



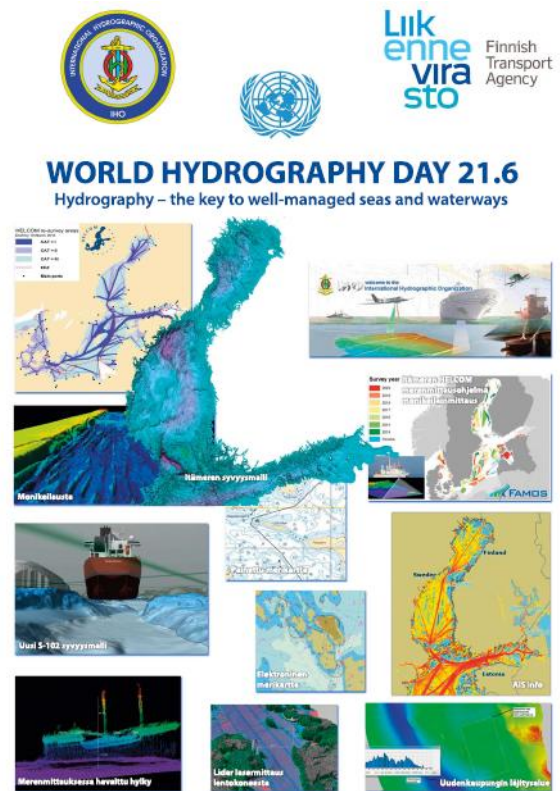
WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY 2016 CELEBRATION IN FINLAND

The Finnish Hydrographic Office started the celebration of World Hydrography Day by hoisting the flag at 8 a.m. A poster, WHD 2016, and a bulletin announcing the day had been made to remind the entire Finnish Transport Agency staff about the important tasks carried out by the Hydrographic Office.

In the afternoon, Rainer Mustaniemi, the Finnish National Hydrographer, opened a celebratory event, which featured a number of lectures. In his opening speech, relating to the World Hydrography Day theme, **Hydrography – the key to well-managed seas and waterways**, he emphasised the impact of hydrography on the safety of navigation and sustainable development.

Retirees from the Hydrographic Office had also been invited to the ceremony. The programme included an IHO video and several interesting hydrographic presentations on Lidar Surveys, the S-102 depth model, the Smart Marine Fairway, and HELCOM Surveys, to name a few.

The event was rounded off with a toast in honour of an important milestone for hydrographic surveying in the Baltic Sea: the hydrographic survey goals in the Baltic Sea, Category I and II (Motorway of the Seas), set by the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) in 2002, were reached this year in Finland.



The overall feedback on the celebration of World Hydrographic Day was very positive. In honour of the day, all employees at the Finnish Transport Agency had the opportunity to buy nautical charts at a favourable employee discount, and, as a summer gift, all staff received a deck of nautical chart-themed playing cards.

