



**IHB File No.S3/3055**

**CIRCULAR LETTER 64/2005  
21 June 2005**

**51<sup>ST</sup> SESSION OF THE IMO SUB-COMMITTEE ON SAFETY OF NAVIGATION**

- References:
- A. IHB CL 5/2005 dated 11 January
  - B. IHB CL 28/2005 dated 14 March
  - C. IHB CL 38/2005 dated 8 April
  - D. IHB CL 54/2005 dated 25 May

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The 51<sup>st</sup> session of the Safety of Navigation Sub-Committee (NAV) of the IMO was held at the IMO's London Headquarters from 6 - 10 June 2005. The IHO submitted four documents to NAV 51:

- a. NAV 51/INF.4 The production of the South China Sea Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs).
- b. NAV 51/INF.7 An example of co-operation within the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission. The HELCOM Harmonized Re-Survey Plan.
- c. NAV51/10/1 Report on action to improve the availability of hydrographic data in remote areas.
- d. NAV51/6/1 Evaluation of the use of ECDIS and ENC development.

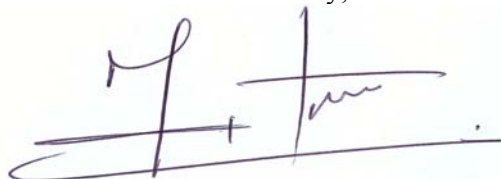
2. Documents NAV 51/INF.4 and NAV 51/INF.7 were noted by the Sub-committee. Document NAV51/10/1 was passed to a Drafting Group (DG) preparing guidelines on voyage planning for passenger ships in remote areas. The DG produced a draft Assembly Resolution which will go to MSC 81 in May 2006 for endorsement and forwarding, for adoption, to Assembly 25 in 2007. The guidelines include the consideration of "the source, age, and the quality of the hydrographic data on which the charts to be used are based;" in the appraisal phase and "consideration of the use of surveyed marine corridors, if available;" in the planning phase.

3. Document NAV 51/6/1 together with NAV 51/6 - the report of the Correspondence Group (CG) on the evaluation of the use of ECDIS and ENC development, NAV 51/6/3 - a response to the CG Report by Japan and NAV 51/6/2 - comments on the Performance Standards for ECDIS submitted by the Russian Federation were passed to a WG for consideration. The Sub-Committee considered the report of the WG and, following a lengthy debate, agreed to the following main positions regarding mandatory carriage requirements for ECDIS:

- a. The Sub-Committee agreed to recommend to MSC the mandatory carriage requirement of ECDIS for High Speed Craft (HSC) as detailed at Annex A.
- b. The Sub-Committee did not decide on a mandatory carriage requirement for other types of ship. This will be considered by MSC in conjunction with a Formal Safety Assessment (FSA) to be conducted into the use of ECDIS in ships other than HSC and large passenger ships.

4. In addition to the above, NAV 51 agreed to the following:
- a. Subject to endorsement by MSC 81, that the IMO Secretariat be instructed to amend the footnote to SOLAS regulation V/19 paragraph 2.1.5 to read “Paper nautical charts sufficient to meet the requirements of sub-paragraph .4 and regulation 27 may be used as a back-up arrangement for ECDIS. Other back-up arrangements are acceptable (see Appendix 6 to resolution A.817(19), as amended).”
  - b. To endorse the view that Member States be invited to consider which paper charts would meet the “appropriate folio of up-to-date paper charts” in their Territorial Waters where ENCs were not available and advise the IHO accordingly.
  - c. That a review of SN/Circ.207 was necessary but that it was premature to do so before the consideration of the ECDIS Performance Standards starting at NAV 52.
5. NAV 51 decided to reconvene the CG with revised TOR as shown at Annex B. Member States are encouraged to participate in the work of the CG, which will continue to be coordinated by Mr Eivind S. Vågslid of the Norwegian Maritime Directorate: email [Eivind.Vagslid@sjofartsdir.no](mailto:Eivind.Vagslid@sjofartsdir.no)
6. The Sub-Committee welcomed the proposal from the IHO to develop an on-line catalogue of ENCs, RNCs and Paper Charts to be carried as a back up. The Sub-Committee supported a preliminary draft specification for such a catalogue, prepared by the WG (see Annex C), and passed it to the CG for further consideration. The IHB will review the specifications for the catalogue in order to make it clear, practical and user-friendly. The IHB would welcome any comments or suggestions that Member States may have.
7. During the discussion the Sub-Committee, whilst accepting that the production and availability of ENCs had accelerated significantly, considered that an adequate coverage would be necessary in order to support the implementation of any mandatory carriage requirement for ECDIS. The IHB therefore urges Member States to continue to increase the availability of ENCs.
8. A presentation, entitled “Barriers to the adoption of ECDIS: Resolving the Issues” was given by Admiral Maratos (IHB), Dr Williams (IC-ENC) and Commander Klepsvik (PRIMAR International ENC Service) in order to dispel some of the confusion that exists in the market and to present the publication “Facts about charts and coverage requirements” produced by the two RENCs. More than 100 delegates attended the presentation and there was a lively discussion following the presentation. It was decided to hold a seminar on the subject the day before the start of NAV 52 in July 2006.
9. The IMO documents referred to in this Circular Letter are available for download from the IHO website ([www.iho.shom.fr](http://www.iho.shom.fr) > INT Organizations > IMO). The report of NAV51 to MSC will be placed on the IHO website when it is published by IMO).

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,



Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS  
President

- Annex A: Proposed Draft Amendments  
Annex B: Draft ToR  
Annex C: Draft Specification of a world wide internet based chart Catalogue.

**PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF  
SAFETY FOR HIGH-SPEED CRAFT 2000, AS AMENDED**

**CHAPTER 13**

*Shipborne navigational systems and equipment and voyage data recorders*

**[Regulation 13.8 Nautical charts and nautical publications**

1. Add new paragraph 13.8.2 as follows:
  - 13.8.2 High-Speed craft shall be fitted with Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS), as follows:
    - .1 craft constructed on or after [1 July 2008];
    - .2 craft constructed before [1 July 2008] not later than [1 July 2010]
2. Renumber the existing paragraph 13.8.2 as 13.8.3.]

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE  
CORRESPONDENCE GROUP ON EVALUATION OF THE  
USE OF ECDIS AND ENC DEVELOPMENT

Taking into account resolution A.817(19) as amended by resolutions MSC.64(70) and MSC.86(70), the decisions of NAV51 and the decisions of the MSC to include amendments to the ECDIS performance standards in the work programme of the Sub-Committee and provisional agenda for NAV 52 (NAV51/2/2 Annex 2), provide comments and give preliminary consideration to:

- .1 the proposed amendments to the ECDIS performance standards as contained in documents MSC 80/21/2 (Greece and IHO), NAV 51/6/2 (Russian Federation), NAV 51//6/3 (Japan) and NAV 51/6 (Report of Correspondence Group);
- .2 prepare a draft consolidated text of revised performance standards for ECDIS;
- .3 consider possible implications of the Performance Standards for other IMO performance standards and guidelines.
- .4 the preliminary draft specifications of the proposed chart catalogue at Annex 3 to NAV 51/WP.4/Rev.1 [The relevant pages are at Annex C to this CL];

prepare a report to NAV 52.

**DRAFT SPECIFICATION OF A WORLD-WIDE INTERNET BASED CHART CATALOGUE PROVIDED BY IHO ON BEHALF OF ITS MEMBER STATES**

The chart catalogue is divided into three sub-catalogues of the following categories:

- ENC coverage
- RNC coverage
- Paper chart coverage

The content of all three sub-catalogues can either be presented in graphical and textual form.

All information included have to be provided by the MSAs of the IMO Member States in co-operation with their national Hydrographic Offices.

This catalogue is not intended to be as comprehensive as the individual chart catalogues of the those of the Hydrographic Offices of the individual IMO Member States. Therefore a list of existing internet links to homepages of the individual Hydrographic Offices is also part of this IHO chart catalogue.

Proposed attributes to be provided for sub-catalogue entries:

ENC sub-catalogue

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing authority (possibly on behalf of another Member State)</li> <li>• Source producing authority</li> <li>• Data format (S57 Edition 3.1)</li> <li>• State of the chart (Current, obsolete, under construction, planned)</li> <li>• Distribution method (e.g. issuing HO, RENC, free download)</li> <li>• Allowance of SENC distribution: Yes/No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENC cell identifier</li> <li>• Compilation scale / usage band</li> <li>• Co-ordinates of edges</li> <li>• Edition date</li> <li>• [no data area included?]</li> </ul>
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Details like reference to geodetic datum are not needed to note for any ENC sub-catalogue entry because they are already standardized for ENCs in general.

RNC catalogue [full coverage or as supplement to the existing ENC coverage?]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing authority (possibly on behalf of another Member State)</li> <li>• Source producing authority</li> <li>• State of the chart (Current, obsolete, under construction, planned)</li> <li>• Data format (e.g. HCRF)</li> <li>• Update frequency</li> <li>• Distribution method (e.g. chart supplier)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Chart Number</li> <li>• International Chart Number</li> <li>• Nationality of the base chart/Language</li> <li>• Title in national language</li> <li>• Title in English language</li> <li>• Chart style (INT chart or national)</li> <li>• Co-ordinates of edges</li> <li>• Scale of main charts</li> <li>• Number of plans included</li> <li>• Titles of plans included</li> <li>• Date of first edition</li> <li>• Date of latest edition</li> <li>• Issue year</li> <li>• Geodetic datum</li> <li>• Vertical datum</li> <li>• Projection</li> <li>• Year of survey</li> <li>• Method of survey</li> </ul>
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Paper chart catalogue [full set of all charts offered by any IMO Member State, or national coverage including coverage produced on behalf of other Member States only?]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing authority (possibly on behalf of another Member State)</li> <li>• Source producing authority</li> <li>• State of the chart (Current, obsolete, under construction, planned)</li> <li>• Update frequency</li> <li>• Distribution method (e.g. chart supplier)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Chart Number</li> <li>• International Chart Number</li> <li>• Nationality of the base chart/Language</li> <li>• Title in national language</li> <li>• Title in English language</li> <li>• Chart style (INT chart or national)</li> <li>• Co-ordinates of edges</li> <li>• Scale of main charts</li> <li>• Number of plans included</li> <li>• Titles of plans included</li> <li>• Date of first edition</li> <li>• Date of latest edition</li> <li>• Issue year</li> <li>• Geodetic datum</li> <li>• Vertical datum</li> <li>• Projection</li> <li>• Year of survey</li> <li>• Class of survey (S-44)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part of ECDIS backup if done by means of paper charts: Yes/No</li> <li>• Part of folio to be used in conjunction with RNCs if there are no ENCs: Yes/No</li> </ul>	

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