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CIRCULAR LETTER 2/2001 12 January 2001

IHO SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 60 (S-60) USER'S HANDBOOK ON DATUM TRANSFORMATIONS INVOLVING WGS 84

Reference: IHB CL 35/2000

Dear Sirs,

You may recall that the 2^{nd} edition of S-60 was distributed in August 2000 under cover of CL 35/2000.

The Bureau has now recently been informed by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) that the CHS has found improvements to the Molodensky equation approach when transforming coordinates in Canadian territory.

Therefore, until the 3rd edition of S-60 is published, IHO Member States are advised:

- Not to use the 42-term polynomials for the Δ latitude and Δ longitude for Canada
- No to use the ΔX , ΔY , and ΔZ provided in the tables on pages B.6-3 and B.6-4
- To use the ΔX , ΔY , and ΔZ as provided in the enclosed maps
- To preferably purchase and use the National Transformation CD from the Geodetic Survey Division of NRCan.

Please note that the ΔX , ΔY , and ΔZ on the enclosed maps are for NAD83 minus NAD27 in latitude and longitude only and that the ellipsoid height of survey points is considered to be 0.0 metres in both datums.

If Member States require further details, they are kindly requested to contact CHS directly.

On behalf of the Directing Committee Yours sincerely,

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Rear Admiral Giuseppe ANGRISANO President

Encl: 3 maps





