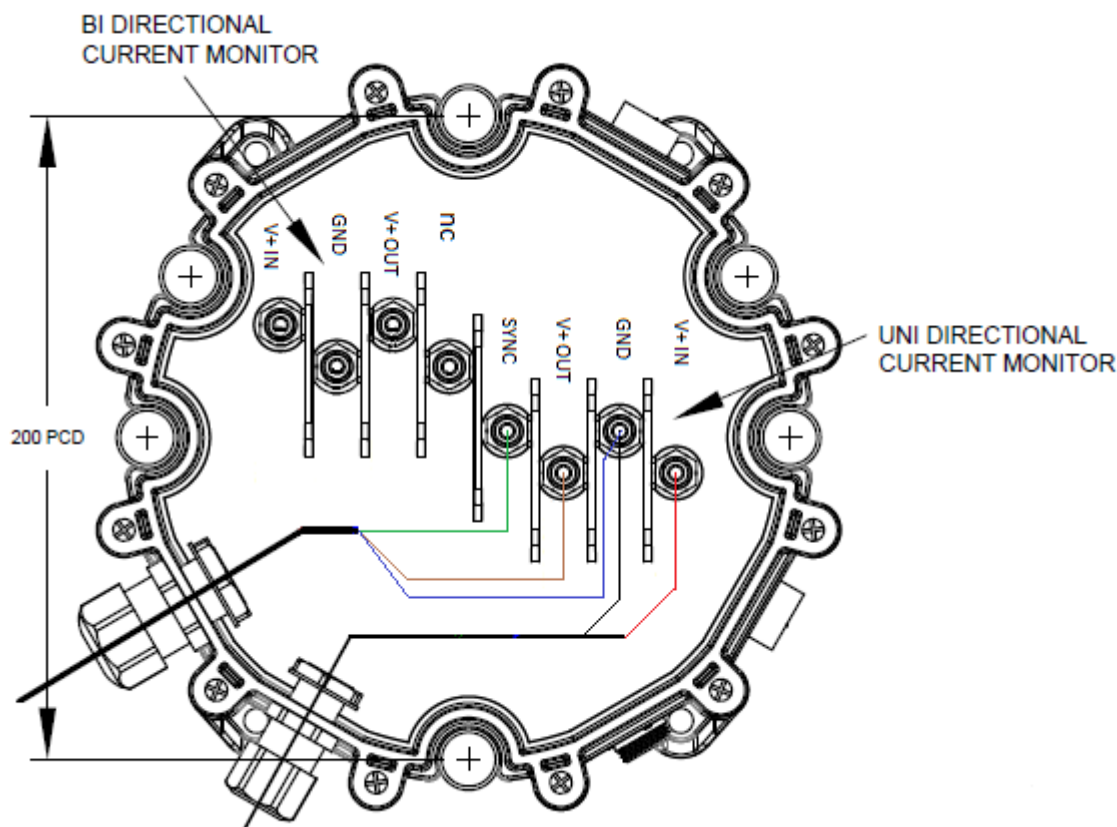
This is the RS485 connection used for Weather Station communications. Baud rate 38400bps, 8 bits data, no parity, one stop bit.

1.4.1.13 Weather Station Connector RS422-A, RS422-B

This is the RS422 connection used for Weather Station communications. Baud rate 38400bps, 8 bits data, no parity, one stop bit.

1.4.2 Current Sensor Connections

If the optional current sensor unit is fitted, then removing the VegaAIS lid will expose the current sensor terminals as shown below.



The diagram above shows the wiring where only the unidirectional current sensor is fitted and is used to measure beacon current. Power is brought in through one gland (red and black wires) and out to the beacon through the other (brown, blue and green). Many other combinations are possible using up to four glands to route cables.

The current sensors are high side current sensors. Each current sensor has the following connections:

Stud	Description
V+ IN	Positive supply in
GND	Ground
V+ OUT	Positive supply out
SYNC	Sync connection – see 1.4.1.3 [only uni-directional sensor]

The current sensor connections are M5 studs intended for ring crimp terminals. Two cable glands sizes are available: M16: cable sizes 4.5-9mm OD, M20: cable sizes 7.5-13.2mm OD. Up to four glands can be fitted as required.

Whether using the uni-directional or bi-directional current sensor, a fuse must be fitted between the battery and the current sensor connection. The value of the fuse will depend on the expected current but should not exceed 40A.

1.5 Power Consumption

The VegaAIS AtoN Station is intended to be deployed on solar powered installations. As such it has been designed to minimise power consumption as far as possible.

The actual power consumption achieved will depend on a number of factors including message transmission rate, number of messages supported, quality of GPS signal, weather station support and monitoring configuration.

The VegaAIS unit is designed to spend as much time as possible in a low power sleep state. It only wakes up when it has some task to perform – for example sending a message. Therefore high message transmission rates and/or a high number of messages will increase power consumption.

The VegaAIS system needs to achieve a GPS lock prior to each transmission. If the GPS antenna is unable to get a clear view of the sky, the time taken to achieve GPS lock will take longer and the VegaAIS unit will spend more time on than it would otherwise need to – increasing power consumption.

The VegaAIS unit periodically samples its inputs to provide data for Message 21 and monitoring reports. Normally the sample time is very brief and does not have a big impact on power consumption. However, if the unit is configured to measure beacon current on a flashing beacon, the sample period needs to be as long as the flash character. This will increase the power consumption.

If the VegaAIS unit is configured to communicate with a weather station, it will wake up periodically to sample the inputs from that weather station. This will increase power consumption.

Type 3 units will consume more power as they have RF receivers and need to be awake a lot more of the time to receive incoming message to maintain their AIS slot map.

1.5.1 Type 1 VegaAIS

For a basic type 1 configuration, transmitting Message 21 every three minutes on alternating channels (IALA A-126 Mode A) with the basic monitoring requirement, the power consumption is less than 0.2 Ah/day.

Note – the power consumption figure assumes an input voltage of 12VDC.

1.5.2 Type 3 VegaAIS

The Type 3 VegaAIS unit can run in one of two different power modes: low power mode or super low power mode. If possible the unit will try to run in super low power mode, however under some conditions (e.g. if proximity control is required), then the unit cannot run in super low power mode.

The power consumption for both these modes is:

- Low power mode < 3.4 Ah/day
- Super low power mode < 1.35 Ah/day

This assumes a basic type 3 configuration transmitting Message 21 every three minutes on alternating channels (IALA A-126 Mode A) with the basic monitoring requirement, input voltage of 12VDC and a 5% VDL load.

1.5.3 Battery Protection Feature

The VegaAIS has an optional battery protection feature that prevents batteries from being damaged by over discharging. If the battery voltage falls below a configurable level, the VegaAIS

unit will go into a low power state. Normal operation will not be resumed until the battery voltage has risen above another configurable level.

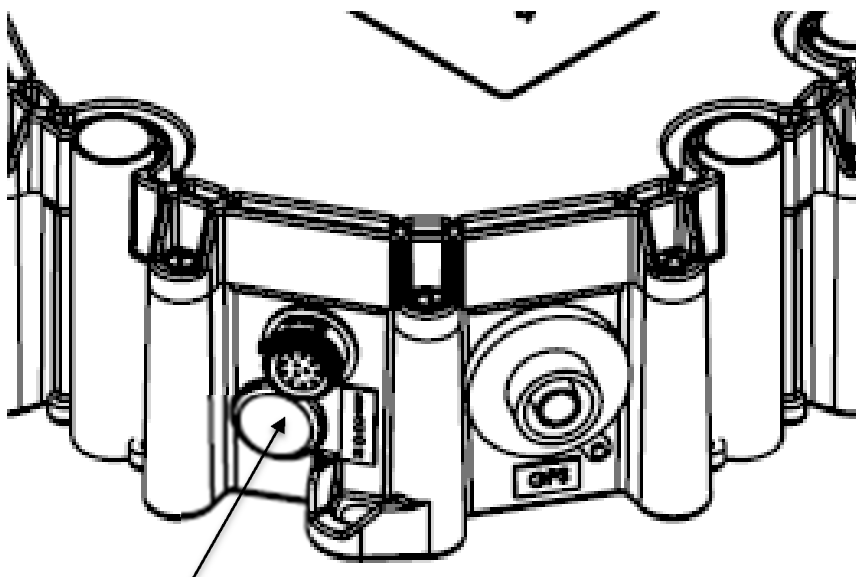
In the low power state the VegaAIS unit stops transmitting all messages and also shuts down or minimises all other tasks so as to draw as little power as possible.

The configurable battery cut-off and recovery levels are set using the VegaAIS Configuration tool or via the proprietary HWCFG sentence – see section 2.3.2.1.

This feature can be disabled by setting the battery cut-off level to zero.

1.6 Error Code Reporting

The VegaAIS AtoN Station is fitted with an indicator LED just underneath the Beacon Connector that is used to indicate the state of the unit.



LED Indicator

Under normal circumstances the VegaAIS unit the LED indicator will briefly flash green once per minute. The low flash rate is chosen to minimise power consumption.

If an error condition has been recorded the VegaAIS unit will flash out one or more error codes once per minute. These will be flashed in red.

The error codes are three digit flash codes. The number of flashes indicate the digit (e.g. 2 flashes = 2, 8 flashes = 8). Zero is indicated by one long flash. Each digit is separated by a pause. If more than one error code is present, there will be a longer pause between each error code.

For example, the error code 102 will be flashed out as follows:

One short flash (1), short pause, one long flash (0), pause, two short flashes (2)

The error codes reported by the VegaAIS unit are:

Error Code	Fault
100	Configuration Error
101	Accelerometer Error
102	Lost communications with Vega smart beacon
103	Inferred night error
104	AIS Rx error
105	AIS Tx error
106	GPS error
107	AIS self-test error
108	GPS position error
109	ADC error
110	Not used
111	Low battery error

SECTION 2 CONFIGURATION

2.1 VegaAIS Configuration Tool Introduction

Each VegaAIS AtoN Station is supplied with a configuration tool for setting up the operational parameters of the VegaAIS unit. This tool is a Windows application and requires Windows XP or later operating system.

The Configuration tool communicates to the VegaAIS unit over a RS232 serial connection and therefore a serial cable or USB to serial adapter is required.

2.1.1 Installation

Insert the VegaAIS Configuration Tool installation CD into your computer's CD/DVD drive. The installer will start automatically. Follow the prompts until the tool is installed.

If the installer does not automatically start when you insert the CD, the installer can be automatically started by clicking on the setup.exe file on the CD.

The VegaAIS Configuration Tool will be installed under Vega Industries in the Program Files folder. The application is called VegaAIS Configuration Tool.

2.1.2 Default Configuration

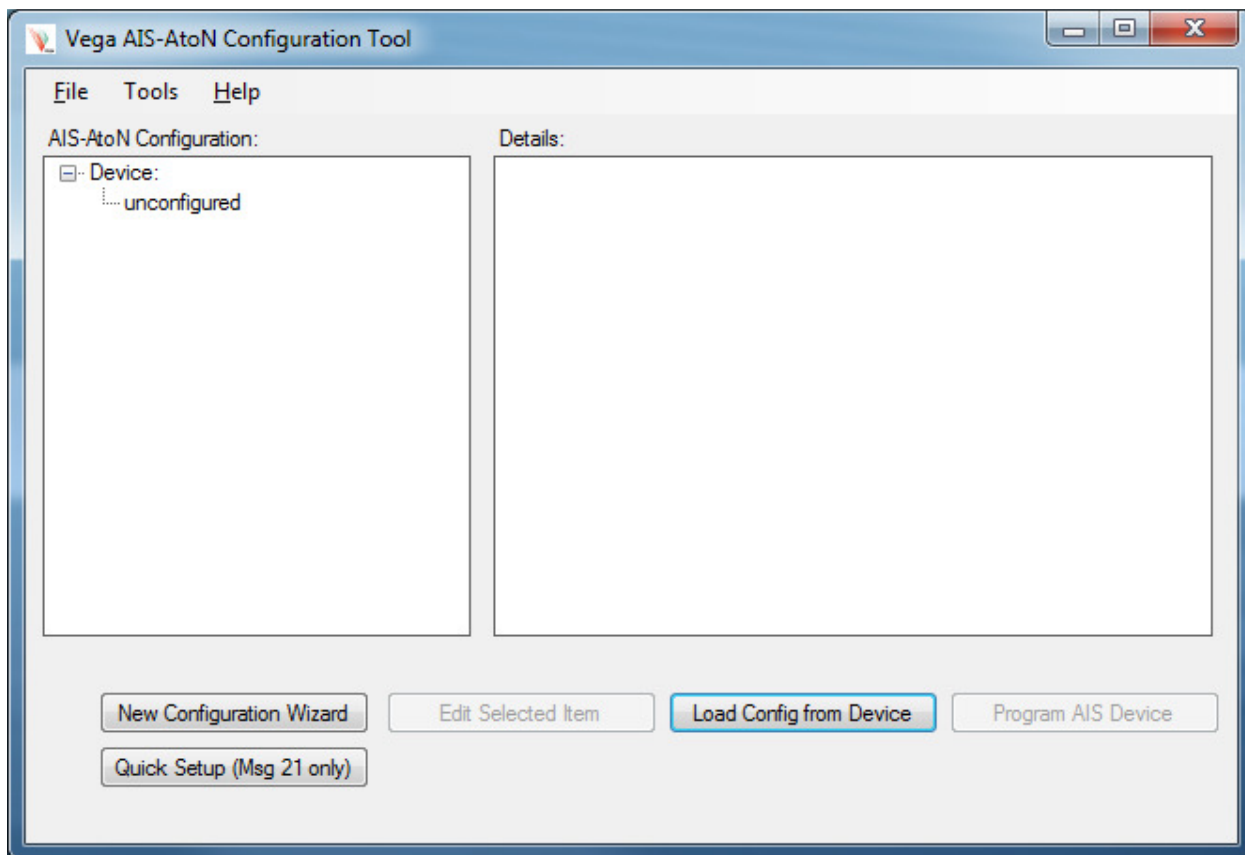
The VegaAIS AtoN Station as supplied from Vega will have a default configuration. This will have no AIS messages defined and therefore will not do anything meaningful until it is configured.

2.1.3 Connection to VegaAIS Unit

In order to read or write a configuration to/from the VegaAIS unit, the configuration tool must be connected via a serial connection (or USB to serial adapter) to the RS232 connection on the Beacon connector. Please see section Electrical Connections for details on the electrical connection.

2.2 Configuration Tool Instructions

When the Configuration Tool is first started it will display an empty configuration.



The pane on the left hand side displays a tree structure. When a configuration is built up this will show the MMSIs, messages and features defined by the configuration.

The pane on the right hand side shows the details of the configuration item that has been selected in the left hand pane.

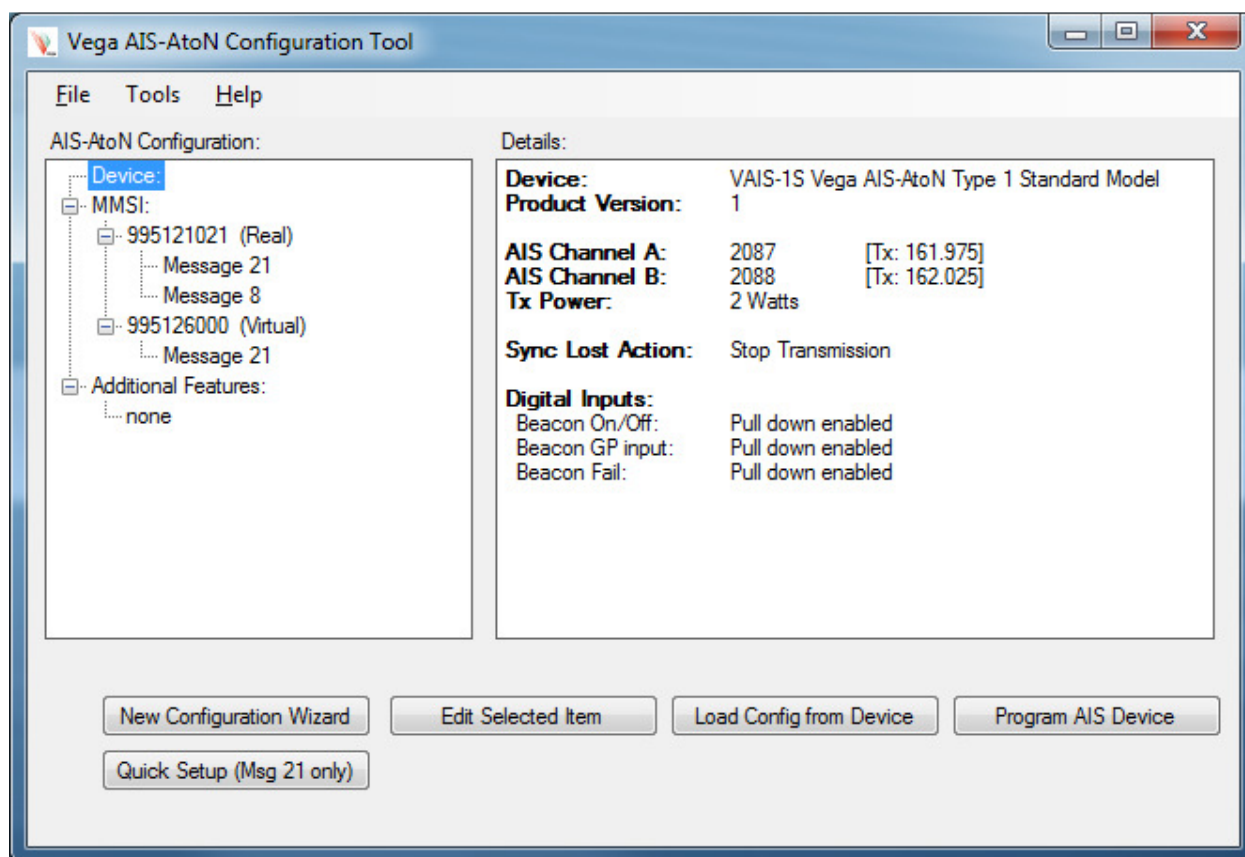
2.2.1 Creating a Configuration

There are four methods for creating a configuration, these are detailed below.

2.2.1.1 Load Configuration from File

Once a configuration has been created, it can be saved to a file. This configuration can be subsequently reloaded by selecting File->Load Configuration and selecting the previously saved file.

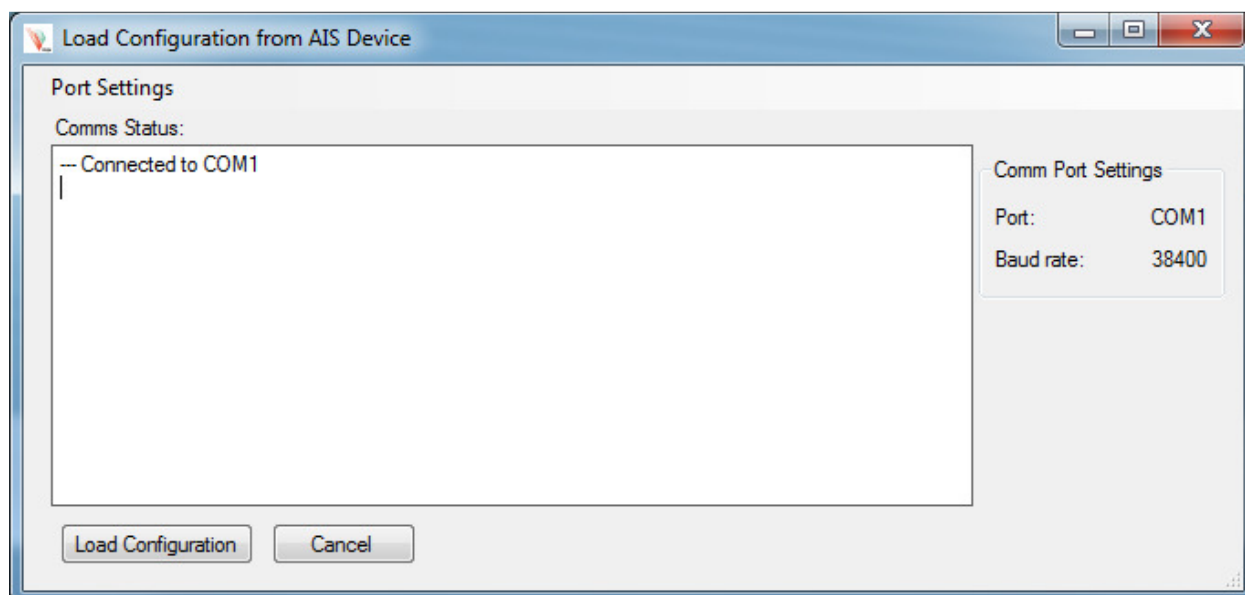
Once loaded, a complete configuration will look something like this:



This configuration can then be edited or programmed to a device.

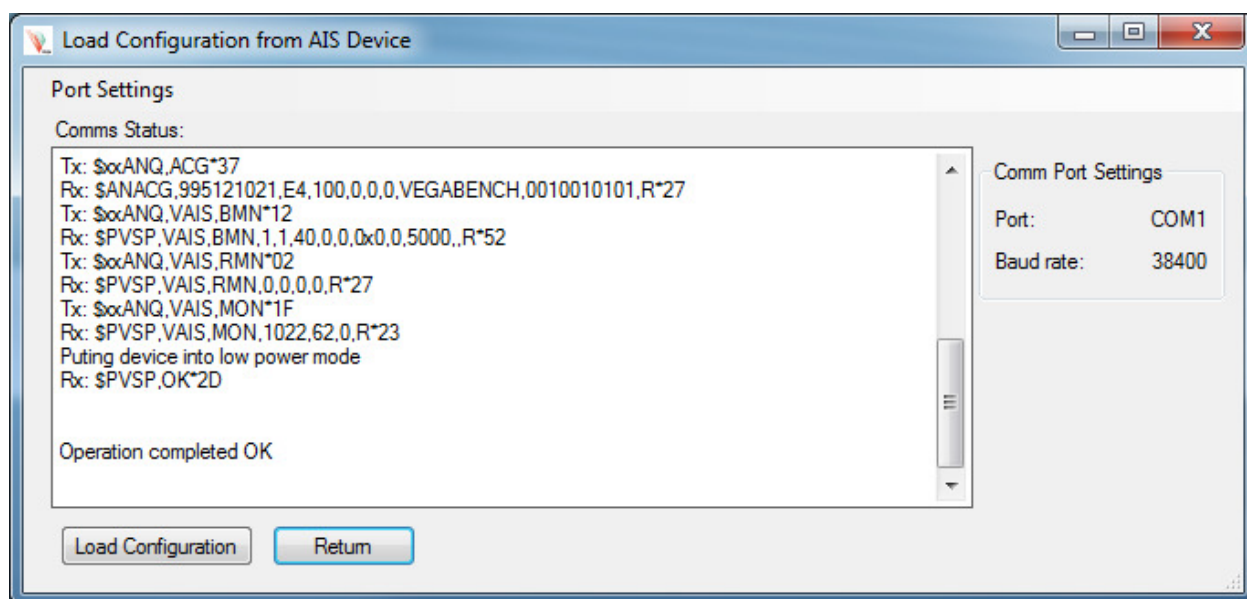
2.2.1.2 Load Configuration from VegaAIS Device

If the configuration tool is connected to a VegaAIS device as described in section 2.1.3, the configuration can be read from that device. Click the “Load Config from Device” button on the main window. This opens the Load Configuration window.



The comm port can be changed in the Port Settings menu. Leave the baud rate set at 38400bps unless you have good reason for changing it. Once the correct port is selected and the status indicates a successful connection, clicking the “Load Configuration” button will start the loading of the configuration.

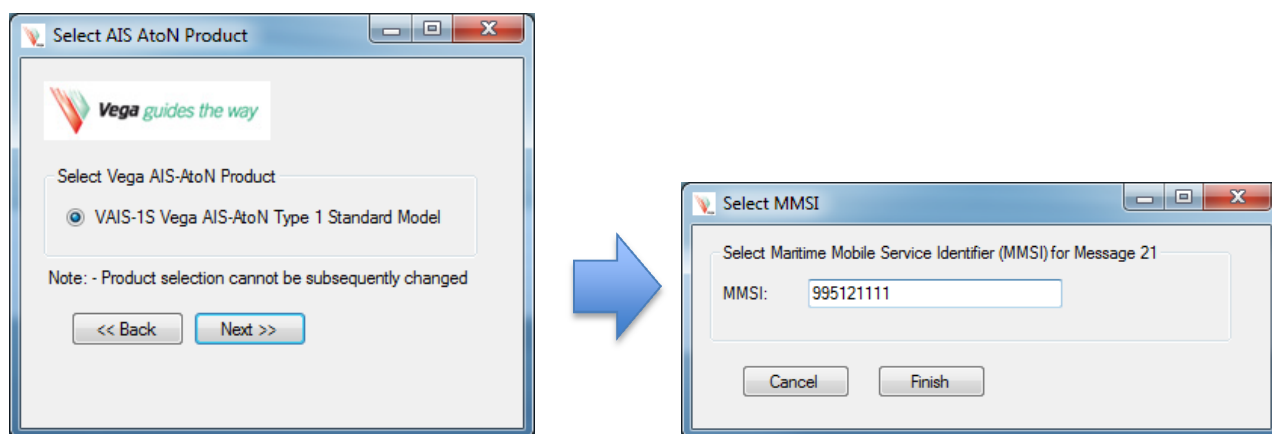
Once the configuration is successfully loaded (as shown below), click “Return” to return to the main screen.



2.2.1.3 Load from Template (Quick Setup)

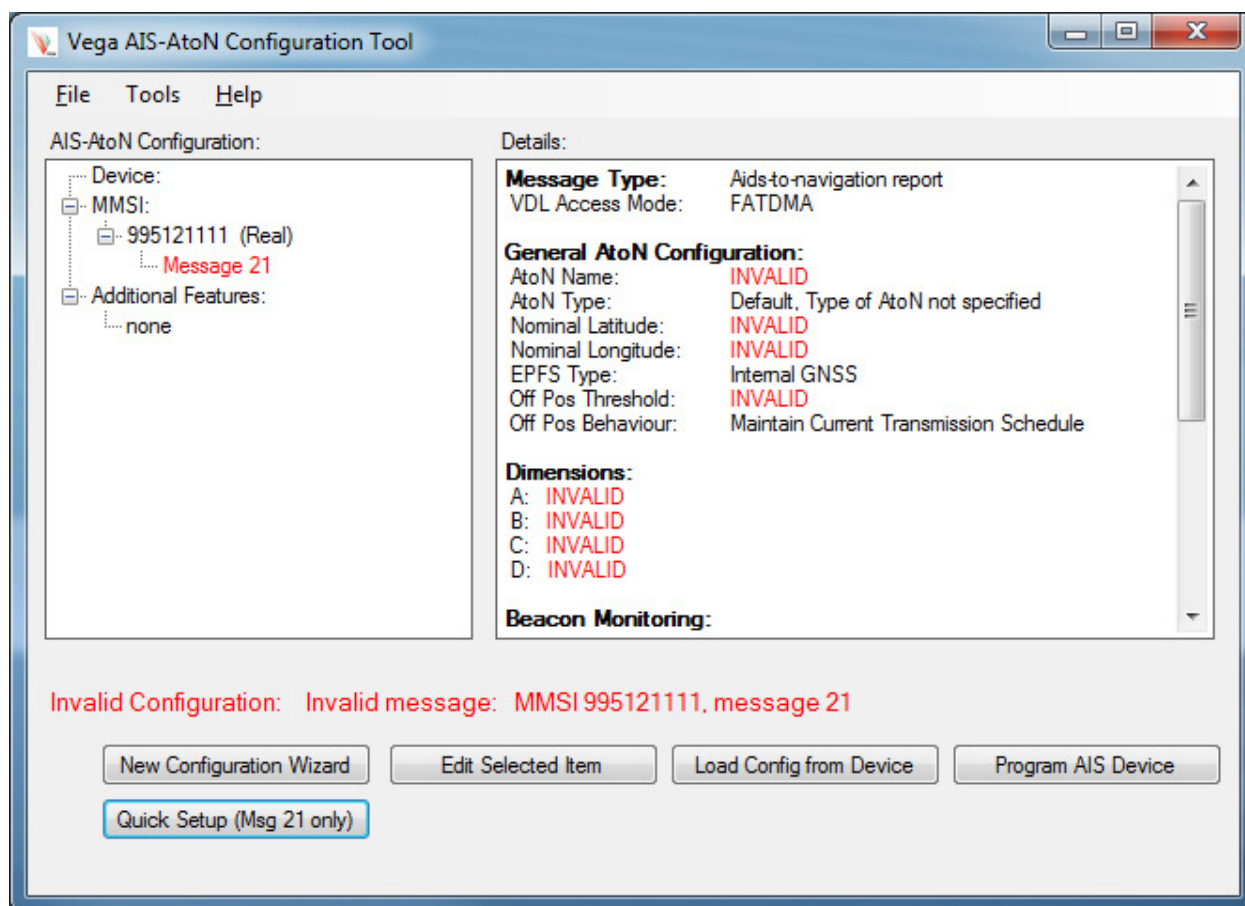
This option is selected by clicking the “Quick Setup” button on the main window. This option creates a configuration with a single MMSI and a single message 21. The majority of the settings are set to common default values.

The advantage of this approach is that a configuration can be created with the minimum of input from the user. The only settings required are the device type and the MMSI.



The configuration created is only a framework and it requires subsequent editing to fill in the details of the configuration. For this reason some of the message 21 details are deliberately set to invalid values as a prompt to update these values.



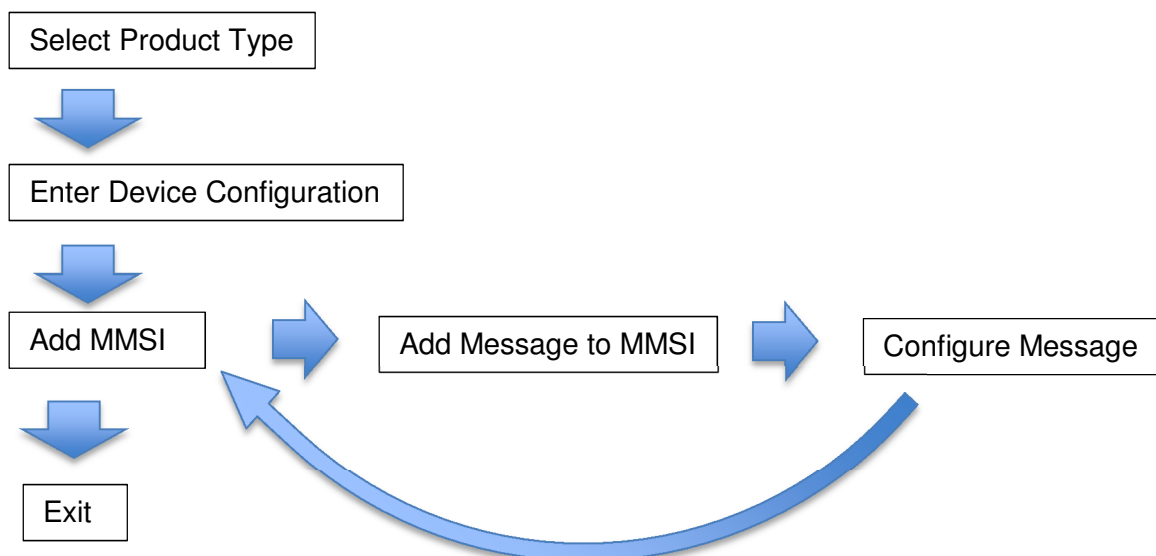


Note the error messages and invalid settings. It is important to check all settings – not just the ones highlighted by the error messages. Click on each tree node in the left hand pane and confirm the details in the right hand pane.

Editing settings is described in section 2.2.2.

2.2.1.4 Create New Configuration

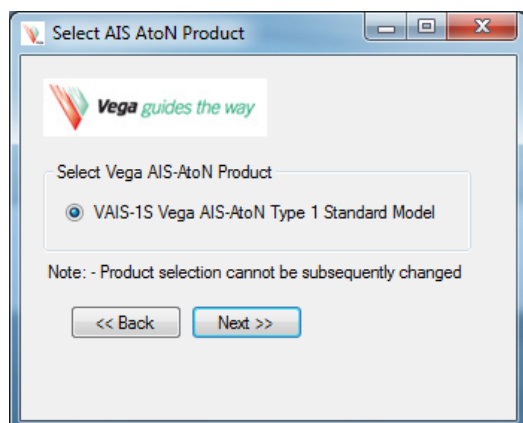
This is the most complex of the options for creating a new configuration as it requires all the settings to be entered manually. The setup process follows a series of steps as outlined below.



Of course more than one MMSI can be added to a device and more than one Message can be added to a MMSI so it is possible to loop around these elements of the setup procedure.

Generally speaking the setup process will not allow the process to continue to the next step until the current step is completed with no errors.

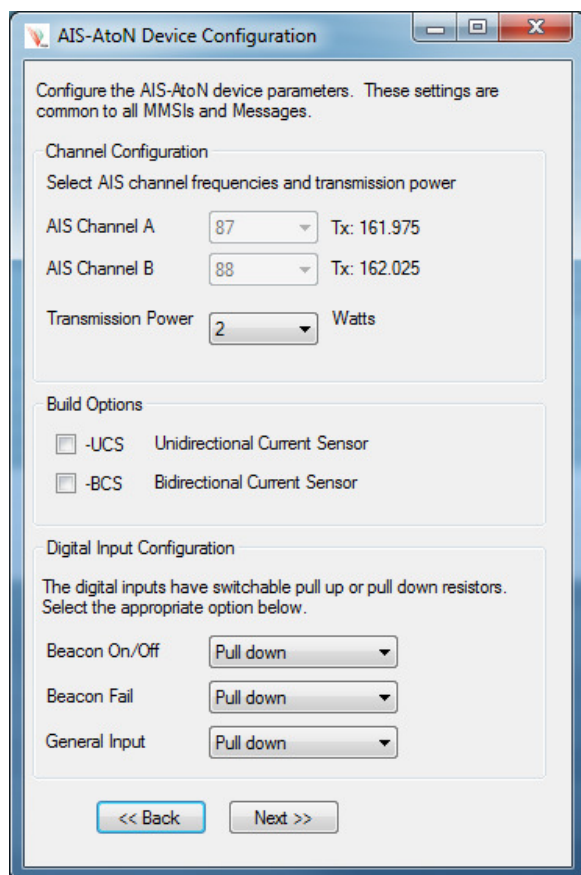
Step 1 – Select Product Type



At present only the VegaAIS Type 1 Standard model is supported so this is a trivial step.



Step 2 – Enter Device Configuration

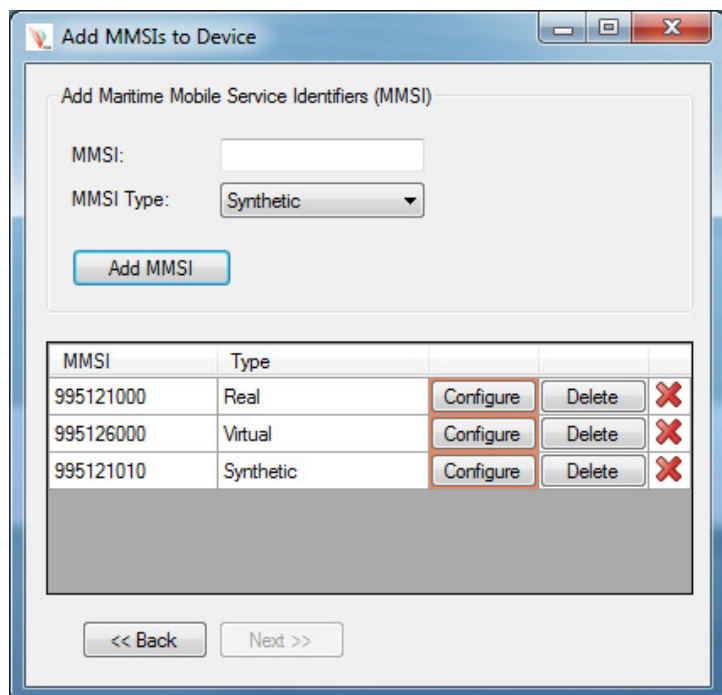


Here is where the global settings are entered, i.e. those that are common to all MMSIs and Messages, e.g. AIS channel and Tx power. This screen also contains device hardware configuration.



Step 3 – Add MMSIs

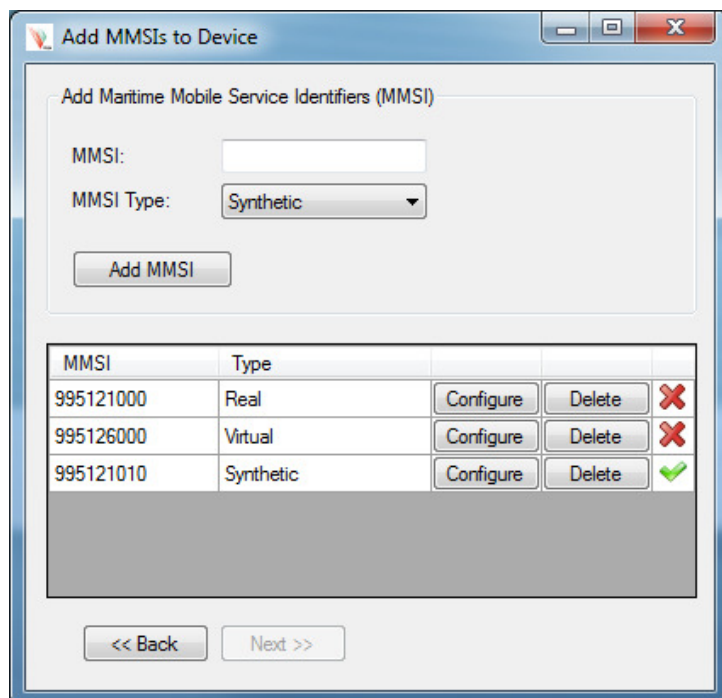
Add MMSIs here. Note – there can be only one Real MMSI per device.



The screenshot shows the 'Add MMSIs to Device' window. At the top, there is a section titled 'Add Maritime Mobile Service Identifiers (MMSI)'. Below this, there is a text input field for 'MMSI:' and a dropdown menu for 'MMSI Type:' set to 'Synthetic'. An 'Add MMSI' button is located below these fields. Below the input section is a table with three columns: 'MMSI', 'Type', and two columns for actions. The table is currently empty. At the bottom of the window, there are two buttons: '<< Back' and 'Next >>'. The 'Next >>' button is disabled.

MMSI	Type	Configure	Delete	
------	------	-----------	--------	--

Note the red crosses next to each MMSI, and that the “Next” button is disabled. This indicates that the configuration wizard will not allow the process to continue until all of the MMSIs are correctly configured.



The screenshot shows the 'Add MMSIs to Device' window after one MMSI has been correctly configured. The 'Add MMSI' button is now disabled. The table below the input section now contains three rows of data. The first two rows have red crosses in the final column, and the third row has a green tick. The 'Next >>' button is now enabled.

MMSI	Type	Configure	Delete	
995121000	Real	Configure	Delete	✗
995126000	Virtual	Configure	Delete	✗
995121010	Synthetic	Configure	Delete	✓

When a MMSI is correctly configured the red cross is replaced by a green tick. However, the configuration wizard will not allow the process to continue until all of the MMSIs are configured.



Step 4 – Add Messages to MMSI

Add Messages to the selected MMSI here. Note – only one report of each type is allowed per MMSI. Monitoring reports can be addressed (message 6) or broadcast (message 8) but not both.

Message List

Message Type: Message 8: Met/Hydro Report (broadcast)

VDL Access Mode: FATDMA

Add Message

Message Number	Message Name	VDL Access Mode			
21	Aids-to-navigation report	FATDMA	Configure	Delete	✗
6	Monitoring Report (addressed)	FATDMA	Configure	Delete	✗
8	Met/Hydro Report (broadcast)	FATDMA	Configure	Delete	✗

Return to MMSI Configuration

As with the Add MMSI screen, each message initially has a red cross next to it and the “Return to MMSI Configuration” button is disabled. This indicates that the configuration wizard will not allow the process to continue until all of the Messages are correctly configured.

Clicking Configure brings up a message configuration window.



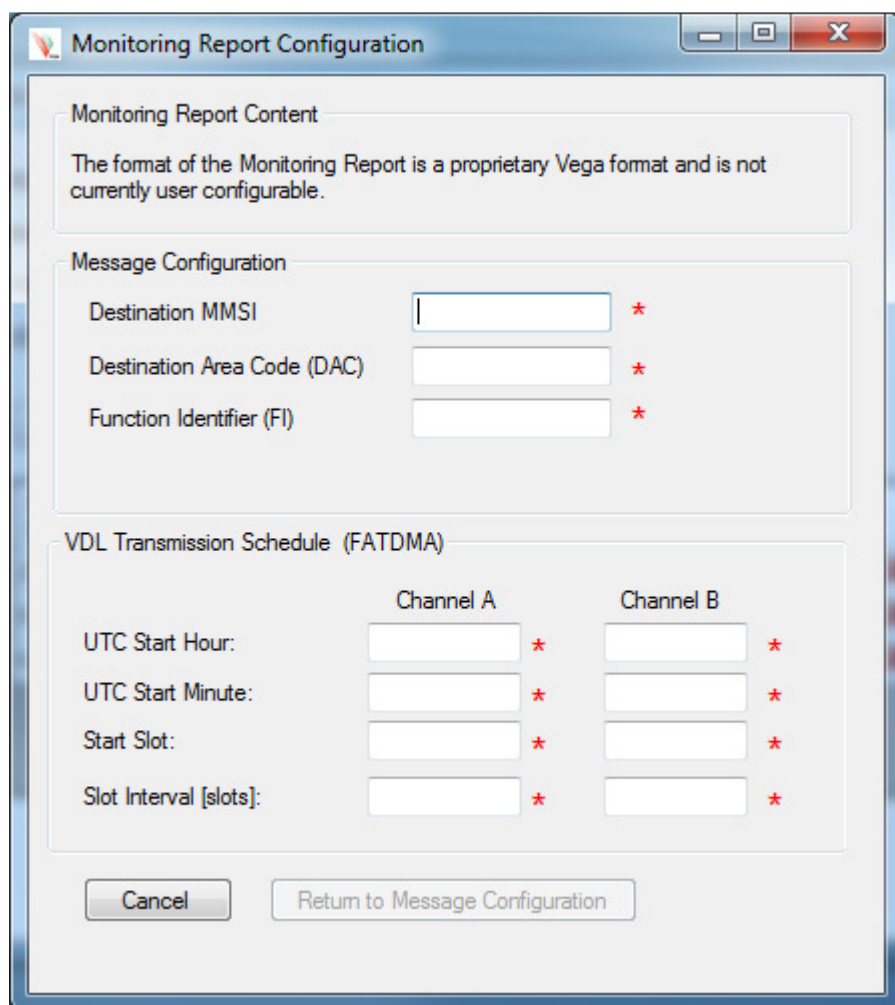
Step 5 – Message Configuration

The message configuration window differs depending on the message selected.

(a) Monitoring Report Configuration

Monitoring is described more fully in SECTION 5 MONITORING REPORTS.

Two monitoring report formats are supported. One is a Vega proprietary monitoring report and is used to log monitoring data on the VegaWeb server. The other is based on the GLA format in the IALA A-126 Recommendation.



The image shows a 'Monitoring Report Configuration' dialog box. It has three main sections: 'Monitoring Report Content', 'Message Configuration', and 'VDL Transmission Schedule (FATDMA)'. The 'Monitoring Report Content' section contains a text box stating: 'The format of the Monitoring Report is a proprietary Vega format and is not currently user configurable.' The 'Message Configuration' section has three input fields: 'Destination MMSI', 'Destination Area Code (DAC)', and 'Function Identifier (FI)'. Each field has a red asterisk to its right. The 'VDL Transmission Schedule (FATDMA)' section has two columns, 'Channel A' and 'Channel B', each with four input fields: 'UTC Start Hour', 'UTC Start Minute', 'Start Slot', and 'Slot Interval [slots]'. Each of these eight fields also has a red asterisk to its right. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Return to Message Configuration'. The 'Return to Message Configuration' button is disabled.

	Channel A	Channel B
UTC Start Hour:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
UTC Start Minute:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
Start Slot:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
Slot Interval [slots]:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *

Note the red asterisks next to the parameters, and that the “Return to Message Configuration” button is disabled. The red asterisk indicates that the parameter value is invalid. The wizard will not allow the process to return to the Message Configuration screen until all parameters are valid.

The configuration screen is the same for addressed and broadcast monitoring reports – except that the Destination MMSI is not present on the broadcast message configuration screen.

(b) Meteorological / Hydrographic Report Configuration

Meteorological/Hydrographic Reports are described more fully in SECTION 6 METEOROLOGICAL / HYDROGRAPHIC REPORTS.

Meteorological/Hydrographic (Message 8) Configuration

Message Content

The Meteorological/Hydrographic report conforms to the International Maritime Organisation SN.1/Circ 289 (2 June 2010) template.

Meteorological and Hydrographic data is gathered from the weather station connected to the weather station data port. The following NMEA 0813 sentences are supported:

MDA, MHU, MMB, MTA, MWH, MWS, MWD, MWV, MTW, XDR

To save power, the weather station port only collects data periodically.

Sample period [min] *

Sample Time [s] *

Weather station port:

VDL Transmission Schedule (FATDMA)

	Channel A		Channel B
UTC Start Hour:	<input type="text"/> *		<input type="text"/> *
UTC Start Minute:	<input type="text"/> *		<input type="text"/> *
Start Slot:	<input type="text"/> *		<input type="text"/> *
Slot Interval [slots]:	<input type="text"/> *		<input type="text"/> *

Note again the red asterisks next to the parameters, and that the “Return to Message Configuration” button is disabled. The red asterisk indicates that the parameter value is invalid. The wizard will not allow the process to return to the Message Configuration screen until all parameters are valid.

(c) Message 21 – Aids-to-Navigation Report Configuration

There are two parts to the message 21 configuration. One side is the general configuration of the message, e.g. AtoN name, AtoN Type, Nominal position, Off Position Threshold and Behaviour, Dimensions and VDL schedule. The other side is configuration of the content of the message 21 status byte – i.e. how the VegaAIS unit determines AtoN and RACON presence, on/off and failure.

This latter part of the configuration - the methods of AtoN and RACON monitoring is described fully in SECTION 4 ATON AND RACON STATUS MONITORING.

For a Virtual MMSI there are no options for AtoN or RACON monitoring as the status byte is always set to E0 (hex).

For a Synthetic MMSI the only option for AtoN and RACON monitoring is to set the message 21 status byte to a fixed value.

Message 21 Configuration

AtoN Name: *

AtoN Type:

AtoN Position

EPFS Type:

Nominal Latitude: *

Nominal Longitude: *

Off Position Threshold: * metres

Off Position Behaviour:

AtoN Dimensions

A: *
 B: *
 C: *
 D: *

VDL Transmission Schedule (FATDMA)

(normal)

	Channel A	Channel B
UTC Start Hour:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
UTC Start Minute:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
Start Slot:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
Slot Interval [slots]:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *

(off position)

	Channel A	Channel B
UTC Start Hour:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
UTC Start Minute:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
Start Slot:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *
Slot Interval [slots]:	<input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> *

AtoN Status Bits

☐ Fixed Status Bits (hex)

Beacon Monitoring

☐ No Light or No Monitoring

☒ Monitored Light *

RACON Monitoring

☒ No RACON Installed

☐ RACON Installed but Not Monitored

☐ Monitored RACON

RACON monitoring parameters are accessed by selecting the “Monitored RACON” option above and clicking the “Configure RACON Monitoring” button. This displays the following window.

Configure RACON Monitoring

RACON Present

Select the method used to determine whether a RACON is present:

☒ RACON always installed

☐ RACON detected by RACON present input

RACON Failure

Select the method used to determine whether the RACON has failed:

☒ RACON failure not monitored

☐ RACON fault determined by RACON fail input

AtoN monitoring parameters are accessed by selecting the “Monitored Light” option above and clicking the “Configure Beacon Monitoring” button. This displays the following window.

Configure Beacon Monitoring

Beacon On/Off Monitoring

Select method used to determine whether the beacon is on or off:

☒ Current Sensor Measurement

Threshold Level: mA *

Flash Character Length: s *

☐ Beacon On/Off Input

☐ Serial Comms

Beacon Failure Monitoring

Select method used to determine whether the beacon has failed:

☐ Detected off when Beacon should be on

Day/Night Operation Mode:

☐ Beacon Alarm/Fail Input

☐ Serial Comms

☒ No Beacon Failure Monitoring

Once all the MMSI and Message configuration is complete, click “Next” to exit the setup wizard.



Step 6 – Exit

The configuration tool will return to the main screen with the new configuration displayed. Clicking on any node in the Configuration Tree will display the details on that configuration item in the Details pane.

The configuration may be saved using the File->Save Configuration menu item.

2.2.2 Editing a Configuration

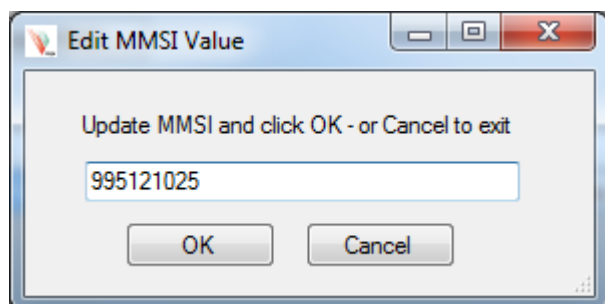
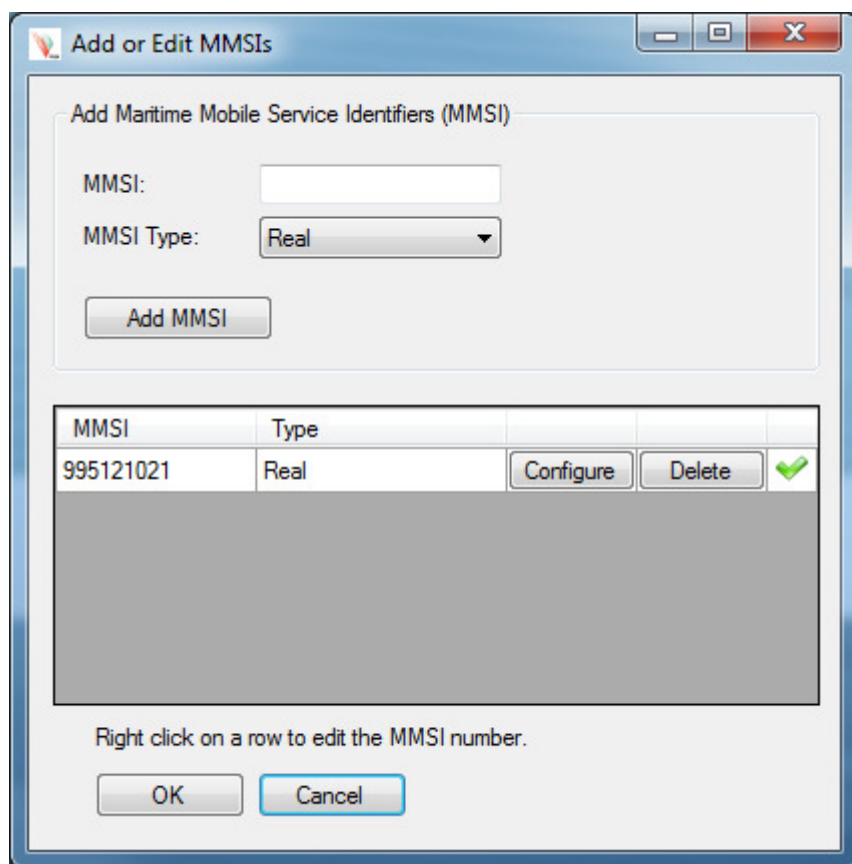
There are a number of ways to edit a configuration item:

- Select a configuration item in the configuration tree and click the “Edit Selected Item” Button.
- Right click on a configuration item in the configuration tree and select “Edit” from the pop-up menu.
- Right click in the Details pane of the configuration item to be edited and select “Edit” from the pop-up menu.

All three of these methods produce the same result – namely opening the configuration window of the item to be edited.

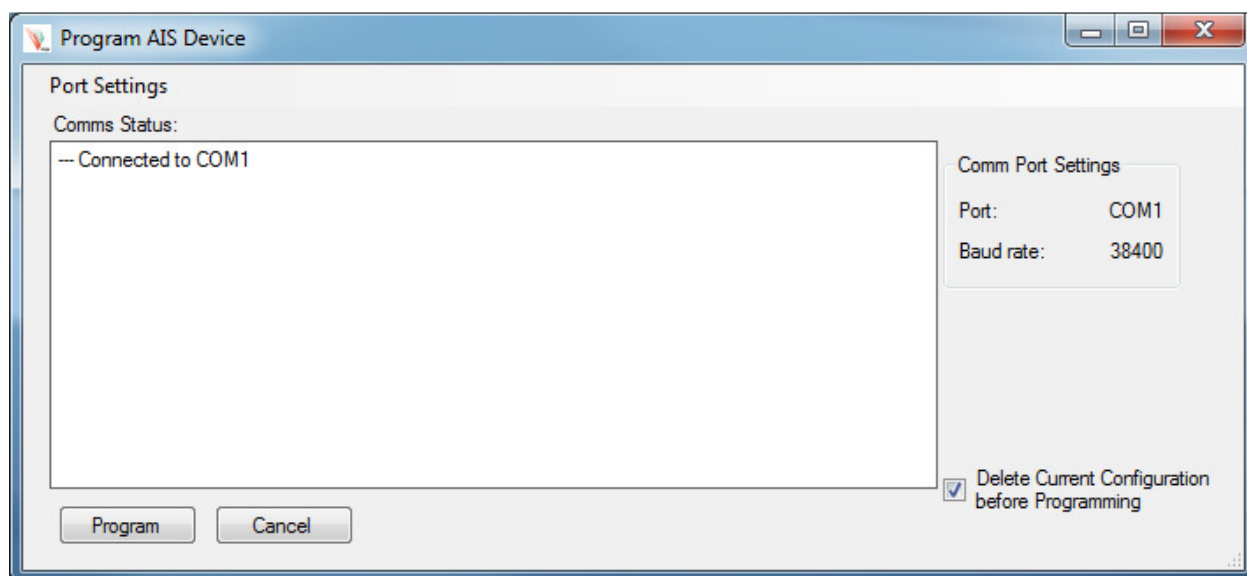
One editing function that may not be immediately obvious is editing a MMSI number. Select the MMSI node in the configuration tree and edit it.

In the “Edit MMSI” window that appears, right click on the row with the MMSI number to be edited and select the “Edit MMSI Number” option from the pop-up menu.



2.2.3 Programming a Configuration

Once a configuration is complete it can be programmed into a VegaAIS device. Connect the configuration tool to a VegaAIS device as described in section 2.1.3. Click the “Program AIS Device” button on the main window. This opens the Program Device window.

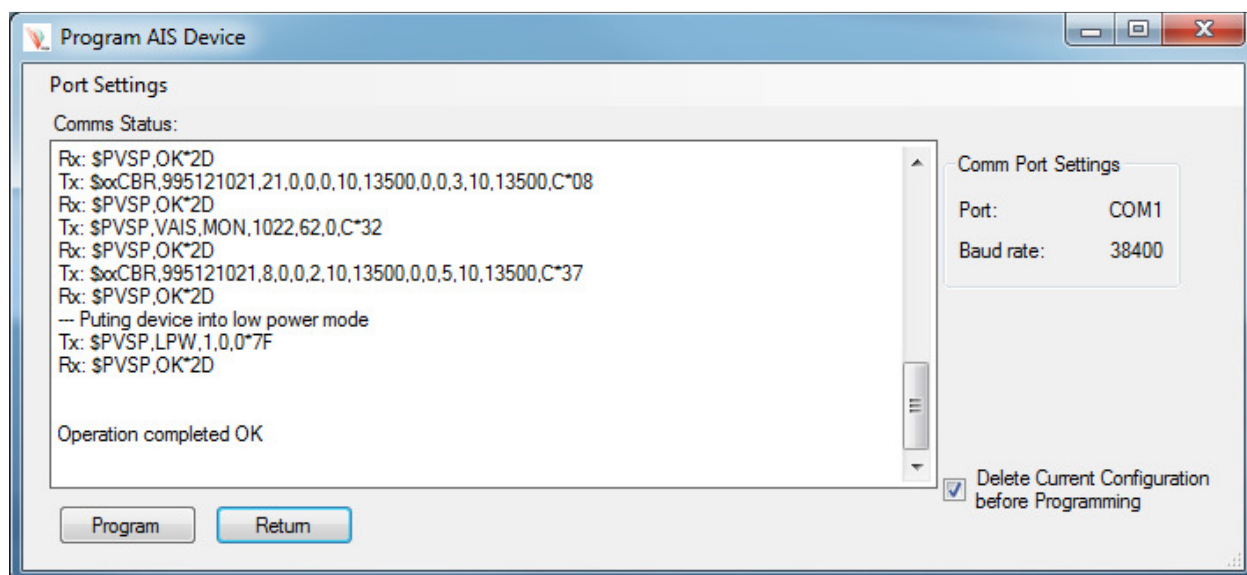


The comm port can be changed in the Port Settings menu. Leave the baud rate set at 38400bps unless you have good reason for changing it.

By default the current configuration is deleted before the new configuration is programmed. There is a checkbox to disable this feature however; it is **strongly recommended** that this checkbox is kept ticked. Programming a new configuration over the top of an existing configuration could result in incorrect and unpredictable behaviour.

Once the correct port is selected and the status indicates a successful connection, clicking the "Program" button will start programming the configuration.

When programming is complete, the tool will report successful completion as shown below.



2.3 Manual Configuration

As an alternative to using the Vega configuration tool, the configuration may be entered manually using a combination of standard and proprietary NMEA 0183 sentences. These sentences comply with the NMEA 0183 Version 4.10 specification. The supported standard sentences are listed below:

2.3.1 Standard Sentences

The format of these sentences is defined in the NMEA 0183 specification.

Mnemonic	Sentence Title
AID	AtoN Identification Configuration Command
ACF	General AtoN Station Configuration Command
ACG	Extended General AtoN Station Configuration Command
CBR	Configure Broadcast Rates for AIS AtoN Station Message Command
DCR	Device Capability Report
MEB ¹	Message Input for Broadcast Command
VDO	AIS VHF Data Link Own Vessel Report
VER	Version

Notes:

1. For internally generated addressed binary messages (message 6, index 0), the MEB sentence is only used to set the destination MMSI. That is, the encapsulated data field in the MEB sentences is ignored.

2.3.1.1 Binary Message Configuration

Some further clarification about the binary messages (message 6 and 8) is required. The NMEA specification defines an index for each message in order to differentiate between two messages of the same message ID.

The VegaAIS unit reserves message 6 or 8, index 0 for the internally generated monitoring report. Message 8, index 1 is reserved for the internally generated Meteorological / Hydrographic report.

The VegaAIS unit only allows one addressed binary message (message 6). The last message 6 defined will be the message that is transmitted. Multiple broadcast binary messages (message 8) are allowed.

The following table summarises this behaviour.

Message ID	Index	Content	Condition
6	0	Monitoring Report	Destination MMSI applied by MEB ¹
6	1	Applied by MEB	Content and destination MMSI applied by MEB ¹
8	0	Monitoring Report	
8	1	Meteorological / Hydrographic Report	

Note:

1. Only one message 6 can be transmitted concurrently. If a MEB sentence is applied for a different index, the original index is deactivated.

2.3.2 Proprietary Sentences

The concept of a proprietary sentence is also defined in the NMEA 0183 specification; however the format of the sentence is manufacturer defined. The proprietary sentences are listed below. The talker identifier for all the proprietary sentences is **PVSP**.

Mnemonic	Sentence Title
VAIS,HWCFG	Hardware Configuration
VAIS,CFG ¹	Configuration Query
VAIS,RST ²	Configuration Reset
VAIS,BMN	Beacon Monitoring Configuration
VAIS,RMN	RACON Monitoring Configuration
VAIS,MON	Monitoring Report Configuration
VAIS,MNP	Monitoring Report Parameter Mapping
VAIS,MET	Meteorological/Hydrographic Report Configuration
VAIS,SYNC	GPS Sync Configuration

Notes:

1. Query only
2. Command only

The format of these sentences is defined below:

2.3.2.1 Hardware Configuration

\$PVSP,VAIS,HWCFG,arg1,arg2,arg3,arg4,arg5,arg6,arg7,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg1	User modifiable device hardware options	U32 bitmap	1 = present, 0 = not present Bit0 = Uni-directional current sensor Bit1 = Bi-directional current sensor
Arg2	Serial Number	String	Read Only
Arg3	Digital input pull up/pull down direction	U32 bitmap	0 = pull down, 1 = pull up Bit 0 = ID1 Bit 1 = ID2 Bit 2 = ID3 Bit 3 = ID4 Bit 4 = ID5 Bit 5 = ID6 Bit 6 = ID7 Bit 7 = ID8 Bit 8 = RACON 1 Bit 9 = RACON 2 Bit 10 = RACON 3 Bit 11 = Beacon On/off Bit 12 = Beacon Input Bit 13 = Beacon OK
Arg4	Bi-directional sensor range	[0 1]	0 = low range, 1 = high range
Arg5	Uni-directional sensor range	[0 1]	0 = low range, 1 = high range
Arg6	Low Battery Level	0 – 36000	mV
Arg7	Recovery Battery Level	0 – 36000	mV

2.3.2.2 Configuration Query

\$PVSP,VAIS,CFG,arg1,arg2,arg3,R*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg1	Device type	[0-3]	0 = Type 1 standard

			1 = Type 1 extended 2 = Type 3 standard 3 = Type 3 extended
Arg2	Product version	[0-255]	
Arg3	Device h/w options (supported by device)	U32 bitmap	Bit0 = Uni-directional current sensor Bit1 = Bi-directional current sensor Bit2 = Isolated RACON inputs Bit3 = Isolated DI Bit4 = Isolated ADCs Bit5 = RACON port Bit6 = Weather station port Bit7 = Accelerometer

Note – query only.

2.3.2.3 Configuration Reset

\$PVSP,VAIS,RST,C*CS

Resets all configuration parameters back to factory settings.

Note – command only.

2.3.2.4 Beacon Monitoring Configuration

\$PVSP,VAIS,BMN,arg0,arg1,arg2,arg3,arg4,arg5,arg6,arg7,arg8,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg0	Beacon Monitoring Type	[0 1 2 3 4]	0 = beacon on/off not monitored 1 = current monitoring 2 = on/off input 3 = serial 4 = fixed
Arg1	Beacon Failure Monitoring	[0 1 2 3]	0 = no failure monitoring 1 = inferred from off when should be on 2 = fail input 3 = serial
Arg2	Current sense threshold	[0-5000]	mA
Arg3	Active State for on/off sensing	[0 1]	0 = output active when OFF 1 = output active when ON
Arg4	Active State for failure sensing	[0 1]	0 = output active when NO FAIL 1 = output active when FAIL
Arg5	Fixed Status bits	[0-0x1F]	Status bits (all stat bits)
Arg6	Operation Mode	[0-3]	0 = Night 1 = Day and Night 2 = Day
Arg7	Flash character length [ms]	100-60000	Optional. Defaults to 30s if using on/off detection via current sensing, otherwise 1.0s.
Arg8	Beacon type	String	Optional. Beacon type for PXML selection

2.3.2.5 RACON Monitoring Configuration

\$PVSP,VAIS,RMN,arg0,arg1,arg2,arg3,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
-----------	-------------	------------	-------

Arg0	RACON Monitoring	[0 1 2]	0 = No RACON installed 1 = RACON always installed 2 = RACON presence monitored via RACON present input
Arg1	RACON Failure Monitoring	[0 1]	0 = RACON failure not monitored 1 = RACON failure monitored via RACON fail input
Arg2	Active State for RACON present sensing	[0 1]	0 = output active when NOT PRESENT 1 = output active when PRESENT
Arg3	Active Polarity for RACON failure sensing	[0 1]	0 = output active when NO FAIL 1 = output active when FAIL

2.3.2.6 Monitoring Report Configuration

\$PVSP,VAIS,MON,arg0,arg1,arg2,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg0	Destination Area Code (DAC)	0-1023	
Arg1	Function Indicator (FI)	0-63	
Arg2	Report number	0-255	Report number ¹

Notes:

1. Report Number:

Report Number	Description
0	Vegaweb format #0 No user mappings
1	IALA A126 GLA format (table 4) 11 user defined fields (3 analogue + 8 digital)

2.3.2.7 Monitoring Report Parameter Mapping

\$PVSP,VAIS,MNP,arg0,arg1,arg2,arg3,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg0	Field number		Fields in report are listed sequentially
Arg1	Input channel		See Input Channel list below
Arg2	Resolution * 1000		
Arg3	Offset * 100		

Input Channels:

Channel Number	Description
0	AIS Input Voltage
1	Bi-directional Voltage
2	Unidirectional Voltage
3	Battery Current (bi-directional)
4	Beacon Current (uni-directional)
5	Isolated ADC A
6	Isolated ADC B
7	Isolated Digital Input #1
8	Isolated Digital Input #2
9	Isolated Digital Input #3

10	Isolated Digital Input #4
11	Isolated Digital Input #5
12	Isolated Digital Input #6
13	Isolated Digital Input #7
14	Isolated Digital Input #8
15	RACON On Input
16	RACON OK Input
17	RACON GP Input
18	Beacon On Input
19	Beacon GP Input
20	Beacon OK Input
21	Beacon Voltage
22	Beacon Solar Voltage
23	Beacon Battery Current
24	Beacon Solar Current
25	Beacon LED Current
26	Beacon Current
27	Beacon OK
28	Beacon Day
29	Beacon On
30	Beacon Temperature
31	Beacon Light Sensor

2.3.2.8 Meteorological/Hydrographic Report Configuration

\$PVSP,VAIS,MET,arg0,arg1,arg2,arg3,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg0	Collection period		Mins
Arg1	Collection duration		s
Arg2	Input port	0-2	0 = RS232, 1 = RS485, 2 = RS422
Arg3	Report number		Not currently used

2.3.2.9 GPS Sync Configuration

\$PVSP,VAIS,SYNC,arg0,arg1,arg2,arg3,arg4,arg5,[C|R]*CS

Parameter	Description	Range/Type	Notes
Arg0	Enabled/Disable	[0 1]	0 = disable, 1 = enable
Arg1	Flash Duration	100-60000	milliseconds
Arg2	Sync Polarity	[0 1]	0 = active low, 1 = active high
Arg3	Delay	0-60000	millisec
Arg4	Sync Type		0 = Vega
Arg5	Update period	5-1440	Min

SECTION 3 PROGRAMMING

The VegaAIS AtoN Station does not currently support reprogramming (i.e. firmware updates).

SECTION 4 ATON AND RACON STATUS MONITORING

This section describes the options for monitoring an AtoN and/or RACON for the purposes of populating the AtoN Status Bits in the Aids-to-Navigation message (message 21). The AtoN Status byte is defined in IALA Recommendation A-126 as follows:

MSB	111	XX	XX	X	LSB
	Page ID	RACON Status	AtoN Status	Health bit	

As described earlier there are a number of options for monitoring the attached AtoN and/or RACON. These are described below.

4.1 Fixed Status Bits

This option sets the status byte to a fixed value for all transmissions.

Virtual AtoNs must use a fixed status byte with a value of 0xE0 as these AtoNs do not physically exist.

Synthetic AtoNs must also use a fixed status byte as monitored synthetic AtoNs are not supported. The status byte may however be set to any value.

Real AtoNs can also use a fixed status byte set to any value.

4.2 AtoN Status Monitoring

The two AtoN status bits within the AtoN status byte can take the following values:

00b	No light or no monitoring
01b	Light ON
10b	Light OFF
11b	Light fail or at reduced range

The 'No light or no monitoring' option can be selected by configuration. For a monitored light, the light on or off status can be detected by:

- Beacon current measurement
- Beacon On/Off digital input
- Serial communication

Beacon current is measured by the optional uni-directional current sensor. A current threshold and flash character length is required.

The beacon on/off digital input may be configured as Active High or Active Low. This defines the input state when the beacon is On.

Serial comms is only supported with Vega smart beacons.

Light failure may be determined as follows:

- Light detected off when it should be on (requires operation mode: Night only, Day only or Night and Day)
- Beacon fail digital input
- Serial communication
- No failure monitoring

The beacon fail digital input may be configured as Active High or Active Low. This defines the input state when the beacon has Failed.

Serial comms is only supported with Vega smart beacons.

4.3 RACON Status Monitoring

The two RACON status bits within the AtoN status byte can take the following values:

00b	No RACON installed
01b	RACON installed but not monitored
10b	RACON operational
11b	RACON error

The “No RACON installed” and “RACON installed but not monitored” options can be selected by configuration. Otherwise RACON presence can be detected using the RACON present digital input. This input may be configured as Active High or Active Low. This defines the input state when the RACON is present.

RACON failure can similarly be detected using the RACON failure digital input. This input may be configured as Active High or Active Low. This defines the input state when the RACON has failed.

Note – if RACON failure detection is disabled and RACON present detection is enabled, then only status bits 00b (No RACON installed) and 01b (RACON installed but not monitored) will be reported. “RACON operational” will not be reported as we cannot determine if the RACON is healthy or not.

SECTION 5 MONITORING REPORTS

The VegaAIS unit can be configured to transmit monitoring reports, either addressed (message 6) or broadcast (message 8). Only one monitoring report is supported.

Two data formats are supported, a proprietary format used to log data to the VegaWeb server, and the IALA GLA format as described in Annex C, Table 4 of the IALA A-126 Recommendation.

5.1 VegaWeb Monitoring Report

The VegaWeb Monitoring report format is unpublished as it is subject to change without notice - please contact Vega if details for a particular implementation are required.

This report is used to log data to the VegaWeb server. A relay application is used to forward the data from the receiving station to the VegaWeb server.

The VegaWeb server can set alarm level on signals and alert users via SMS or email if an alarm threshold is breached. Logged data can be viewed via the VegaWeb website; some sample data is shown below.

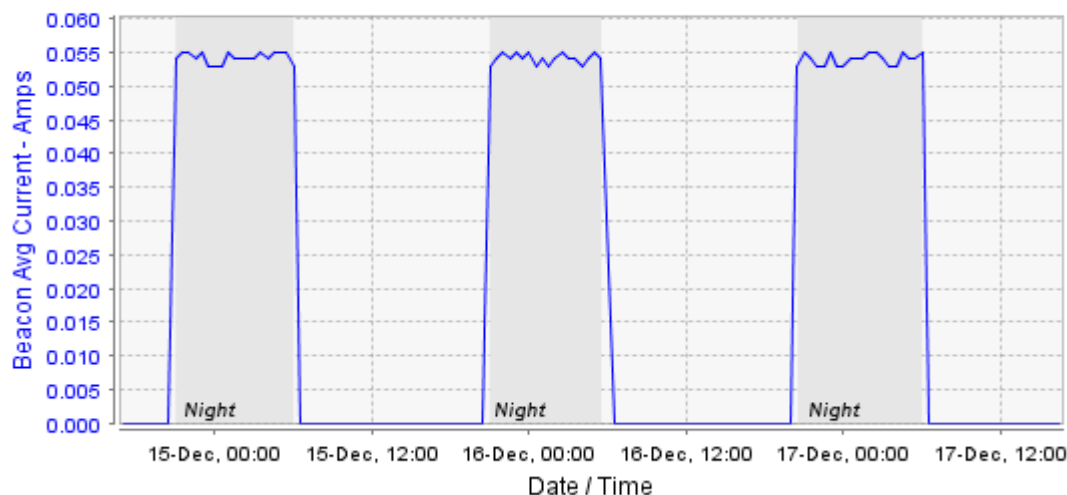
AIS Voltage (VIN)

Last value VIN: 13.77 Volts



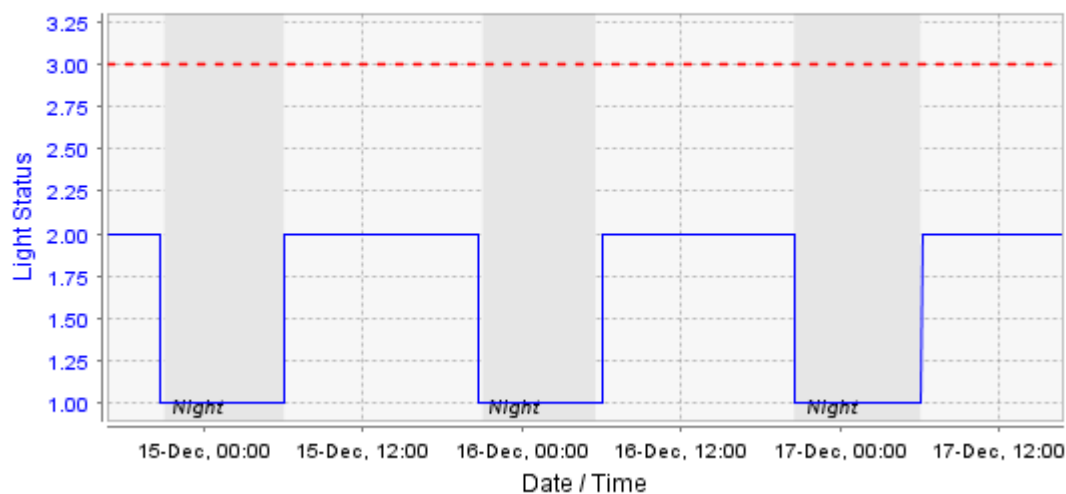
Beacon Avg Current (LDI)

Last value LDI: 0.00 Amps

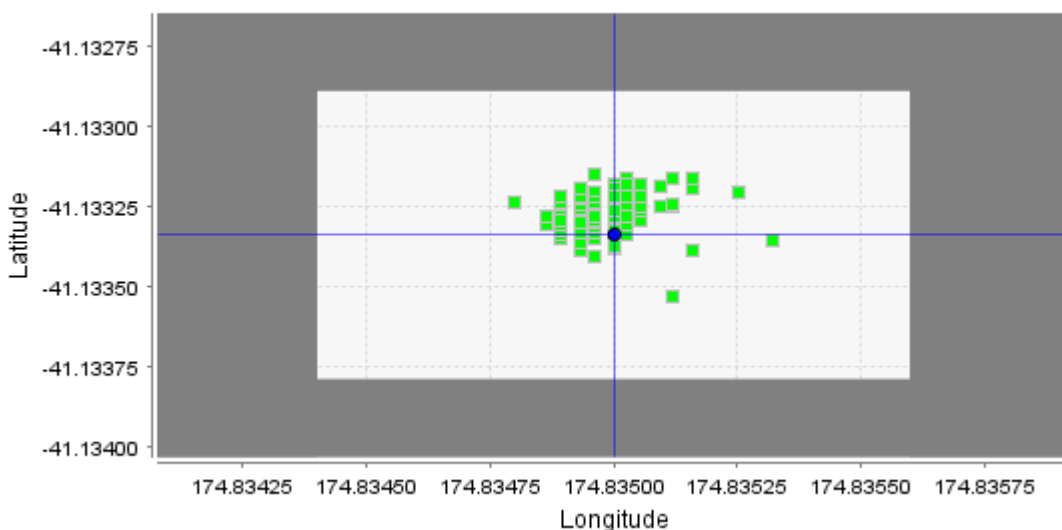


Light Status (LST)

Last value LST: 2.00



Satellite Positioning (GPS)



5.2 IALA GLA Monitoring Report

The IALA GLA report is based on the template in the IALA Recommendation A126 Annex C, Table 4. This format is reproduced below.

Parameter	No. of bits	Description
Message ID	6	Identifier for Message ¹
Repeat Indicator	2	
Source ID	30	
Sequence Number	2	
Destination ID	30	
Retransmit Flag	1	
Spare	1	
DAC	10	Destination Area Code (user configurable)
FI	6	Function Identifier (user configurable)
Analogue (internal)	10	Source and scaling user configurable

Analogue (external #1)	10	Source and scaling user configurable
Analogue (external #2)	10	Source and scaling user configurable
AtoN Status bits	5	Same as 5 LSB of Msg21 status byte
Status bits	8	User configurable
Off Position Status	1	0: On Position; 1: Off Position
Spare	4	
Total	136	Occupies 1 slot

Notes:

1. In contrast to the GLA recommendation, this monitoring report may be broadcast or addressed. The above table shows the format of an addressed report, if a broadcast report is chosen then the format of the header changes, the data portion remains unchanged.

As shown above the source signal for the three analogue fields and the eight digital bits is user selectable. The resolution and offset used in packing the signal values into the report fields is also user configurable.

In considering the resolution and offset to use recognise that unscaled voltages are sent with a resolution of 1 Volt per bit, no offset. Unscaled currents are sent with a resolution of 1 Amp per bit, no offset. The reported value is calculated as follows:

$$reportedValue = \frac{(rawValue + offset)}{resolution}$$

Examples:

Say we wish to report a voltage that has a range of 0 to 24 V.

Setting the resolution to 0.05 would scale the output to 0 – 720 with a resolution of 50mV/bit.

Say we wish to report a current that has a range of -10 to 10A

Setting the offset to 10 and the resolution to 0.02 would scale the output to 0 - 1000 with a resolution of 20mA per bit and an offset of 10A.

Obviously the reverse scaling has to be done at the receiving end.

SECTION 6 METEOROLOGICAL / HYDROGRAPHIC REPORTS

The VegaAIS unit may be connected to a NMEA 0183 compliant weather station. The NMEA sentences from the weather station will be compiled into a binary broadcast message and transmitted at a preconfigured rate.

In order to conserve power, the VegaAIS unit only periodically listens for weather sentences from the weather station. The period and duration of these data collection periods may be configured to suit the operation of the weather station and the period of the Met/Hydro message.

6.1 Supported NMEA Weather Sentences

The following NMEA weather sentences are recognised by the VegaAIS unit. A number of these are deprecated in the NMEA standard but are supported for compatibility with older weather stations

Mnemonic	Sentence Name	Notes
MDA	Meteorological Composite sentence	
MHU	Humidity	
MMB	Barometric Pressure	
MTA	Air Temperature	
MWH	Wave Height	
MWS	Wind and Sea State	
MWD	Wind Direction and Speed	
MWV	Wind Speed and Angle	
MTW	Water Temperature	
XDR	Transducer Measurement	Accepts temperature, pressure, relative humidity and salinity.

6.2 Met/Hydro Message Format

The Met/Hydro message conforms to the recommendation in IMO SN.1/Circ.289 (2 June 2010) section 1. As specified, the Met/Hydro message is always transmitted as a binary broadcast message (message 8).

Not all fields in the IMO message are supported, the following table shows the supported fields (greyed out fields not supported).

Parameter	No. of bits	Description
Message ID	6	Identifier for Message 8; always 8
Repeat Indicator	2	
Source ID	30	
Spare	2	
Application Identifier	16	DAC = 001, FI = 31
Longitude	25	
Longitude	24	
Position Accuracy	1	
Time Stamp		
UTC Day	5	
UTC Hour	5	

UTC Minute	6	
Average Wind Speed	7	
Wind Gust	7	
Wind Direction	9	
Wind Gust Direction	9	
Air Temperature	11	
Relative Humidity	7	
Dew Point	10	
Air Pressure	9	
Air Pressure Tendency	2	
Horizontal Visibility	8	
Water Level (incl. tide)	12	
Water Level Trend	2	
Surface Current Speed	8	
Surface Current Direction	9	
Current Speed #2	8	
Current Direction #2	9	
Current Measuring Level #2	5	
Current Speed #3	8	
Current Direction #3	9	
Current Measuring Level #3	5	
Significant Wave Height	8	
Wave Period	6	
Wave Direction	9	
Swell Height	8	
Swell Period	6	
Sea State	4	
Water Temperature	10	
Precipitation (type)	3	
Salinity	9	
Ice	2	
Spare	10	
Total	360	Occupies 2 slots

As specified in the IMO Guidance, the Destination Area Code (DAC) for this message is always 001. Similarly the Function Identifier (FI) is always 31.

SECTION 7 MAINTENANCE

7.1 Maintenance Cleaning

The VegaAIS AtoN Station requires little to no maintenance.

If necessary, use warm soapy water to wash the outside of the VegaAIS unit and rinse off with clean water. Do not use any solvent-based cleaner.

7.2 Periodic Inspection Check

Periodically check that the VegaAIS unit remains firmly secured and the mounting fasteners are still in good condition. Investigate any corrosion and take appropriate preventive action.

Ensure that both the GPS and VHF antennas are also firmly secured and show no signs of damage. Ensure all cables and connectors are still well secured and are also not damaged.

User Notes

APPENDIX A SPECIFICATIONS**AIS**

TDMA Control	FATDMA for Type 1 RATDMA and FATDMA for Type 3
Transmission Method	Configurable. Dual channel transmit, can transmit on single channel if required.
Transmission Period	Supports IALA A-126 reporting Modes A, B and C Configurable.

Electrical

Frequencies	161.975Mhz and 162.025MHz
VHF Tx Power	2 or 12.5 Watts
Indicators	Status (green/red)
Voltage	10 – 36VDC
Over voltage protection	40V on all connections
Back-up Power/Time	Super capacitor FATDMA: 20min backup including one 2 channel transmission RATDMA: backup for at least one 2 channel transmission
Typical Energy Required	FATDMA: <0.2AH/day with 12V supply RATDMA: Low power mode: < 3.4AH/day (12V supply) Super low power mode: <1.35AH/day (12V supply) Note – RATDMA figures assume 5% VDL load. Note – all figures assume Msg 21 sent every 3 minutes in IALA A-126 mode A.
Digital Inputs (standard)	Configurable 10k pull-up or pull-down or neither Configurable either active high or low. 4.9V low and 5.9V high.
Isolated Inputs (extended)	Inputs and common isolation 300Vrms For external supply high is ≥ 7.5 VDC For internal supply high is ≥ 1.4 VDC
Isolated Analogue Input (extended)	0 to 36VDC, accuracy $\pm 0.5\%$
Current Inputs	Maximum continuous current: 67A Accuracy $\pm 5\%$
Voltage Measurement Outputs	0 to 36VDC, accuracy $\pm 1\%$ Configurable either active high or low Open collector outputs 36VDC Contact pair with solid state relay
Data Ports	RS232 Smart Beacon port with standard model Additional RS232/422/485 port optional
GPS	Position, beacon synchronisation, and day/night determination Out of position calculated according to IALA A-126 example 1
Accelerometer	3 axis, trip configurable to 16G
Antenna connectors	Bulgin Buccaneer IP68

Enclosure

Weight and Dimensions	Refer Drawing
Mounting	3 or 4 hole, 200mm PCD or rail mounting Anti-compression sleeves in mounting holes
Material	Strengthened Nylon 6/6
Access	Fully sealed, no user serviceable parts User access to current sensor terminals if fitted.

Standards

AIS Conformance

IEC 61162-1 / IEC 62320-2
ITU-R M.1371.4
IALA Recommendation A-126
Conformity statement issued by BSH
R&TTE/CE notified body opinion from BABT
EN60529
MIL-STD-20G Method 104A Cond B
EN62320-2 referencing EN60945 8.7

Intrusion

Immersion

Vibration

EMI / EMC

RF Tx

Output Power: 33-41dBm; Ramp <500us
Tx shutdown channel protection 300ms

RF Tx Spurious Emissions

EN62320-2: -36dBm to 1GHz, -30dBm to 4GHz

RF Rx Spurious Emissions

EN62320-2: -57dBm to 1GHz, -47dBm to 4GHz

Type 3 Rx

EN62320-2: Sensitivity -110dBm <=20% PER

Intermodulation rejection 70dB

Radiated and Conducted
Emissions

EN60945

Electrostatic Discharge

EN61000-4-2: 2002 6kV contact, 8kV air

Fast Transient Immunity

EN61000-4-4: Level 3 as per EN60945: 1kV common mode

Radiated Immunity

EN61000-4-3: 2002 Class 1 Level 3 as per EN60945: 10V/m
80MHz to 2GHz

Conducted Immunity

EN61000-4-6 as per EN60945: 3Vrms sweep at Level 2 and
10Vrms spot test

Surge Immunity

EN61000-4-5: 1995 Class 3 Level 2 0.5kV lead to lead

Environment

Temperature

-30° to +60° Celsius

Intrusion Protection

IP68 to EN60529

Ultraviolet Protection

UV stabilised Nylon

Vibration

Vertical 7m/s² 2Hz to 13.2Hz; Horizontal 7m/s² 13.2Hz to 100Hz;
sweep at 0.5 octave/min

Service Life

12 years

Warranty

1 year, refer to Vega warranty terms

APPENDIX B DECLARATION OF CONFORMANCE

Declaration of Conformance to R&TTE 1999/5/EC



VEGA INDUSTRIES LIMITED

QF-35 V1.0

Declaration of Conformity (DoC)

for Products under R&TTE Directive 1999/5/EC

Hereby,

Manufacturer Vega Industries Limited
Postal Address PO Box 50443, Porirua 5240, New Zealand.
Physical Address 21 Heriot Drive, Porirua 5022, New Zealand.

And **Hydrosphere UK Ltd**
Head Office & Registered Office
Authorized Representative within the EU Units C & D, West End Centre, Colthouse Lane,
 Upper Froyle, Hampshire, GU34 4JR, UK
 Tel: 01420 520374
 Fax: 01420 520373

declares that this

VegaAIS Type 1, also known as VAIS1S, VAIS1E

is in compliance with the essential requirements and other relevant provisions of Directive 1999/5/EC, as issued by the Notified Body, TÜV SÜD BABT of Forsythe House, Churchfield Road, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, UK.

The product of the declaration described above is in conformity with the requirements of the following specifications under Directive 1999/5/EC:

Article 3.1(a)	EN 62311:2008
	EN 50383:2002
	EN 60950-1:2006/A2:2013
	EN 60945:2002 including IEC 60945 Corrigendum 1 (2008)
Article 3.1(b)	EN 301 843-1 v1.3.1 (2012-08)
	EN 60945:2002 including IEC 60945 Corrigendum 1 (2008)
Article 3.2	IEC 62320-2:2008, Clause 7
	IEC 61108-1:Ed2 (2003-07)
Article 3.3(e)	IEC 62320-2:2008, Clause 8

22/12/2014	John Brook, Engineering Manager	
(Date of issue of the DoC)	(Name & title of responsible person)	(Signature of responsible person)

APPENDIX C VEGA AIS PRODUCT CODES

Description	Code
Type 1 Standard model	VAIS-1S
Type 1 Extended model	VAIS-1E
Type 3 Standard model	VAIS-3S
Type 3 Extended model	VAIS-3E

Options (add option code to model code)

• Auxiliary Weatherstation Port	-AWP
• Unidirectional Current/Voltage sensor	-UCS
• Bidirectional Current/Voltage sensor	-BCS
• RACON Port (for standard model only)	-RP
• Collision Detection and Reporting	-ACC

Antennas

• GPS antenna	VegaAIS-GPSANT
• VHF antenna	VegaAIS-VHFANT