

Report of the INT status of Baltic Sea MRG

[31 August 2009]

Introduction

The issue of possibilities to have an INT Chart status to the Baltic Sea Mariners' Guide (MRG) was discussed at the BHSC 13th Conference. It was allocated to Finland to report the status of that at BSHC 14th Conference (Action 1)

A Working Group under the HSSC CSPCWG is revising the IHO Publication *Standardization of Mariners' Guides (S-49)*. It will be a comprehensive review of the 1st Edition, published in 1985. At the same time the status of Mariners' Guides should be studied. The Chair of this WG, *Mr. Jens Schröder-Fürstenberg* has provided the following status information:

The revision work has proceeded well. The layout and the basic display rules for Routeing Guide data have been agreed. The first Draft S-49 Edition 2 is on commenting phase within the WG with the deadline end of August 2009. The second draft should be approved by end of September 2009. After that the Draft will be sent to CSPCWG for approval. Final approval will be asked from IHO Member States by an IHO Circular Letter, likely in November 2009.

The current Draft S-49 Edition 2 has the following statement regarding to the INT status:

"The Guide should be produced in the English language. The Guide is recommended to be an International (INT) Chart series product. Symbols and abbreviations in the Guide should be according to IHO chart specifications (M-4 and INT 1) for nautical charts; exceptions should be explained in the Guide".

The BSICC Chair will allocate an INT number to the Baltic Sea MRG together with other new INT numbers.

Actions for the BSHC 14th Conference

The Conference is invited to take a note on this information