



VOCABULARY



**MSM
ACADEMY**



IALA

VOCABULARY: LEADING LINES

Based on IALA International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation

In previous MSM Academy issues, we were introducing the **IALA International Dictionary of Aids to Navigation**, and now we want to offer a **module on specific vocabulary** in which we will consider some basic concepts related to **Leading Lines**.

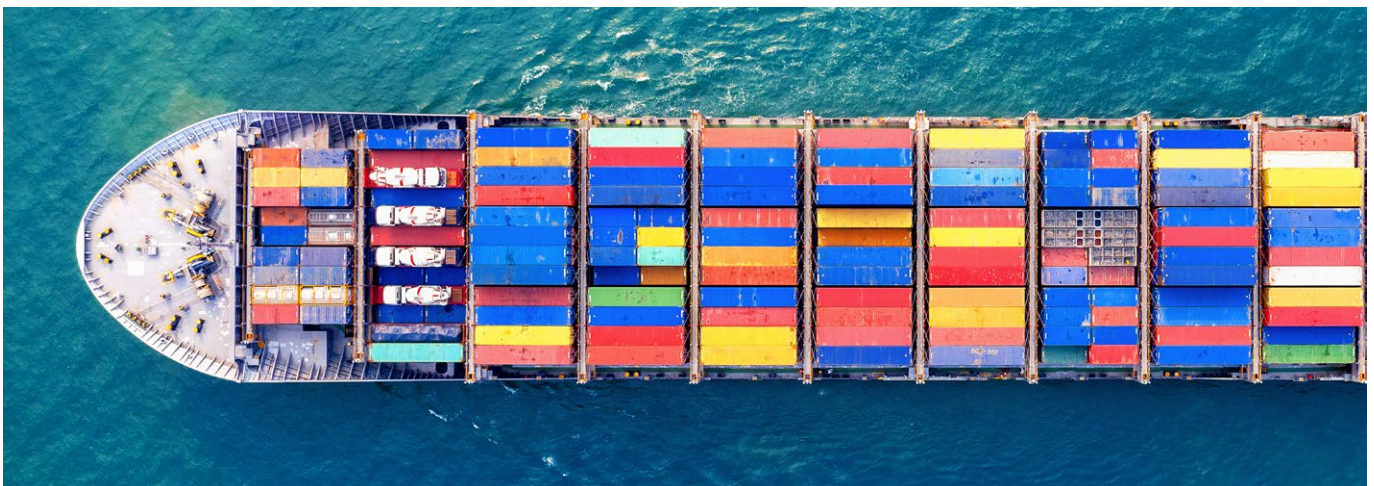


Navigation

The art or science of **determining the position and course of a ship** or aircraft by means of observations on board, whereby difficulties and **dangers are avoided** and a desired **destination is reached** as **quickly and safely** as possible.



“**determining the position
and course of a ship**”



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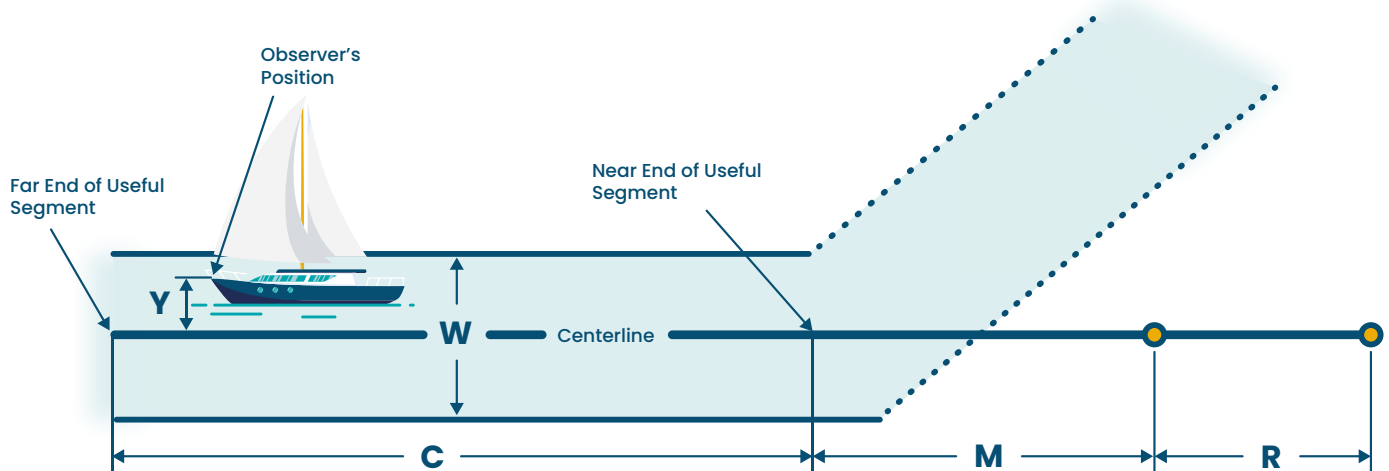
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L Leading Line

Straight line used for navigation produced by the alignment of marks (leading marks) or lights (leading lights) or by the use of radio transmitters. *Note: In U.S.A the most common term is "Range".*

Plan view of a leading line and definitions of some variables



- C** Length of useful segment (channel length)
- W** Channel width
- M** Distance to front structure from near end of useful segment
- R** Distance between leading line structures
- Y** Distance of observer from center line of channel



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L **Leading Lights**

Alternative term: Range Lights (U.S.A.)

Two or more lights associated to form one or more leading lines (or ranges). A **leading line** defined by two such leading lights is called the **axis of the lights**.

*Note: In **Britain**, the **axis of the lights** is often called the **Line of Lights**. In **German** it is called **Richtfeuerlinie**.*

“two or more lights associated to form one or more leading lines”

A **Approaches**

The **navigable waterways leading to a port** or harbor or anchorage. The phase of navigation on these waterways is called “harbor approaches”.

“navigable waterways leading to a port”

