



## Myanmar Steps up its Fight Against IUU Fishing

### Approving CLS Triton VMS for Monitoring its Offshore Fleet

Vessel monitoring systems (VMS) will help Myanmar reduce illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and protect the sovereignty of its EEZ. There has been a 90 percent decline in Myanmar's marine fishery resources in the past 40 years (FAO) and Myanmar's Department of Fisheries (DOF) has been very active in the last year to implement sustainable fisheries management systems. A Type Approval process was launched to select the best VMS mobile terminal units and CLS' Triton was selected. Now all offshore vessels are required to have a VMS installed.

These 'offshore' fishing vessels in Myanmar's national fleet are boats over 30 ft in overall length (LOA) or with an engine with more than 25 HP. Offshore vessels are not allowed to fish within 10 nautical miles from shore, as that coastal zone is reserved for small-scale, traditional fishers and 'inshore' vessels.

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[fisheries.groupcls.com](http://fisheries.groupcls.com)



## THE PROJECT

An approval process for VMS was then launched. CLS partnered with Myanmar firm **AGB Communications** and was one of six firms selected. CLS' Triton Advanced VMS was type-approved for use in Myanmar, with local delivery and installation by AGB. Vessel owners may purchase from any one of the six firms. Out of the 3238 offshore fishing vessels in Myanmar, 2579 have now been installed with VMS.



CLS' global logistics department enabled rapid deployment. In Myanmar, AGB Communications dispatched the devices to ports and installed them on the offshore vessels. Both CLS and AGB worked hard to meet the short time frame before the requirement came into force. In all, 1,115 Triton Advanced VMS were installed and activated in record time, more than any of the other providers.

## FISHERIES IN MYANMAR - KEY FACTS

<b>1 million metric tons:</b>	yearly marine capture fisheries production (FAO, 2018)
<b>\$711 million US:</b>	value of fisheries exports in 2017-2018.
<b>\$1 billion US:</b>	estimated benefit each year to Myanmar from better-managed marine fisheries (World Bank)
<b>3.2 million people:</b>	work in fishing
<b>56kg:</b>	annual per capita consumption of fish
<b>70%:</b>	of total protein from fish, one of the highest in the world

*"We are proud to support Myanmar in their sustainable fisheries management goals. Our VMS terminals, and particularly the Triton Advanced, are a global standard. With our local partner AGB, we were able to deliver and install 1,115 Tritons in record time. We did it thanks to continual coordination between the factory and AGB installation teams. This is one of the benefits of manufacturing our own VMS units. The first wave of installation and activation of the devices has now been completed. We're looking forward to continuing to support Myanmar Fisheries managers in their work monitoring the country's seas and fighting illegal fishing."*

— Jean-Pierre Cauzac, Strategic Projects, CLS Sustainable Fisheries Management Division

## BENEFITS FOR MYANMAR

Myanmar's adoption of VMS and increased monitoring has been driven by two factors: first, the DOF's desire to implement FAO guidelines for sustainable fisheries and international best practices for fisheries management; and second, neighboring Thailand's recent 'yellow card' experience with the European Union. Myanmar currently exports primarily to China and Thailand, but the EU is a high value market and VMS systems are one of the keys to gaining access.

### VMS enables Myanmar authorities to:

- See where the national fleet is fishing by collecting key vessel ID and registration data, speed, heading and other data sent to their fisheries monitoring center
- Evaluate fishing effort
- Monitor that the offshore fleet is respecting restricted zones: the 10 nm coastal zone reserved for inshore fisheries, and respecting the Marine Protected areas for sea turtles, dolphins and sharks
- Detect where vessels land their catch, as law requires it must be in Myanmar and not a foreign country
- Enforce bans against transshipment
- Coordinate inspections at sea and focus on areas where they are most needed

## TRITON VMS



The Triton Advanced Terminal is one of the world's leading Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) terminals. It automatically transmits the position, speed, heading and logbook via satellite. It is robust, highly reliable and easy-to-install.

CLS' Triton Advanced provides Myanmar authorities with enhanced monitoring and alerts for industrial vessels. They can monitor vessel movements and use position, speed, and heading data to analyze vessel behavior for enforcement and resource management.

In the Approval specifications, Myanmar specifically required units such as the Triton Advanced that are able to send **catch reports**. This way, in the future they can add electronic catch reporting to be able to manage quotas in real-time.

## MEDIA CONTACTS

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### About CLS Fisheries Division

CLS is the world leader in Vessel Monitoring Systems and Fisheries Monitoring Centers. We have been a pioneer in sustainable fisheries management and VMS since 1990. Our team are experts in a broad range of fields: fisheries, oceanography, marine biology, modelling, product design, satellites, data science, advanced analytics, software and hardware engineering, and operations.

[fisheries.groupcls.com](https://fisheries.groupcls.com)

#### Key Facts

**15,000** VMS vessels tracked worldwide  
**+35** Fisheries Monitoring Centers  
Fisheries clients in **+90** countries  
**30** years' expertise

### About CLS Group

CLS is a worldwide company and pioneer provider of monitoring and surveillance solutions for the Earth since 1986. Our mission is to deploy innovative space-based solutions to understand and protect our planet and to manage its resources sustainably. CLS employs 750 people, at its headquarters in Toulouse (France) and in its 24 other sites around the world.

The company works in six strategic areas of activity: sustainable fisheries management, environmental monitoring, maritime surveillance, fleet management, energy & mining, space & ground systems. CLS process environmental data and positions from 80,000 transmitters per month.

<https://www.cls.fr/en/>

#### Key Facts CLS Group

**130** satellites  
**30** million messages processed every day  
Worldwide network: **28** premises on **5** continents