



**FFA**

# Fleet Information System™

Web-based ship registration  
and tracking application.



# Fleet Information System

The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) is introducing a new Fleet Information System. This system will allow FFA and its Member Countries to bring existing paper-based workflows online; all within a secure, state-of-the-art Web 2.0 application.

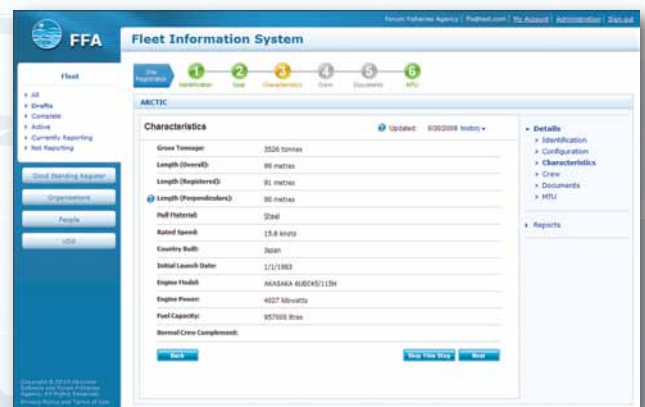
The Fleet Information System™ integrates the Good Standing Register, the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) - along with other surveillance related resources\*. Features includes a replacement for the paper-based registration for Good Standing and related capabilities to electronically scan and upload documents.

The Fleet Information System is being launched initially within FFA. At completion of this process a secure website will be made available to FFA members, followed by the introduction of on-line services to shipowners.

## On-Line Registration

Ship owners (or their agents) join the system by providing their company information; including DUNS number and Proof of Corporate Registration. After approval, these organizations designate an account manager, who is then able to manage the organization's profile, register ships, and select permissions for other users in that organization. Approved Fishing Industry groups may also join the system upon submission of their registration credentials to FFA.

Registering a ship commences with entering information about the ship and uploading photos & documents via an intuitive user-interface. The details include ship Identification (i.e. name, callsign, flag state, etc), Gear Type, Characteristics (length, tonnage, etc). Uploaded photos & documents include a side view and plan view of the ship, stowage plans and the Flag State Registration Certificate. Mobile Transceiver Unit (MTU) details are also entered for Vessel Monitoring System purposes. Fine-grained permissions restrict which organizations and users have access to specific functions within the system and which ships they are able to view.



## Comprehensive Search Engine

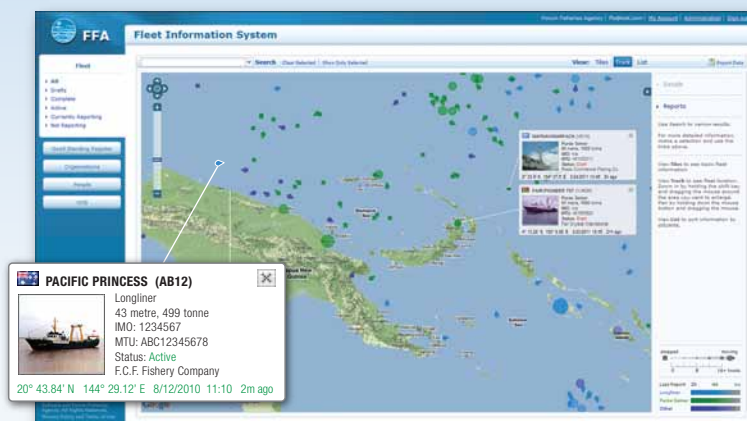
Once an organization's fleet is registered, authorized users can select ships from a list or search using the full-text search engine to view a ship's details, documents and status. FFA member countries may likewise search the database of ships, view photos and other documents, and track the ships activity. A complete history of all changes made to documents is maintained; providing a stable foundation for use of the system as legal evidence. These audit capabilities include both access (view) and changes (edits/updates) of information.



\* Sightings & Infringement database modules are scheduled for early 2011

## Ship Tracking

The Fleet Information System incorporates a web-based upgrade to the existing SmartTRAC™ Vessel Monitoring System. The integrated high performance Geographic Information System (GIS) provides fleet management and analytical tools that are fully compliant with all Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirements; and provides enhanced support for Monitoring, Control & Surveillance (MCS) missions. Users are able to select between 2D and 3D views, with full integration with a



variety of geospatial data sources including Google® Earth and open source coastline databases. FIS is developed primarily on open-source software and adheres to Open GIS Consortium standards for the interchange of data.



## Electronic Forms

The Fleet Information System contains a fully integrated Catch Monitoring & Reporting System. Initially this will be used to support the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) and later expanded to capture electronic data under the various treaty obligations of FFA members, Reporting is fully integrated within the Fleet Information System and on-board data capture is supported by several leading VMS products from Inmarsat and Iridium manufacturers.

Users will have the ability to manage catch & effort levels remotely in real time with instant access to electronically reported catch information, VDS exemption reports and arrival/landing/inspection documentation. Observer, Sightings and Infringement databases will also be made available to FFA members in future.

## Security & Access Controls

The application is hosted under SSL encryption, protecting any data submitted or retrieved during the session from interception or tampering by third parties. Strong access controls segment personal and business data from other users of the application, facilitating regulatory and surveillance activities. Auditors can determine if and when specific information (i.e. a crew list) was retrieved and viewed by a given surveillance officer and if any edits or updates were performed. The system is designed from the ground up for use in an evidentiary capacity.

## Conclusion

Introduction of the Fleet Information System by FFA brings benefits to both FFA members and the commercial fishing industry. For FFA members the information previously contained within several systems can be queried and viewed through a single web based user interface. For the industry, Vessel Monitoring System track data will be available to owners at no additional charge, and most processes that previously required paperwork can now be completed online.



# FFA

FFA was established to help countries sustainably manage their fishery resources that fall within their 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). FFA is an advisory body providing expertise, technical assistance and other support to its members who make sovereign decisions about their tuna resources and participate in regional decision making on tuna management through agencies such as the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Based in Honiara, Solomon Islands, FFA's 17 Pacific Island members are Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

## Contact Us

### **Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)**

PO Box 629 Honiara  
Solomon Islands

**Tel:** +677 21124

**Fax:** +677 23995

**Website:** [www.ffa.int](http://www.ffa.int)

**E-mail:** [vessel.register@ffa.int](mailto:vessel.register@ffa.int)

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[www.absolutesw.com](http://www.absolutesw.com)