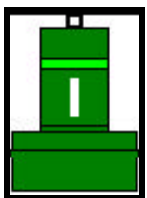


Welcome to the *USCG Auxiliary* PATON - Private Aids to Navigation Program



This is a First Northern Aid to Navigation program that encourages the checking and verification of every Private Aid to Navigation by any Auxiliarist at any time. Nothing restricts any Auxiliarist from checking a Private Aid for discrepancies, as they do for Federal Aids and Bridges, and from reporting any observed discrepancies to the Coast Guard. However, an Auxiliarist must be AV—Aid Verifier qualified in order to verify a Private Aid to Navigation. Please note that there is a difference.

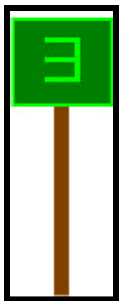


Guidelines for the Private Aid - PATON Verification program . . .

As with the other four Navigation Systems programs, the emphasis of this program's approach is on accuracy, credibility, and professionalism, and it is directed toward building your competence level as an AV-Aid Verifier in the eyes of the Coast Guard. Guidelines for Aid Verifier qualifications and check off program has been established. In addition, guidelines are provided for taking and reporting fixes and depths, for pre-underway and on-scene evaluation of measuring equipment used, for quality professional on-scene observations, and for on-line report preparation. These guidelines feature fixes taken with GPS sets using WAAS, depths corrected to the charted vertical datum, physical measurements, photographs, and the validation of observations to the Light List, the Coast Pilot and to a NOAA Nautical Chart. A revised format is provided that will further enhance the professionalism of the PATON discrepancy reports that the Coast Guard receive from the Auxiliary by allowing on-line report preparation.



First Northern is using a new on-line PATON System. This new approach connects all the PATON participants on-line, including the PATON owner, the DPW, the CG ANT, the Auxiliary AVs, and the harbormasters, in a system that virtually eliminates the paperwork, reporting delays, envelops, stamps and report waiting time. The system controls the process, the communications network and the approval sequences. Auxiliary AVs can print out their “verification” reports from their home computers, and, after on-scene verification of the PATON, can enter their observations on-line from their home computer. The CG ANT and the DPW receive your on-line reports immediately. In addition, the CG ANT is able to communicate any problem on-line to the PATON owner for correction. Once installed, this system can run itself and *is a perfect fit for Coast Guard Auxiliary support.*



New PATON tools are provided for download to your home computer from the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site.

PATON01 - PATON PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT (04-30-08) Use this handout to promote your Private Aid to Navigation program with your members. Also, it is the image of the DINR PATON Web Page on the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site.

PATON02 - PRIVATE AID TO NAVIGATION (PATON) STUDY GUIDE (3/17/08) WORD – 40 pages This new guide is full of information about the various classes of Private Aids to Navigation. Guidelines for taking and reporting fixes and depths are

explained in detail as well as the reporting of your AN Activity to AUXDATA. It also contains references to the Federal Laws concerning Private Aids to Navigation. This guide is designed to be a training tool for your Private Aid to Navigation AV - Aids Verifier Program and can be downloaded from the PATON Web Page from the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site at www.uscgaaan.com.

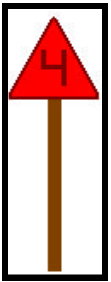
PATON03 - PATON AV-AID VERIFIER TRAINING GUIDELINE AND CHECK OFF (03-08-08)– PDF Lists all of the skills that an Aids Verifier needs to acquire in order to perform high quality PATON verifications in a professional manner. Print out this AV qualification guide from the PATON Web Page on the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site at www.uscgaa.com and start working with a mentor to complete their AV qualification training.

PATON04 – 5074 PATON DISCREPANCY REPORT (04-29-08) – EXCEL Download this form from the PATON Web Page of the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site at www.uscgaa.com . Keep copies in your NAV Kit to use for reporting discrepancies that you observe on Private Aids to Navigation. This is also a great tool for documenting Non-Permitted Private aids. Note that this form does not replace the Web-Based PATON System-08 USCGAUX AV PATON Report – 7054 used by AVs to report PATON verifications to the CG ANTs.

PATON05 - ATON BASIC TRAINING PRESENTATION – PowerPoint This is a 79-slide presentation about the basics of the IALA-B System. This is a great self-learning tool or can be the basis of an ATON Training Workshop. Use this tool for training new members in the Private Aid to Navigation Program. Download this training tool from the link on the PATON Web Page of the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site at www.uscgaa.com .

PATON06 - PATON SYSTEM TRAINING PRESENTATION (4/30/08) – PowerPoint – This presentation depicts the various discrepancies that are commonly observed on Private Aids to Navigation. Use it as an annual review in PATON Workshops. Download this training tool from the link on the PATON Web Page of the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site at www.uscgaa.com .

PATON07 - COMDTINST 16500.16A Coast Guard Auxiliary Aid to Navigation Program (06-07-1995) PDF - Required reading for AV Candidates.



If the Private Aid to Navigation Program interests you, talk to your FSO-AN or SO-AN. Each Flotilla and Division is encouraged to check each PATON that they pass while underway for discrepancies. Now, there is provision to take credit for your underway time and your AN Activity in AUXDATA whether or not you find a discrepancy on a Private Aid to Navigation. You can start contributing quality discrepancy reports to the Coast Guard in the time that it takes you to familiarize yourself with this program's forms, guidelines and procedures.

Checking Private Aids to Navigation is a seasonal activity in First Northern. Generally, you need a boat to participate. New members are encouraged to contact their SO-AN and join their Division Auxiliary Aid to Navigation Teams. All we want is your skill, knowledge, and your desire to make a difference.

“EVERY AUXILIARIST, WHILE UNDERWAY ON AN AUXILIARY OPFAC SHOULD BE CHECKING AND REPORTING ALL DISCREPANCY(S) TO THEIR CG ANT ON EVERY FEDERAL AID, PRIVATE AID AND BRIDGE THAT THEY OBSERVE. ALSO, THEY SHOULD BE CHECKING THE SHORELINE FOR CHARTED ERRORS OR OMISSIONS AND REPORTING THEM TO NOAA.”