

AIS

WHAT IS IT?

Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a tracking system that automatically transmits a vessel's identity, speed and GPS location.



WHAT IS AIS USED FOR?



SAFETY
Initially developed to prevent collisions at sea



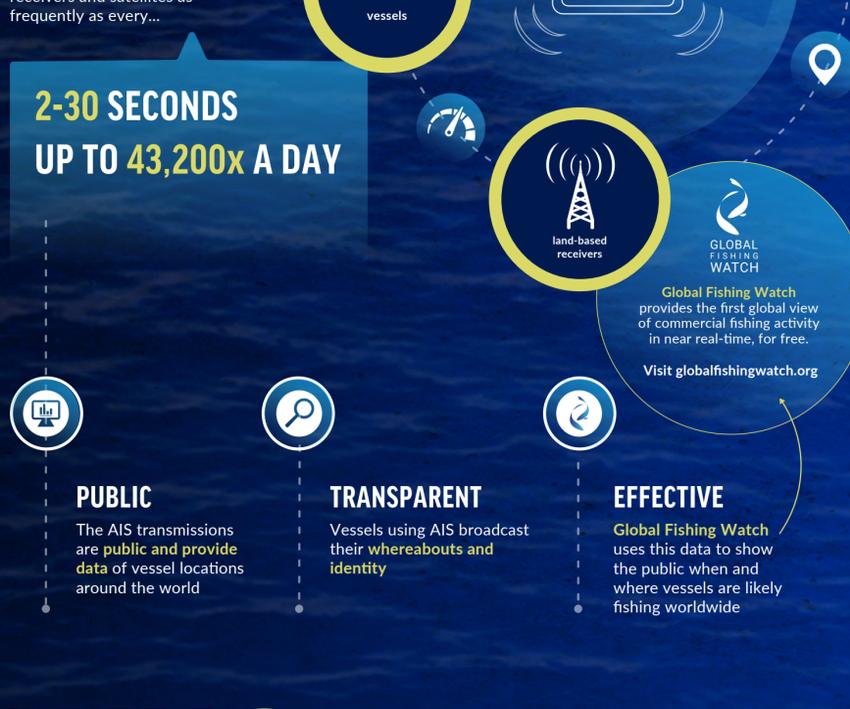
INFORMATION
Exchange navigational data



MONITORING
Locate and identify vessels, track movements

HOW DOES AIS WORK?

AIS devices automatically send a ship's **direction, speed, location** and **identification** information to other AIS devices, land-based receivers and satellites as frequently as every...



WHO USES AIS?

Over **300,000** vessels including:

- More than **70,000** fishing vessels responsible for most of the world's fish catch

WHERE IS AIS REQUIRED?

The International Maritime Organization requires large vessels to carry AIS. However, governments can decide if – and to what extent – these requirements apply to fishing vessels.

- 65'/20m**: The United States requires its fishing vessels over 65 feet long, or about 20 meters, to have AIS.
- 49'/15m**: The European Union requires its fishing vessels over 15 meters, or about 49 feet long, to have AIS.

ADVANTAGES of AIS

- Transparency at sea—view the locations and movements of fishing vessels
- Researchers, advocates, governments and others can use **Global Fishing Watch** to monitor fishing vessels and fishing activities
- Coastal nations can better monitor their waters

VULNERABILITIES associated with AIS

- Not all vessels are **required to use AIS**
- A ship's crew can tamper with their AIS, sending **false information** or even turning the AIS device off
- Without AIS, a vessel is essentially **invisible** to the public

WHY IS AIS IMPORTANT?



SAFETY
Safeguard vessels at sea



DETER
Discourage **illicit behaviors at sea** like illegal fishing and human rights abuses



MONITOR
Visibility enables accountability

OCEANA'S PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

REQUIRE

- Governments require all commercial fishing vessels flying their flag or operating within their national waters to carry and continually broadcast publicly accessible, tamper-resistant AIS.
- All regional fisheries management organizations require AIS usage by any commercial vessel operating in their territories.

ENFORCE

Flag states and coastal states enforce existing AIS requirements.

NOTIFY

Require vessel owners to notify the flag state and/or coastal state when and why their fishing vessel operator stops transmitting AIS.

Oceana works to help stop illegal fishing, advocate for transparency at sea, and require traceability of all seafood.