

IHB File No. S3/8151/IEC

CIRCULAR LETTER No. 79/2003  
23 December 2003

**NEW IHO PUBLICATION S-64 "ECDIS TEST DATA SETS"  
Edition 1.0, December 2003**

Dear Hydrographer,

The Standard IEC 61174 *"ECDIS - Operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results"* was developed by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), following completion of the IMO Performance Standards for ECDIS and the IHO Standards/Specifications related to ECDIS/ENC/RNC, to allow for ECDIS certification by type approval authorities and testing of equipment by ECDIS manufacturers. The current, 2nd Edition of IEC 61174 was published in 2001.

IEC 61174 calls for an ENC Test Data Set, *"supplied on behalf of the IHO that is necessary to accomplish all IEC testing requirements for ECDIS. This data set is encoded according to the IHO S-57 ENC product specification and contains update information based on IHO S-52 Appendix 1"*, and the associated ECDIS graphic plots. The IEC Standard also calls for an RNC Test Data Set, *"supplied on behalf of the IHO that is necessary to accomplish IEC testing requirements for RCDS mode of operation. This data set is encoded according to the S-61 RNC Product Specification. Test RNCs are specified by the HO providing the RNC service or on whose behalf the RNC service is provided"*.

As a result, the required datasets and plots have been produced on behalf of the IHO: the ENC test data by the UKHO; the ECDIS plots by the company Furuno under the supervision of the IHO Colours and Symbols WG; and the RNC test data by the UKHO and the company Maptech, Inc, under a cooperative agreement with US-NOAA. All data sets and digital plots have been assembled to form a new IHO publication S-64\* *"ECDIS Test Data Sets"*, of which Edition 1.0 dated December 2003 is provided on the attached CD-ROM.

This achievement can be considered a good and successful example of IHO/Industry cooperation. The IHB is most appreciative to the above HOs and companies for their continuous support in this endeavour.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

*(original signed)*

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR  
Director

Encls. : Publication S-64 on CD-ROM

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\* originally planned as Appendix 4 of S-52, now renumbered S-64.