

IHB File No. S3/4008

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| <p>CIRCULAR LETTER 9/2000 21 February 2000</p> |
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New initiative of the Canadian Hydrographic Service for Crown Copyright Protection.

Dear Sirs,

The International Hydrographic Bureau has received an informative letter from the Dominion Hydrographer of the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS), on the new initiative the CHS has now taken to stop the illegal copying of CHS digital and paper charts.

The Dominion Hydrographer has asked the IHB to let this information be known to the IHO community. The IHB Directing Committee is pleased to meet his request by the publication of this Circular Letter.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Rear Admiral Giuseppe ANGRISANO
President

Attachment: Letter CHS/1270-1 dated 11 February 2000

615 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

615 rue Booth
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

February 11, 2000

CHS/1270-1

Rear Admiral Giuseppe Agrisano
President of the Directing Committee
International Hydrographic Bureau
4 quai Antoine 1er
B.P. 445
MC 98011 MONACO CEDEX

Dear Admiral Angrisano:

RE: Crown Copyright Infringement

I would like to share the following information with the IHO and member states, it concerns the conviction of an individual in Canada for illegal activities related to Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) digital data.

On December 15, 1999, an individual from Parksville, BC, Canada, pleaded guilty to three counts of illegally copying, selling and distributing compact discs containing copyrighted CHS data. The Court sentenced the individual to a term of imprisonment. This is the first time in Canada that the provisions of the Copyright Act have been used to convict someone for Crown copyright infringement.

CHS is pursuing a new, "*get tough*" initiative to stop the illegal copying of CHS digital and paper charts. In the past few years, numerous reports of illegitimate copying of digital CHS charts have caused both the CHS and its private partner Nautical Data International, Inc. (NDI) great concern. The above mentioned conviction is part of this initiative.

As with other member states, CHS takes considerable pride in the high quality products it releases, and is concerned that illegal and/or inaccurate facsimiles thereof may confuse or endanger our clients. Possibly, this recent successful prosecution will be of interest to other Hydrographic Offices concerned with illegal reproduction of their products.

Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

A.D. O'Connor
Dominion Hydrographer
Canadian Hydrographic Service